

S3: Students Shop for Seniors

Community Objective

To enable senior citizens to maintain their independence by providing weekly grocery shopping for elderly shut-ins.

Background

S3 (Students Shop for Seniors) is the name given to the project for students in grades 9-12. Today's senior citizens are living longer and wish to maintain their own homes, individuality and independence. Due to the increase in the many roles family members must perform in today's society, it is becoming increasingly difficult for them to meet all of those needs. This project provides an opportunity and encourages high school students to help meet some of those needs by performing weekly grocery shopping for elderly shut-ins. The S3 participants are accepting part of the enormous responsibility that society has inherited for the caring of the elderly shut-ins.

Challenged Student Conditions

~Academically and behaviorally challenged students can participate in this project if they are (1) included in the planning, and (2) recruited to be part of the project.

Resources

- ~A high school that is eager to meet this particular need in the community
- ~Administration, faculty and staff who recognize the needs of the elderly
- ~Funding to cover transportation, supplies and supervisory help
- ~Corporate partner to provide grocery shopping resources

Timeline of Service Activities

September-

October

- ~Recruit students from the general student body, basing selection on a screening process highlighting responsibility, commitment and dependability.
- ~Organize students into teams of 5-7.
- ~Contact corporate partner for start-up time, frequency of shopping and in-house support

WEST VIRGINIA'S
SERVICE-LEARNING LESSON-PLANS
FOR K-12 CHALLENGED STUDENTS

- ~Present students with pull-over aprons with S3 emblems on them for identifying purposes.
 - ~Present students with an identifying S3 sticker for their cars.
- October-
April
- ~Visit elderly shut-ins and get a grocery shopping list.
 - ~Meet at a grocery chain after school on designated day of the week.
 - ~Fill grocery orders and save receipts to present to elderly.
 - ~Deliver groceries and receive check from elderly.
 - ~Student present senior citizens' checks to S3 coordinator on designated morning at school.
- April
- ~Student Enhancement Committee recognizes student shoppers during Youth Appreciation Week.
- May
- ~Students attend recognition and celebration luncheon provided by the grocery chain.

Reflection

- ~Students will participate in weekly meetings of the shoppers and the S3 coordinator where they will use various techniques to reflect on the activities. For example, students may participate in the hot potato game where a colorful bean bag or koosh ball is thrown around the room. As each student catches the ball, he or she must discuss some aspect of the project.
- ~Project participants will also meet regularly with the employees of the grocery chain to discuss problems and/or concerns.
- ~Students will maintain journals detailing their personal experiences with the elderly shut-in with whom they work.
- ~Students will prepare a presentation for the local media.

Celebration

- ~The Student Enhancement Committee will recognize student shoppers during Youth Appreciation Week in April
- ~Students will attend a recognition and celebration luncheon provided by the grocery chain.
- ~Students will prepare gifts for the individual shut-ins with whom they work and deliver the gifts to the elderly during May.

WEST VIRGINIA'S
SERVICE-LEARNING LESSON-PLANS
FOR K-12 CHALLENGED STUDENTS

Academic Objectives

WV IGOs

Reading Comprehension

- ~Read directions necessary to perform a task, then perform the task, critique directions of a household task, perform the task and report what happened. (9.19, 10.24)

Listening and Speaking

- ~Understand the importance of listening for the purpose of asking questions to foster comprehension (9.11)

Economics

- ~Give examples showing how scarcity of goods and services forces people to make choices about needs and wants. (E.1)

Civics

- ~Analyze the changing nature of civic responsibility in a diverse society (11.10)

Process/Workplace

- ~Given an event or activity, identify the resources needed and develop a plan of action. (PW.5)
- ~Perform a task after listening to oral information. (PW>14)
- ~Provide community service and assess entrepreneurial opportunities that exist with the community, the region, the state or the nation. (PW.47)

Contact Information

Janie Warsinskey
Wheeling Park High School
Wheeling, WV
Ohio County
(304) 243-0400