



Volunteer MPS

Minneapolis Community Education

Activities Ideas for Volunteers in K-6 Classrooms

ACADEMIC

- Tell stories to children
- Conduct flash card drills
- Assist and set up learning centers
- Provide vocabulary with non-English speaking students
- Work with underachievers
- Work on perceptual activities
- Reinforce learning of alphabet
- Listen to children read
- Reinforce recognition of numerals
- Drill recognition of color words
- Help children with motor skills problems
- Help students who play instruments
- Dramatize a story
- Help with handwriting practice
- Set up a "store" to practice math skills
- Drill spelling words
- Play a musical instrument
- Show slides about life in other countries, parts of the United States, crafts, games
- Discuss care and training of pets
- Assist computer labs
- Facilitate mini-course
- Discuss life from the point view of a person with a disability and the importance of understanding others
- Share ethnic backgrounds and experiences
- Discuss farm life and farm animals
- Demonstrate gardening skills
- Help prepare assembly programs
- Discuss aspects of safety
- Share information about local history
- Demonstrate pioneer crafts: weaving, candle-making, soap-making, musical instruments, toys and dolls
- Assist in preparing courses in: photography, creative dramatics, knitting, square dancing

SOCIAL

- Play games at recess
- Help with book fairs
- Assist with field trips
- Make props for plays
- Talk to children - be a friend
- Make puppets
- Make reading carrels from boxes
- Tell stories
- Assist with sing-a-longs

ENRICHMENT

- Set up or run bookstore or book exchange
- Help children learn to type
- Help children with arts and crafts
- Help with cooking projects
- Set up experiments
- Discuss careers or hobbies
- Show a video to a group
- Help children learn a foreign language

HELP TEACHERS

- Reproduce materials
- Work in office or library
- Make instructional games/materials
- Prepare visual materials
- Develop programmed materials
- Grade papers
- Prepare bulletin boards
- Help select library books
- Gather resource materials
- Take attendance
- Escort children to library, cafeteria, etc.
- Record grades
- Supervise groups taking tests
- Run copies
- Help with mailings