

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT 2022-2024

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Education and Libraries – GFWC has given this area of service a new name, but it will only strengthen our commitment to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics; STEAM is designed to integrate STEM subjects with arts subjects into various relevant education disciplines) projects around educational institutions, promoting literacy, libraries, and opportunities for learning.

Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) inspires and develops our global community of youth and volunteers to a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation. Visit www.HOBY.org

Offering a variety of volunteer opportunities is one way to ensure club members find at least one thing in which they'd feel comfortable participating. Has your club thought about incorporating virtual activities for members?

In the past, the typical image of our volunteer efforts would include planting a garden, revitalizing a local park or painting a lively mural at a school. Yet all around the globe, at any given time, thousands (if not millions) of engaged citizens volunteer virtually — using their computers, the Internet, even their smartphones.

Virtual volunteers can complete short-term or long-term tasks, in whole or in part, typically off-site from the organization or person being assisted. If you've got access to a computer, thousands of different volunteer projects and roles are available to club members — from your home, the library, a coffee shop, anywhere with an Internet connection.

Many schools are opening this fall, and many are not opening in a traditional sense. This is state by state, county by county, and school by school. This is fluid and can change daily. In your community, schools may not be opening for months. How can you help schools in this ever-changing pandemic?

Here are a few suggestions from fellow educators and club women:

1. Record stories for teachers to use as a read-aloud.
2. Be a virtual volunteer in the classroom by reading a story, presenting a learning opportunity, or showing a STEM activity to the class.
3. Collect supplies for STEM and drop off at the school.
4. Provide online tutoring to students.
5. Provide one on one assistance to a student virtually (help with sight words, math facts, etc.).
6. Record sessions for specific grade levels to use. An example would be with sight words. Record "I say _____. You say _____" and hold up the word. Sets could be in words of 10 or 20 words. The teacher could play this over and over for students. This would allow the teacher to take attendance or prepare for the next lesson while students watch the review.
7. Does a member have an interesting career? Prepare a virtual career fair for the students interviewing members or their families.
8. Share member talents or hobbies. Show students how to crochet, knit, paint, etc.
9. Lead a relaxation or stretching activity students could do at their desk or at home.
10. Build a Free Little Library and keep it stocked with books.
11. Make face masks for educators. Some systems may require it and others may not.
12. Sponsor a scholarship for college.

Now would also be a great time to boost your ESO state and club programs.

Here is a list of various organizations to volunteer virtually:

BookShare.Org offers thousands of books to people with reading disabilities. As an online volunteer you can either scan books to be added to the collection or edit books that have been scanned.

Distributed Proofreaders. These online volunteers turn public domain books into online books, mostly for Project Gutenberg. Many volunteers work on a book at the same time and proofread each other's work.

Learning Ally. Many audiobooks are created with text-to-speech software that scans text from computer files and uses synthesized human voices to read the text aloud. However, illustrations or figures used throughout the books are not included. Online volunteers type those figure descriptions into the text, enabling students to receive ALL book material, not just the text.

LibriVox is a nonprofit that coordinates online volunteers to record audio versions of public domain books.

Through the online platform, 'StoriiTime,' parents can set up a video call with their child and an isolated senior. Seniors can read children's books to little ones, or kids can read to a senior. This virtual interaction can improve a child's listening, social and vocabulary skills and support seniors by bringing joy and a connection to an experienced older generation.

Translators Without Borders recruits volunteers who want to translate texts into different languages for NGOs and nonprofits.

Career Village. An online platform where students ask career questions that are answered by people working, or that have worked, in that field. All you need is a LinkedIn account to start helping students become better informed about the career decisions they are facing.

What did you read over the summer? Please take the time to write up a short report and submit it to our ESO chairman Pat Trainor, pattee217@aol.com. In an effort to go paperless, you may now submit your ESO reports online through this Google Form: <https://tinyurl.com/NJSFWCESO>

ESO Handbook: <https://www.gfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/ESO-Handbook-FINAL.pdf>
ESO Book Reading List: <https://www.gfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/ESO-Reading-List-2018-2020.docx>

NJSFWC STATE SPELLING BEE- An updated work list is posted on the website (practice through master lists), an easier way for judges to keep track of participants and their words. We encourage clubs to begin to think about scheduling spelling bee's during the fall and early winter months, as a way to alleviate scheduling spelling bees during prime winter months and possibly "COVID spike season."