

◇ Chapter 20
Support Your Community

Relationship Skills

GET INVOLVED!

Directions: Volunteer work is much more fun and meaningful when it involves something that you enjoy or value. Working in groups of two or three, try to find two volunteer activities in your community that would fulfill each of the interests listed in the chart below. Use the library, a telephone book, a community newspaper, and any other resource you think would be helpful. If you cannot find organized volunteer activities, suggest ideas for volunteering that you can do on your own. Then individually complete the chart and answer the questions that follow.

VOLUNTEERING IDEAS	
Interest	Volunteer Activities
Animals	1. 2.
Music	1. 2.
Helping homeless people	1. 2.
Working with children	1. 2.
The environment	1. 2.
Law and politics	1. 2.
Helping people with disabilities	1. 2.
Carpentry	1. 2.
Sewing and needle crafts	1. 2.
Sports	1. 2.

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Thinking About Volunteer Opportunities

1. Did you have difficulty finding opportunities for any of the interests on the list? If so, which ones? Why do you think this might be so?

2. As you searched for volunteer opportunities, which sources were most helpful to you?

3. Suppose you were interested in doing volunteer work in an area for which no volunteer organization existed. How might you go about starting a group?

4. Besides interests, what personality traits help determine whether a person would be successful in a particular volunteer activity?

5. What might be some benefits of doing volunteer work in an area with which you are unfamiliar?

6. How might a person involved in volunteer work persuade his or her friends to join the organization?

7. What do you think is the most effective way for volunteer groups to publicize themselves and draw new members? (Remember that most volunteer groups operate on a limited budget.)

8. Identify two groups for which you might enjoy doing volunteer work and explain why.
