


Teen Volunteer Programs: There's More than Simply Shelving!




Teen Volunteer Programs
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Why Teens?

- Social activity with friends
- Enhance college applications
- Leadership opportunity
- Extra support for US!



Research shows that people who begin volunteering in middle and high school, no matter what the initial reason, become adults who volunteer.



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Short-Term Volunteers

- Usually have set hours they're looking for
- Community Service
 - High School
 - Juvenile Detention
- Bored teens



Change the Name of the Game!



If you focus on making sure students have a meaningful experience, the attitude usually changes from, "I **have** to do this" to "I **want** to be here."

Managing Short-Term Volunteers




- Create a Volunteer Binder
- Avoid "busy work"
 - Engage in competition
- Create ownership and titles
 - Collection Champion
 - Adopt-a-Shelf
- Identify opportunities for drop-in volunteering

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Long-Term Volunteers

- Usually do not have set hours – limitless possibilities!
- Teen Advisory Group
- Summer Help
- Teen-led Programs




Teen Advisory Groups

- Develop library programs
- Book buying parties
- Help the Friends or Foundation
- Partner with Youth Commission or other City youth organizations



Summer Reading Helpers

- Can be critical to success
- More "fun" volunteer jobs
- Leadership opportunity by having teens train teens
- Develop life-long / return volunteers



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Teen-led Programs

- Children's Craft Leaders
- Computer Intergenerational Coach
- Leader Reader / Reading Buddies



- Homework Tutors / Helpers
- Video Game Programs

Volunteer Recognition!

Thank You!
Thank you! Thank you!
Thank you! Thank you!
Thank You!

Volunteer Appreciation




- Letter or certificate of completion
- Letter of recommendation
- Choosing set times: Volunteer Appreciation Week (April 21-27, 2014)
- Volunteer parties
- Ask what they want!


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Troubleshooting



Training & Staff Time



- Set volunteer orientations and frequency
- Pairing volunteers
- Back-up systems on days without a volunteer coordinator
- Staff support and awareness of volunteers

Recruiting



- Target students going back to school
- Utilize social media or other sites like VolunteerMatch.org
- Post opportunities in local organizations
- Conduct Interviews
- Use former volunteers or friends they recommend!

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Parental Involvement



- Clear, documented volunteer policies
- Talking points for set age or grade limitations
- Have teens take responsibility!



Expectations



- Set immediately, documented, signed
- Point out actions inconsistent with policy
 - Ex: Talking on cell phone, chatting with friends
- Letting a volunteer go or saying, "No."

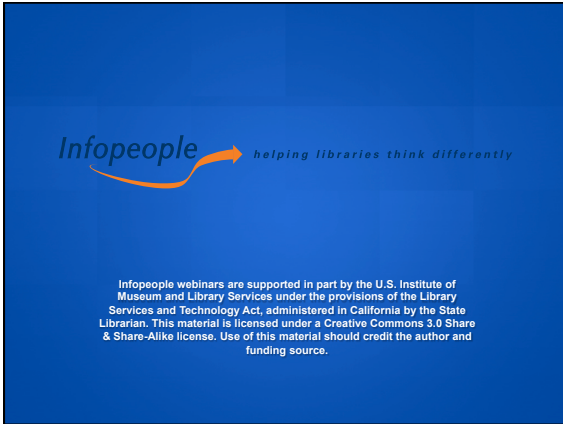
Questions and Thanks

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