

Service Scavenger Hunt

This activity puts a community service spin on the traditional scavenger hunt. It can be used simply to get youth involved in helping their community, or you can add a component about hunger. Create a scavenger hunt list with different things youth can do relatively quickly for others in the community (for example, take out the trash). Assign point values to the tasks based on how difficult you think it will be for them to complete. Youth work in teams to go through the list, getting each item they complete initialed by the person whom they did it for. Whichever team has the most points at the end of the time period wins!

This activity works best when the list is pretty long, with lots of creative items. What will they choose to do when they know they can't finish the whole list?

Some suggestions for the scavenger hunt list:

Take out the trash, rake leaves for 10 minutes, play duck-duck-goose with young children, sweep the kitchen, clean car windows, get the mail, pick up trash in an area, learn a story about someone, etc.

Variations:

- Give youth a few brief facts about hunger and the activity you are doing that they can tell to community members.
- Let community members know that to show their appreciation for the service provided by the youth they can (optionally) donate a canned good. At the end of the time limit, there could be two winners: most cans and most points from the service list.
- Have a few blank “bonus” spots on the list where community members can come up with their own activity they'd like the youth to do.

Example:

Presbyterian Church Service Scavenger Hunt with YM/YW

<http://www.ywconnection.com/Personal%20Progress/pagePPservicescavengerhunt.html>