



December 2016 Teacher Newsletter

www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student

Serving Others

As teachers, it is important to help students understand the value of serving others and giving back to the community. Consider providing opportunities for students to plan their own service projects and/or participate in a school-wide project. If you need ideas for community service projects, visit <http://kidworldcitizen.org/2013/02/20/35-service-projects-for-kids/>. Be sure to let parents know what your school is doing, and invite them to be involved.

Share stories with your students about your community service projects. Don't forget to include examples of how others have assisted you. Incorporate stories and books about service activities in your lesson plans. Go to <http://www.the-best-childrens-books.org/teaching-service.html> for a list of books about serving others.

Consider asking yourself or your students' parents the following questions about serving others in school and the community.

- How can I set an example of service for my students?
- What volunteer activities can I share with my students' parents?
- How can my classroom help others?
- What opportunities for serving others are available to my students throughout the year?

Child Safety

As winter break approaches, be sure to share child safety tips with parents. Several resources about toy and food safety are available online. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission provides statistics about toy safety at <https://www.cpsc.gov/safety-education/toy-recall-statistics/>.

Because many families will travel during the winter break, be sure to share winter driving tips with parents. Helpful information is available at <http://exchange.aaa.com/safety/roadway-safety/winter-driving-tips/>. Don't forget to talk to your students about these safety tips too.

Consider the following questions as you prepare to send your students home for the winter break.

- What resources about toy safety can I share with my students' parents?
- What safety tips do I need to share with my students?
- What educational activities can my students do during the winter break?