

Ideas for Developing a Volunteer Program



- Conduct a survey of parents to learn the talents, interests, and strengths that would be of use in your classroom. Also, find out the times volunteers are available.
- Decide what areas of your classroom could benefit from volunteer participation. Use the survey above to help you come up with ideas. Develop a specific job description for each position, including a list of responsibilities, special talents needed, and training required (if any). (A Parent Activity Leader could train parents for their jobs.) Be sure to include positions that allow volunteers to work at home.*
- Include volunteering as a “requirement” on the Parent Compact.
- Use parent skills to provide training to teachers and/or students (ex., computers, crafts, storytelling, etc.)*
- Ask a parent to find volunteers to organize after-school, parent-led student enrichment programs.*
- Get more parent volunteers by asking current volunteers to invite their friends to a special meeting.*
- In the local paper, publish an advertisement listing areas where parents may volunteer and describing some of the rewards of volunteering.
- When a parent volunteers, write a thank you note.
 - Contact businesses and try to enlist their help in supporting volunteers.
 - After a big parent volunteer/involvement activity, write an article about it, listing the parents involved, for the school newsletter or the local paper.

