

SPARKING AN IDEA ACTION KIT



**YOU'RE ABOUT TO ORGANIZE A SERVICE PROJECT AND
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD – WAY TO GO!**

Your service project is a great way for you to combine your passions, interests and hobbies while making a difference in your community!

This action kit, created by Disney's Friends for Change and YSA, will give you tips on how to Spark an Idea for your service project!



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WAYS TO SPARK AN IDEA

1

BE CREATIVE AND USE YOUR IMAGINATION

As you begin to plan your service project, start by answering a few questions to help shape and guide your project.

- **What Inspires You:** Why do you want to organize a service project?
- **How Are You Special:** What are your talents and hobbies, or favorite activities and interests?
- **What Are You Good At:** What do you think you do really well, and what makes you happy? Think about experiences that excite you and channel that excitement into your new project.
- **What Can YOU do:** What would you do to change your community, if there were no limits? Eliminate excuses and partner with others who will help you plan and do your service project.

2

TAKE A PERSONAL INVENTORY

Your passion, knowledge, experiences, and enthusiasm will motivate others to join you in your project. What can I bring to the project? What and how can my friends, parents and family, or other adults around me contribute?

- **Take an inventory of your experiences, talents, and knowledge;** becoming aware of your personal gifts will increase your connection to the community issue and make the project more meaningful to you.
- **What do you need to learn more about, in order to make a bigger difference with your project?**



TIP:

To learn more about the issue your service project is going to deal with, interview community members, read newspaper articles or blogs about the issue, and search for people or organizations on Twitter and Facebook who share your passion.

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TAKE A COMMUNITY INVENTORY

Taking a good look at your community will help you identify its needs and priorities, as well as what works well, and what needs help – YOUR help! Be sure to let your parents or guardians know what you are planning and invite them to come along!

- Take a walk around your community, taking notes and pictures. Get together with your friends and talk about things you would like to change or improve.
- How can your friends and other young people help you build your project?
- What else can others in your community – adults, organizations, or special interest groups – help you with?
- Interview people who are already working on the issue that you care about. Ask them about their spark – and how they turned it into action.



TIP:

Check with friends who have invited you to join in their project, or who have done a project that you liked. Ask how they invited all the people they needed to help make their project a huge success!



