

Welcome!

Kindergarten, Unit 7

Serving our Neighbors

Dear Family Member,

In this unit, students will learn about how members of a community serve each other.

What's the story?

Students will learn about how they can **serve others** in their school, home, and neighborhood **communities**. Students will learn about **community helpers** who have **dedicated** their lives to **improve** their community.

What will my student learn?

In the first half of the unit, students start by learning about versions of the Golden Rule, including the common phrase: "Do unto others as you would have done unto you," examples of the Golden Rule found in different religions, and read a story about the Golden Rule found in the Bible. This lesson helps establish the theme of serving others that is reinforced throughout the unit, and provides important background knowledge for students who will continue to read about these concepts in history and literature. Lessons continue with stories of service, emphasizing how students can help out in school, help out at home, and help keep our neighborhoods clean.

The second half of the unit is focused on people who dedicate their lives to service. Students will learn from one of the earliest stories of serving our neighbors, the story of the Good Samaritan. Students will then hear a series of stories about people whose work is focused on serving others, starting with teachers. They will then learn about emergency responders, including police and firefighters. They will learn about military service men and women, in all US military branches. The unit closes with a lesson on how business owners provide valuable services to all of us.

Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What can you do to help your community?
Follow up: What areas of the community might need attention? Where could we donate used items? Who benefits from working together to keep the community nice?
2. What is the Golden Rule?
Follow up: Do you think it is easy or hard to follow the Golden Rule?
3. What can you do to help out in our home?
Follow up: What are your responsibilities at home? How can you help us keep our home tidy? How can you show appreciation to your parents?
4. If you could be a community helper, which job would you like to have? (e.g., educator, emergency service worker, member of the military)
Follow up: Why?
5. Why do people choose to become community helpers? (e.g., educator, emergency service worker, member of the military)
Follow up: Do you know any community helpers? What do you think their life is like at their job? Do you think their job is easy or hard? How did community helpers get their job?