

Summer Service Shindig: At-Home Activity Guide

Welcome to your At-Home Service Guide! You're about to make a real difference—right from home! This guide is filled with meaningful, hands-on activities that you can complete on your own, with your family, or as a troop. Each project supports a unique community need and includes easy-to-follow instructions, a supply list, and reference photos to guide your work. You can choose just one activity or try several! Feel free to adapt these ideas to fit your style—or dream up your own way to spread kindness.

When you're done, don't forget to snap a photo of your completed project and your donation, then submit it using the Wufoo form. Let's get started—and thank you for being a force for good in your community!



Exclusive Limited Supply Summer Service Shindig 2025 Fun Patch!

Topics Menu:

The Unhoused - Care & Compassion Kits	Period Poverty - Dignity Kits & Empowerment Notes
Cancer Patients - Comfort & Cheer	Literacy - Reading for All
Animal Shelters - Helping Paws Projects	Nursing Homes - Smiles & Flowers
Where to Donate Your Service Items	

The Unhoused – Care & Compassion Kits

Activity 1: Basic Hygiene Care Kits

Goal: Make hygiene kits to donate to a shelter or keep in your car to hand out.

Supplies Needed:

- Gallon-size resealable bag
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Bar of soap or travel-size body wash
- Deodorant
- Comb or brush
- Pair of socks
- Granola bar or snack
- A kind note or drawing

Instructions:

1. Gather your supplies and place them neatly inside the bag.
2. Write a kind message or draw a cheerful picture.
3. Label the bag if needed (e.g., “Adult Male,” “Teen Girl”).
4. Deliver to a local shelter or keep a few in your family car.



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Activity 2: Weather-Ready Survival Pouches

Goal: Create seasonal support kits for those experiencing homelessness.

Supplies Needed:

- Zip pouch or drawstring bag
- Travel-size sunscreen
- Bottled water or sports drink packet
- Emergency poncho

- A small first-aid item (like bandages or ointment)

Instructions:

1. Choose items appropriate for your climate.
2. Place items in the pouch with a tag: "Packed with Care."
3. Give to a local mutual aid group or shelter.



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Cancer Patients – Comfort & Cheer

Activity 1: Comfort Kits for Chemotherapy

Goal: Support patients with thoughtful items during treatment.

Supplies Needed:

- Gift bag or canvas tote
- Lip balm, hand lotion (unscented)
- Fuzzy socks or lap blanket
- Hard candies or lemon drops
- Puzzle book or journal
- Handmade card

Instructions:

1. Decorate your tote or bag with fabric markers or stickers.
2. Add each comfort item carefully.
3. Make a handmade card with a cheerful image or message.



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Activity 2: Uplifting Art & Notes

Goal: Create uplifting messages and mini posters to brighten a hospital or treatment center.

Supplies Needed:

- Cardstock or heavy paper
- Markers, colored pencils, or crayons
- Stickers, washi tape, or ribbon

Instructions:

1. Write messages like “You’re not alone” or “You are brave!”

2. Draw or color cheerful images—flowers, stars, sunshine.
3. Drop off with a note to the cancer center asking them to display or hand them out.



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Animal Shelters – Helping Paws Projects

Activity 1: No-Sew Pet Toys

Goal: Make toys for dogs or cats in shelters.

Supplies Needed:

- Fleece strips or old t-shirt strips
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut 3 strips of your chosen material at the same length. Play around with the length, for small dogs use shorter strips and larger ones for bigger dogs.
2. Tie a knot at one end, braid tightly, and knot the other end.
3. Test for durability, then pack for donation.
4. Wanna make it a little more challenging? Follow the linked video below for more advance braiding styles.

Braiding Tutorial for Different Skill Levels: [🌐 3 Different DIY Braided Dog Toys](#)



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Activity 2: Cat Toy Activity: DIY Ribbon Wand Teaser

Goal: Create an interactive toy that encourages cats to jump, play, and exercise—just like a store-bought teaser wand.

Supplies Needed:

- A wooden dowel (12"–18" long) or clean chopstick
- Assorted ribbon or fleece strips (approx. 12" each)
- Scissors
- Tape or hot glue (with adult help if using hot glue)
- Optional: Bells, pom-poms, or feathers for extra fun

Instructions:

1. Cut ribbons: Cut 4–6 ribbons or fleece strips about 12 inches long each.
2. Attach ribbons: Securely tape or glue the ribbons to the top of the dowel or chopstick.
 - Tip: Wrap the attachment area with tape several times to make it extra secure.
3. Optional: Tie on a small bell or pom-pom at the end of a ribbon for added sound and interest.
4. Test it: Gently wave the wand to see the ribbons flutter and dance.
5. Package for donation: Deliver to your local animal shelter and label: “Ribbon Wands for Cats – Handmade with Love.”

Safety Tips:

- Avoid using string or yarn that can unravel and pose a choking hazard.
- Make sure everything is securely attached—cats love to tug and pounce!



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Period Poverty – Dignity Kits & Empowerment Notes

Activity 1: Period Care Kits

Goal: Help ensure that women and girls have access to essential hygiene products, while also showing kindness and support through handwritten notes or decorated bags.

Supplies Needed:

- Zipper pouch, pencil case, or Ziplock bags
- Pads and panty liners
- Feminine wipes or tissue pack
- Handwritten affirmation card

Instructions:

1. Fill each pouch with hygiene items.
2. Add a note with kind words: “You are strong” or “Take care of yourself.”
3. Donate to a local pantry, school nurse, or nonprofit.



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Literacy – Reading for All

Activity 1: Reading Buddy Bags

Goal: Create a bag with a book, buddy, and bookmark.

Supplies Needed:

- New/gently used book
- Handmade bookmark
 - Paper, Scissors, Markers, Stickers (Optional), Tassels (Optional)
- Stuffed animal or small plush toy
- Decorative bag or envelope

Instructions:

1. Choose a book for a younger reader.
2. Make a fun bookmark with a quote or drawing.
3. Add a small stuffed friend to accompany their reading.



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Activity 2: DIY Alphabet or Sight Word Flashcards

Goal: Support early readers by creating colorful flashcards that help younger children learn letters, sounds, or common words in a fun, engaging way.

Supplies Needed:

- Index cards or cardstock cut into smaller pieces
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Optional: stickers or pictures cut from magazines
- Ziplock bag or rubber band to keep the set together

Instructions:

For Younger Kids (Grades K–3): Alphabet Cards

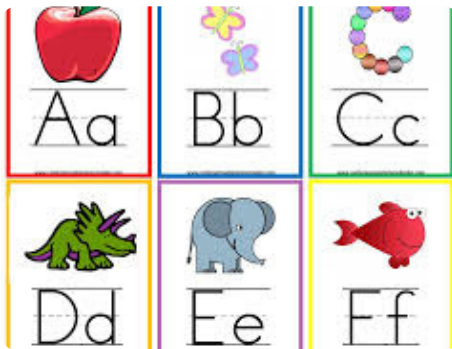
1. Use one card for each letter of the alphabet (A–Z).
2. Write the uppercase and lowercase letter on each card.
3. Decorate with a drawing or sticker of something that starts with that letter.
(A for Apple, B for Bear, C for Cat, etc.)
4. Put all cards in a ziplock bag or tie them together with ribbon.

For Older Kids (Grades 4+): Sight Word or Vocabulary Flashcards

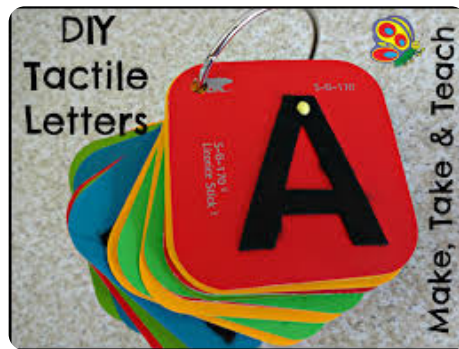
1. Choose 20–30 common sight words or age-appropriate vocabulary words.
2. Write one word per card.
3. Add the definition or use it in a sentence on the back.
4. Decorate or color-code for fun.

Optional Add-On: Include a note of encouragement for the future reader, such as:

- “Learning is an adventure!”
- “Keep going—you’re doing amazing!”



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Nursing Homes – Smiles & Flowers

Activity 1: Cards of Joy

Goal: Send thoughtful cards with positive messages.

Supplies Needed:

- Construction paper or blank cards
- Markers, crayons, stickers

Instructions:

1. Write messages like “Thinking of You!” or “Have a Beautiful Day!”
2. Decorate with colorful art—flowers, rainbows, or animals.
3. Deliver to a nursing home (call ahead first or mail).



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Activity 2: Tissue Paper Flowers

Goal: Make long-lasting paper flowers to brighten someone's day.

Supplies Needed:

- Tissue paper (various colors)
- Pipe cleaners
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Stack 3–5 sheets of tissue and fold accordion-style.
2. Twist a pipe cleaner around the center.
3. Gently fan out and fluff each layer.
4. Make a bouquet to donate or gift. Pair with a card from the first activity!

Link: [🌐 Tissue Paper Flower Rose](#)



Example 1



Example 2



Example 3

Thank You for Making a Difference!

No matter how big or small the act, every bit of kindness counts. Share your creations with your troop, friends, or on social media (with permission)—and don't forget to take pride in helping others!

Where to Donate Your Service Items

For the Unhoused Activities

- Local homeless shelters (e.g., Salvation Army)
- Faith-based organizations offering outreach (churches, mosques, synagogues)
- Street outreach programs or mutual aid groups
- Police or fire stations (some accept kits to distribute)
- School social workers or guidance offices

For Cancer Patients Activities

- Local hospitals with oncology departments
- Cancer treatment centers
- Ronald McDonald House charities
- *Note: Be sure to call ahead

For Animal Shelters Activities

- City or county animal shelters
- Humane Society locations
- Local animal rescue groups or foster networks
- Veterinary clinics (check if they distribute comfort items)

For Period Poverty Activities

- Women's shelters or transitional housing centers
- Title I schools (coordinate with the nurse or social worker)
- Community pantries or free stores
- Local Libraries

For Literacy Activities

- Elementary schools and school libraries
- Little Free Libraries (you can also start your own)
- Boys & Girls Clubs or after-school programs
- Pediatric clinics or family shelters
- Local literacy nonprofits (like Reading Is Fundamental)

For Nursing Homes Activities

- Assisted living and memory care facilities
- Senior day programs or adult daycare centers
- Hospice organizations
- "Adopt-a-Grandparent" programs
- Community nursing homes