

Demonstrate and Celebrate Your Service

In this activity (featured in the *Service Toolkit*):

It's time to celebrate! Your club members have given their time and talents (and probably raised and given resources) to meet a need in your school or community. Congratulations! Now, organize and lead a meeting for members to get out of their seats, enjoy spending time together and recognize what the club and individual members accomplished to benefit the community.

This activity allows members to:

- Celebrate the club's accomplishments and teamwork.
- Reflect on each member's successes and strengths.

Materials needed:

- A large poster board (with an illustrated hand on it)
- One sheet of blank paper per member
- Washable markers

How to lead this activity:

PRIOR TO THE MEETING:

1. Officers and the advisor should discuss how to use the next club meeting to celebrate the completion of the service project. A few ideas:
 - a. Bring treats for everyone.
 - b. Have fun music playing.
 - c. Post pictures from the service project throughout the club meeting room or create a fun slide show of photographs.
2. Create posters that thank members and celebrate the club's accomplishments
3. Prepare for the Pat on the Back activity by hanging the poster board with the hand illustration at the front of the room.

AT THE MEETING:

1. Let the club know that today is celebration time - it's a big accomplishment to complete a service project. Everyone should be proud!
2. Explain the Pat on the Back activity will help members capture successes of the club and each member.
3. Ask each member to share his/her/their opinion of the club's biggest achievement. The club secretary writes the responses within the "hand" on the poster board.
4. After everyone has shared, explain that these accomplishments were possible because of each member's contribution.
5. Give members a blank piece of paper.
6. Ask each member to trace his or her hand on the paper.
7. Officers should tape each member's "hand" to his or her back.
8. Ask members to write a positive, specific thing another member did for the club or the community this past year on that person's "hand."
9. After several rounds, ask members to take their "hands" off their backs and read all the comments.
10. Congratulate the club on working together to execute the service project, and stress that each member's role was important.

11. Ask the club to give itself a round of applause.
12. At the end of the meeting, explain that members will discuss more about the service project and its impact over the next meetings.