

Service to Others

I like to help people, and since I'm a Muslim, I am supposed to help and donate money to poor people. In fact, every year if Muslims have enough money, they give money to the poor people out there. It is called Zakat. If people have enough money to give Zakat, they are called benefactors.

I have done a lot of service that includes:

- ~ Participating in a play in our grade about bullying
- ~ Helping a little girl in the first grade who is from France learn English (I know French)
- ~ I used to help little kids with their homework at We Rock Afterschool
- ~ I am also creating a newspaper with my friends so other fifth graders at Thousand Oaks Elementary School could know or have an idea what's going on around here.

The service I've done helped a lot of people, but the one thing that I think is most powerful is teaching the little girl English. I think this is very powerful because it is always important to know your own language (she was born in America and moved to France when she was still a baby) and know your own American heritage. I help the little girl by translating what she says; and go to her classroom and comfort her since her teacher knows only a little bit of French. I also go to her We Rock Afterschool class to read words and books. I feel like a real ally by helping the little girl.

Now when I just sit and remember all the service I have done to others, I am very proud of myself. I have learned that there are a lot of families out there who do not have the things you and I do and if we all work together, we can help those people. The service I'm doing helps people have shelter and food or learn the things they need to learn. There are a lot of things that can help people and what I'm doing is helping people a lot. This essay inspired me to think about doing a fundraiser for a poor country.

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5th Grade

Thousand Oaks