

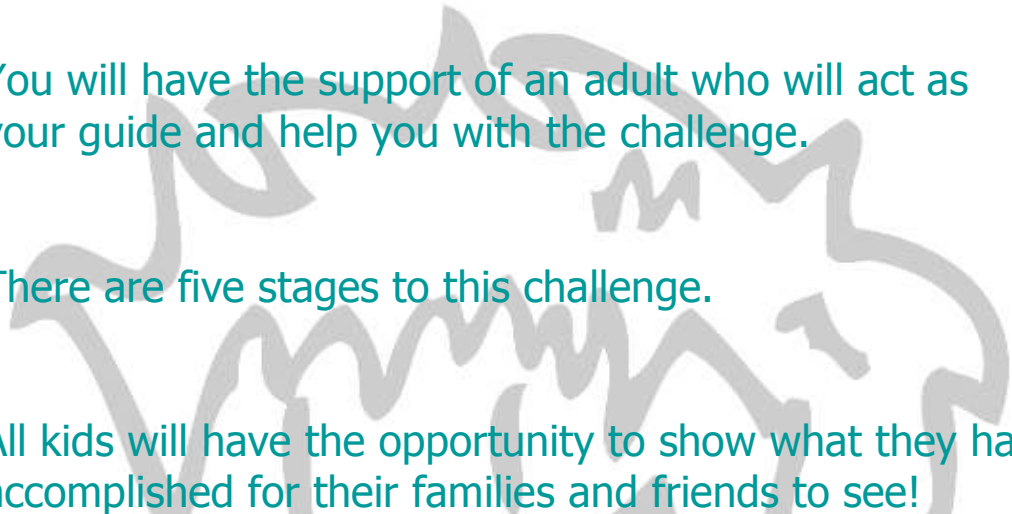


Willing to Serve

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Challenge Guidelines

1. This challenge is for boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 12.
 2. You will have the support of an adult who will act as your guide and help you with the challenge.
 3. There are five stages to this challenge.
 4. All kids will have the opportunity to show what they have accomplished for their families and friends to see!
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MAKE IT HAPPEN!



Suggested Materials

- ▶ Pens or pencils
- ▶ Paper, blackboard

The Project

As a group, let's brainstorm ideas for a community service project. What can we do as a group that will benefit people in our community? In what ways can we work together to help others?

Think for a minute and write down your ideas. When called upon, please tell us one of your ideas for a community service project.

Here are a few examples:

Plant a garden.

Participate in a charity "walk".

Collect and donate supplies (pet food, old blankets) to the local Humane Society.

Put together care-packages for service men and women.

Teachers/Mentors: Please record the ideas on the blackboard or on a large sheet of paper.

As a group, decide what you would like to do and post a description of the project where everyone can see it.

MAKE IT HAPPEN!



Suggested Materials

- ▶ Pens or pencils
- ▶ Paper, "to do" list
- ▶ "My Plan" record keeper

The Plan

What is the project?

What materials will you need? Write a list of things that you must acquire and/or accomplish in order for your community service project to be a success?



Next to each item, write the date by which you hope to have completed that item.

When will your community service project be completed?

Teachers/Mentors: For each item on the list, please ask for volunteers or assign each task to one or more students. Please record the assignments and the date each one is completed.

MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Suggested Materials

- ▶ Poster board, long sheet of paper
- ▶ Post-it Notes, pens or pencils

Action

Your project may take place on one day or over a period of days. In order to track your progress, hang a large piece of poster board where everyone can see it or reserve a section of the blackboard for this activity.



Every time you do something; anything that contributes to your service project, write it on a "post it note" and place it on the poster board!



If you prefer, you may write your actions on the blackboard.

Perhaps you are collecting cans or items of clothing. Perhaps you are making or fixing something or helping someone else with his or her assignment. Whatever your contributions; big or small, be sure to record them.

MAKE IT HAPPEN!



Service

Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Suggested Materials

- ▶ Notebook, pieces of cardboard, lined paper, construction paper
- ▶ Crayons, markers, glue, glitter

The Experience

Please write about your experiences. Make a handmade booklet out of cardboard or construction paper and put sheets of paper inside. If you prefer, you can decorate the cover of a notebook and use the notebook for your journal.



This book is for you to keep. Every time you work on the project, write the date and time and record anything that comes to mind. Here are suggestions on what to include in your journal:

1. What you did
2. Who was there
3. How you felt about what you did
4. The reactions or comments of others
5. What you liked best
6. What you learned

If you have the opportunity to take pictures during your project, you may include these too.

MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Suggested Materials

- ▶ Camera or video camera
- ▶ Microphone (optional)

The Call to Action

For this leg of the Challenge, please share your experiences with others.



In your classroom or at a school assembly, please tell the story of your community service and at the end of your presentation, ask those listening to take action. Here is a formula you can use:

What contributions did you make? (What did you “post” on the board?)

How did you feel about what you did?

How did your actions affect others?

Based on your experience, what would you recommend that others do?

MAKE IT HAPPEN!



Coaching Suggestions

1. Set the expectation that we are all achievers and have within us the ability to achieve great things; often more than we believe is possible for us.
2. Focus on the children. Ask questions. Listen carefully. Give encouragement over and over again.
3. Watch closely for things the children have done well or have tried to do. Look for opportunities to identify something that each child has done well and tell him or her. Talk directly to the child. Speak in the first person. For example: "What I like about what you did was..." or "I notice you are working very hard at..."
4. When a child makes an effort or tries something new, show him by your gestures and expressions that you applaud his efforts. Give her the "thumbs up" Smile. Congratulate the child for trying.
5. Hold no preconceptions. Children must believe that you believe in them. You **MUST** believe in their ability to succeed.
6. Recognize incremental improvements and build on the strengths of each of the children. In this environment, children flourish!

Recommendations for an Amazing Challenge

Take pictures or record videos of the children sharing their experiences in **A Call to Action**.

Celebrate the completion of your community service project. Acknowledge and applaud each child for his or her contribution. Share the videos and display the pictures for all the children to see.



About Will!

**Will is the kid that can! His message is simple yet powerful:
think it. live it.™**

Great things are possible if you believe!

Will was "born" when Margot Rutledge was looking for a way to communicate a message of hope to kids. In 2004, Margot founded KidsWin, a non-profit organization, to help children believe deep down inside that who they are and what they do matters and to help them believe that great things are possible for them. She wanted to create with a slogan that captured the essence of KidsWin and the **S.T.A.R. Teens** program; something such as Nike's "Just do it."

Again and again, she tried to think of what that would be: "If you can think it, you can have it," "We become what we think about". All were too long and certainly would not make a good slogan. One day, when she was driving home with her son Luke (14 at the time), she asked him for his opinion.

He paused for no longer than three seconds and said, "Think it, Live it!" Margot was astonished, not only because her son was able to come up with a slogan that absolutely captures the message, but that he understood what KidsWin is all about. He got it! He had a look on his face that said, "This is so obvious," and he said, "Mom, if you have a big goal and you can see it in your mind; if you believe you can do it and set goals and work hard, you can have what you see in your mind." Wow!

We wanted to create a character to spread the word and we wanted this to be for kids, created by kids; so we asked Will H., Luke's friend and an exceptionally talented artist, for some ideas. On October 5, 2008, **Will** was born. His mission is to spread the word to kids that great things are possible for them if they believe.

Every child has the Will-power to win!

Our mission is to help all children feel included, valued and capable. To learn more, visit www.kidswin.org or contact mrutledge@kidswin.org.

