

# TEEN ZONE

## Word Search

Find 21 words beginning with the letter Y.

Y	E	A	R	N	R	A	Y
E	E	Y	Y	O	G	I	U
N	Y	L	Y	Y	D	T	C
A	K	Y	L	D	Y	H	C
M	A	Y	I	O	E	C	A
O	Y	S	R	L	W	A	Y
E	H	K	L	O	Y	Y	Y
Y	E	A	R	L	I	N	G

Answers: Yellow, Yell, Yellowly, Yacht, Yeam, Yeo, Yam, Yucca, Yiddish, Yearling, Year, Yeoman, Yen, Yogi, York, Yaw, Yea, Yaw, Yaw, Yaw, Yaw, Yaw, Yalk

## Improv Club

If you are interested in drama and acting, or just like performing, then the Improv Club is for you. Come learn quick thinking and acting techniques through fun activities. The club is for teens in 6th grade and up, or ages 11 – 18. No experience or registration is required. This club meets at the East Library. For meeting dates, visit [ppld.org](http://ppld.org) and check out **Teen Zone** Events Calendar. For more information contact [khoke@ppld.org](mailto:khoke@ppld.org).



## East Chess Club



Join others in playing chess! Every third Friday of the month, the East Chess Club will be meeting from 4 - 5 p.m. at the East Library. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact [etatro@ppld.org](mailto:etatro@ppld.org).

### Volunteerism/Service Books for Teens

#### Fiction

*How to Build a House: A Novel*  
by Dana Reinhardt

*The Heart is Not a Size*  
by Beth Kephart

*Eighth-Grade Superzero*  
by Olugbemisola Rhuday Perkovich

#### Non-Fiction

*Teens with the Courage to Give : Young People who Triumphed over Tragedy and Volunteered to Make a Difference*  
179.9 W164T

*How We Made the World a Better Place: Kids and Teens Write on How They Changed Their Corner of the World*  
361.37083 H847

*Community Service for Teens: Opportunities to Volunteer*  
361.370835 R988C V.5

*The Teen Guide to Global Action: How to Connect with Others (Near and Far) to Create Social Change*  
303.484 L673T

*Who Cares? Millions Do: A Book About Altruism*  
171.8 M528W

## Homeschool Hub

Want to get connected with local homeschool groups and learn about resources available here at PPLD? Log on to the Homeschool Hub resource website. View a database of local homeschool groups, sign-up for monthly email newsletters and booklists, and connect with other homeschool families all in one place. Just visit [ppld.org](http://ppld.org) and click on **Homeschool Hub**.



# HOMESCHOOL CONNECTIONS

## An Educational Resource Tool

Spring 2010

# Service and Volunteerism

Helping other people gives you a warm feeling, deep down inside you. Here in the Pikes Peak region, many people volunteer to help others. Our military personnel have volunteered to protect our country with their lives. That is the ultimate service to others! The rest of us can volunteer to help others too, in smaller ways. Within our families, we can offer to help a younger brother or sister with their homework. We can offer to take out the trash. We can offer to wash the dishes (or empty the dishwasher).

Outside our families, we can help an elderly neighbor rake leaves, shovel snow, or repair something in their home. Older kids can offer to babysit one evening so young parents can go out on a date. When families go away on vacation, we can offer to take care of their pets, water their plants, or take in their newspaper... for free. We can welcome a new family to the neighborhood with homemade brownies. As we hike or bike along a trail, we can pick up trash (but be sure to follow any safety measures your parents dictate). Joining Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts is a great way to help others since the Scouts frequently do service projects. Older Scouts who hope to earn their Eagle Scout Award (Boy Scouts) or Gold Award (Girl Scouts) must plan and execute a detailed service project, so it's an ideal opportunity for younger Scouts to get involved too.

Does your family want to volunteer together? Take a look at the Community Agencies listed on [ppld.org](http://ppld.org) (click on Community Information, then Agencies, and Word Search). Search for "Volunteer Center of the Pikes Peak Region." It is connected to United Way and lists many agencies needing volunteers. Many allow teens volunteers, and quite a few allow families to volunteer together.



What interests you? Do you like to work with animals? You might contact the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region or one of the local animal rescue groups and see what you could do to help them out. Do you like children? Take a babysitting class, and then parents will be more comfortable having you watch their kids (from [ppld.org](http://ppld.org), click on Community Information, Courses, Subject Search, Babysitting). Do you like to be outside? Help an elderly neighbor with yard work, or gardening. Do you like to organize activities? Organize a fun neighborhood carnival with games and prizes, and then donate any money you earn to your favorite charity. Do your Grandparents live far away? Visit a nursing home and "adopt" one of the residents as a special friend. Do you love the library? Kids ages 12 and up can volunteer for the Summer Reading Program, while kids ages 13 and up can be Study Buddies and/or Reading Buddies. (Applications will be available towards the end of March.)



Opportunities to volunteer your time and talents to help others are everywhere. Just look around. It can be lots of fun!

To contact PPLD's Homeschool Committee, please email [gsohns@ppld.org](mailto:gsohns@ppld.org)





**Cromwell Dixon's Sky-Cycle**

by John Abbott Nez  
In 1907, Cromwell Dixon was 14 years old. He built an amazing flying machine; this is his true story. (Ages 6 -10; history)

**Sir Cumference and All the King's Tens: A Math Adventure**

by Cindy Neuschwander  
There are six books in the 'Sir Cumference' series, and all are math based. In this story, Sir Cumference is trying to figure out how many people have come to a surprise party for the king. Counting by tens and grouping those tens into hundreds and thousands was the key. (Ages 6 - 10; math)

**Butterflies and Moths**

by Nic Bishop  
This latest book is as good as the previous titles, Frogs and Spiders. These are all photo essays, with fabulously magnified views of caterpillars, butterfly wings and more. The photos are labeled so you know what species AND how much the photo was magnified. (Ages 4 - 12; science)

**Monsters Don't Eat Broccoli**

by Barbara Jean Hicks  
The catchy rhyme makes this a fun read aloud. The monsters in this story are happy eating rocks and tractors and such, but not broccoli. That is, until they eat broccoli, thinking they are eating trees. (Ages 3 - 7; picture book, health)

**Hello Baby!**

by Mem Fox  
This is a great preschool book to read to the one that you love and treasure. We see a baby's hand at the beginning of the book, and the writer asks, "Who are you?" and we see lots of different animals - "Are you a monkey with clever toes? Perhaps you're a porcupine, twitching its nose." Share this with your favorite toddler/preschooler, and enjoy hearing them say, "No!" on each page, as they affirm their unique human status. (Ages 2 - 5; science, vocabulary)

**Focus Group Meeting**

Come meet with PPLD's Homeschool Committee as we chart our course for the future. We'll go over the improvements we've made to the Homeschool Hub website and our ideas for the coming year, and find out what we can do to help you homeschool your children. The meeting is Thursday, April 8, 2010, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the East Library Community Room.

**Survey**

Please help us improve *Homeschool Connections* by taking this brief survey. Email your comments to Melody at [mphilbrick@ppld.org](mailto:mphilbrick@ppld.org).

1. Where do you pick up the *Homeschool Connections* newsletter?
2. What do you find most helpful in the publication?
3. Other comments?

You might win one of many prizes awarded through a random drawing!

**Database Focus: Volunteerism**

The beginning of spring means the start of fresh new ideas! Have you ever given thought to volunteering your time? Or perhaps participating in a service program through local and national organizations?

Through these various venues, you will provide for yourself and your family opportunities to do something for someone else that can add meaning and awareness of your world around you. Let's find out more information.

Start at the **Kids Web** on [ppld.org](http://ppld.org) and click on **Explore the Web**, then on the cloud with **Awesome Library**. You'll find lots of categories here, but let's focus on **Community**.

Under **Also Try**, click on **Volunteering**, then **Service**. There are lots of options to explore, such as the National Learn and Serve, where a variety of activities that involve youth and families through educational learning can be found. There is also United Way offering many ways to become involved in your local community.

Back to the **Community** page, click on **Volunteering** under **Lists**. This will take you to [idealist.org](http://idealist.org). Scroll down the page to **Forums** and you'll find **Issues You're Passionate About**, a listing of 311 resources to connect you with projects you have interest in.

Another great volunteer/service opportunity is listed on the **Community** page under **Projects** called **Reading Readiness Suggestions**. This will take you to **America Reads**, a program to insure literacy in children. Partnering with the Library makes you connected to many other opportunities to serve your community.

Involve your family and find something new to dive into this spring! It's a great time to learn more than what you know, you'll be on your way to bloom and grow!

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**What's Happening?**

Read It Before You See It This fun program for Tweens (ages 9 - 12) will highlight the books *The Lightning Thief* and *How to Train Your Dragon* in March. Check with your local library branch for locations, dates and times.

Spring Break @ Your Library Once again, we'll have some awesome school-age programs during the public schools' Spring Break week, March 22 - 27. Check with your local library branch for dates and times.

Summer Reading Program Volunteer applications will be available towards the end of March! Check with your local library branch to find out what volunteer opportunities are available.

AFA Blue & Silver Book Club PPLD is teaming up with the Air Force Academy Athletic Department to offer this book club to students through 7th grade during March and April. Kids who complete monthly reading goals will earn free tickets, ticket discounts, and invitations to special events.

Pikes Peak Kids READ Can reading make you famous? The Pikes Peak Kids READ project is looking for 3rd graders! Have your picture taken or be filmed for the Library Channel, while reading your favorite book. Dress as a character, and bring your book to the East Library Children's Department on Monday, March 22 at 2 p.m. Parent permission is required. Call Alanna with questions at 531-6333, x1403.

**Kids Books on the Military, Deployment, and Volunteerism**

J-EASY

**Mommy, You're My Hero!**

by Michelle Ferguson-Cohen

**My Daddy is a Soldier**

by Kirk Hilbrecht

**Love, Lizzie: Letters to a Military Mom**

by Lisa Tucker McElroy

**When Duty Calls**

by Angela Sportelli-Rehak

J-FICTION

**Nicki**

by Ann Howard Creel

**Operation Yes**

by Sara Holmes

**100 Days and 99 Nights: A Novel**

by Alan Madison

**The Perfect Cat-Sitter**

by Ann Whitehead Nagda

J-NONFICTION

**Kids Making a Difference for Animals**

179.3 F991K

**A Year Without Dad**

306.874 B899Y

**A Kids' Guide to Hunger and Homelessness: How to Take Action**

362.5574 K23K

**Dog Scouts of America**

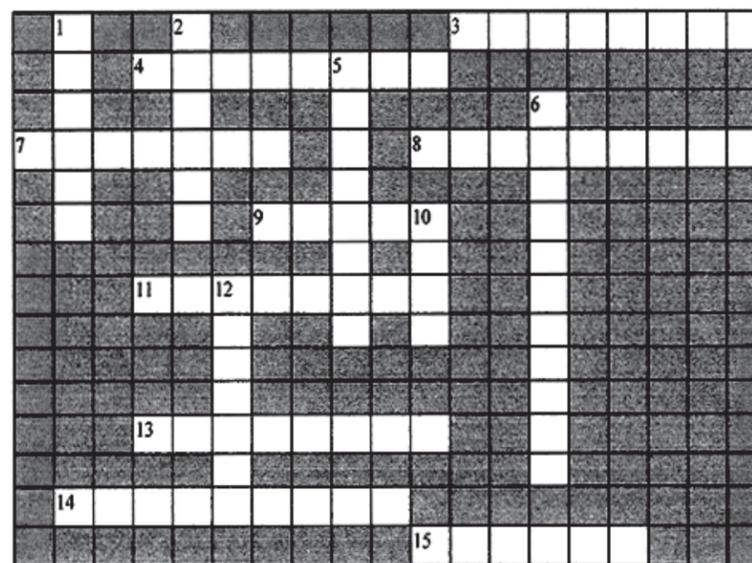
636.70835 B928D

ADULT NONFICTION

**The Busy Family's Guide to Volunteering: Do Good, Have Fun, Make a Difference as a Family!**

302.14 F911B

**Crossword Puzzle - Be a Volunteer!**



- Across
3. Days when some people might feel extra lonely or sad.
  4. These people have served their country in the military.
  7. You can lend a \_\_\_\_\_ hand to someone in need.
  8. When you do something for free, you \_\_\_\_\_.
  9. A \_\_\_\_\_ helps other students do better in school.
  11. You might help an older neighbor with their \_\_\_\_\_.
  13. You might bring in their newspaper while a neighbor is on \_\_\_\_\_.
  14. Temporarily caring for an unwanted pet until you can find it a new home.
  15. When you brag about your accomplishments, you aren't being \_\_\_\_\_.

- Down
1. You might make a new \_\_\_\_\_ when volunteering.
  2. Elderly men and women are called \_\_\_\_\_ citizens.
  5. You can help at an \_\_\_\_\_ event to help find shelter animals homes.

6. This is the term for collecting money to give to a worthy cause.
10. You can \_\_\_\_\_ leaves to help a neighbor.
12. Instead of throwing away glass, metal, and cardboard, you should try to \_\_\_\_\_.