

Suggested Activities for Student Volunteers in Special Education

Burton Blatt
Professor of Education

1. Tour of school or activity building.
2. Study of handbooks, manuals, bulletins, other sources of information.
3. Attend special meetings (committees, clubs, faculty-parents).
4. Observe as many varied experiences as is possible (lunchroom, playground, school bus, library, art).
5. Examine program of studies, scope, and sequence of subjects and activities.
6. Become acquainted with records (teacher's and clinicians daily and monthly reports, student's cumulative records, reporting to parents.)
7. Prepare bulletin board display, table exhibit, reference lists for a unit of study.
8. Operate audio-visual equipment (all types available or bring something new).
9. Supervise children (trips, play, class activity).
10. Work with small groups on instructional problems (spelling, arithmetic, reading, comprehension, recreation, crafts, work-study, etc.).
11. Assume responsibility for making announcements, handling permits or lunch tickets, conduct opening exercises or dismissal of classes or groups.
12. Study daily lesson plans of supervising teacher or activity specialist, noting time devoted to each activity. Note techniques for motivating children, utilization of student interests, and use of homework in relation to daily lessons.
13. Tutor a child.
14. An occasional visit to another classroom would be desirable--planned ahead, of course.

Special notes:

1. Whenever possible, vary observation schedule. If planned cooperatively with the supervising teacher, this instructor approves.
2. Allow the student to become as actively involved in classroom activity as possible during the semester. The idea is more participation than observation.
3. You will not be asked to grade the student. However, we would appreciate an informal letter (sent, if possible, by Jan. 9, 1970) evaluating the participation of the student volunteers at your school or center.

Questions? Call Mrs. Margery MacDonald, 446-5608.