

Newspaper in Education Presents

# inquiziKIDZ

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Would you be willing to turn off Sponge Bob to turn on your future?

## kidzbiz

### Back to Kindergarten

By Leslie Rowe

Sixth graders Sara Chilton and Stacie Herbach are among the youngest at **Sugg Middle School**, but every morning they are looked up to as "the big kids." That's because most mornings they go back to kindergarten! Sara and Stacie volunteer at Moody Elementary in Mrs. Lorenzetti's kindergarten class. They arrive at school a whole hour early—which means giving up extra sleep!

Sara and Stacie belong to Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). When their club decided on a service project, they chose Moody. All of the FBLA volunteers are hugely popular among the teachers and the younger kids.

"I love little kids in kindergarten," Sara said. "They're more attached to us than I thought they would be." "They're really cool and fun and they trust us more than when we first started," Stacie added. "It's fun getting to help." "Helping others makes you feel good," Sara said. "Especially when they hug and say thank you."

Now Stacie and Sara are thinking about being teachers. Stacie's advice to the younger kids? "Try your hardest and never give up on your dreams!"

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## school biz

### Mission Accomplished: F-U-N

By Leslie Rowe

Stephen Lorenzetti's mission is to make learning fun. In his **Sugg Middle School** business technology class, it is mission accomplished, especially for students in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). The Sugg FBLA focuses on service. It started with a visit to Moody Elementary, where Mr. Lorenzetti's wife Georgette teaches kindergarten. A few FBLA students volunteered in her class each morning. The older students soon learned that the younger kids adored them. It was fun!

Word spread, and soon more elementary teachers asked for volunteers. Today, nearly 40 FBLA students volunteer for 15 teachers at Moody. "This has been a lifesaver!" exclaimed Mrs. Sallard, a kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Winkel added, "It's just fabulous! They are an integral part of my morning."

"They are role models to the younger kids," Mr. Lorenzetti said about his students. "They feel good about themselves because the younger ones look up to them. And many have decided to become teachers." Now he leads a new club because of the program—Florida Future Educators of America, which started with a group of his FBLA students. And they, too, make learning fun!



Stephen Lorenzetti



President Bush put it this way: "I want to thank you all, if you're a member of the Army of Compassion in this United States of America, for serving your community by helping somebody who hurts, by reaching out a hand to a neighbor in need. Now, government can help. But government cannot put hope in people's hearts or a sense of purpose in people's lives."

Only you can decide to turn off Sponge Bob and give up free time to volunteer. Volunteering helps others, but it can also help you. Use what you have, give what you can. Make a difference. And discover a world of opportunities for your future.

## explore it

Here are some tips to guide you as you consider volunteering.

1. **THINK** about what interests you, what you enjoy, what you'd like to learn.
2. **TALK** with your parents, teachers, or guidance counselor about the skills you have and how to use them best. Ask them what talents they see in you.
3. **MAKE** a call. Get the name of the volunteer coordinator at the location of your choice. Find out what areas they need help with, and ask if any training is needed. Ask which days are available for volunteering, and check your calendar.
4. **ARRANGE** your schedule. Don't overdo it! You don't want to burn out. Take it slow and easy. With your parent's permission, start with a six month commitment.
5. **LEARN** what you can about where you're going. Study and think about how you can do your best.
6. **BEGIN!** Show up on time, every time. Smile! If you can't make it, be sure to phone someone and let them know.

## Volunteering and Careers

### Do good. Get happy!

By Julie Gilles

Would you be willing to occasionally turn off Sponge Bob to turn on your future? Volunteering can mean more than just helping others – it can pave the way to your future career. Sure, a full-time job seems eons away, but face it, it is coming! Volunteering offers you the chance to experience career choices before going to college. You may discover hidden talents, or even decide which job is not for you, saving yourself future headaches.

What are you best at? What do you enjoy doing? These are the first questions to ask when considering possibilities. Maybe you love animals; so naturally, you'd enjoy volunteering at an animal clinic or the Humane Society. Volunteering would be the perfect chance to try out several different careers: grooming & boarding, animal behavior, or even veterinary medicine. There are even volunteers who train dogs for the sight disabled.

You say sports are more your style? Offer to help coach a local little league team. Interested in a medical career? Check out area hospitals. What about becoming a teacher? Volunteer in a younger classroom to try it on for size. Is the world of politics calling you? Contact your local city council office to find out how to help. You could even get involved with the 2004 presidential election and help your candidate get elected. The point is that doing something you enjoy while helping others at the same time can make you feel awesome!

The idea is to get busy, start helping, get involved. There are a tremendous amount of needs right here in Manatee County. If you're uncertain where to begin, ask your parents, friends, or a teacher what abilities they see in you that you could use to help others. You might be surprised at what they say!

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## Discover the Future

Explore These Careers: **By Volunteering Here:**

- Medical Assistant
- Nurse, Doctor
- Hospital Administrator
- Mid-Wife
- Hospital Senator
- Congressman
- City Councilman
- Various Government Offices
- Chef
- Restaurant Owner
- Caterer
- Meals On Wheels
- Soup Kitchens
- Caregiver
- Teacher
- Special Ed Teacher
- Principal
- Your School
- Carpenter
- Contractor
- Builder
- Habitat for Humanity
- Publisher
- Writer
- Librarian
- Library

For more career information see your school counselor and get information on-line at:  
<http://jobstar.org/tools/career/spec-car.cfm>  
 OR  
<http://www.acinet.org/acinet/default.asp>



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- Sugg Middle School
- Ballard Elementary Magnet
- Daughtrey Preporatory Magnet
- Harlee Middle Magnet
- Johnson Middle Magnet
- Lee Middle Magnet



- Haile Middle School
- Lincoln Middle Magnet
- Manatee Elementary Magnet
- Rowlett Elementary Magnet
- Tillman Elementary Magnet
- Wakeland Elementary Magnet

Schools listed in red offer instruction in the subject area featured in today's InquiziKIDZ

Next Weeks Inquizikidz - "What if every student who graduated was bilingual?"



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