

Newspaper in Education Presents

inquizi kidz

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The question is not what your community can do for you, but what can you do for your community?

kidzbiz

Future goals

Dreams of becoming an interior designer are the main reason Tara Hart is so enthusiastic about her Family and Consumer Science course. Tara, a 7th grade student, is a very active member of the Family Community Career Leaders of America (FCCLA), a Career and Technical Student Organization at **Braden River Middle School**. Last year at the Regional and State Level Competitions, Tara presented her group's community service project, Feed the Hungry Campaign. She won both Gold and Silver awards for her efforts. Tara and her peers enjoy the regional and state competitions as they are able to attend workshops such as cake decorating, time management and sewing, to name a few.

Tara's favorite unit of study is housing, where she has the opportunity to design her own house. To boost her creative thoughts, Tara enjoys watching Trading Spaces, a TV program where individuals get the chance to try their talents at interior decorating. Tara also looks forward to the sewing and cooking units as she feels that these classes are helping to prepare her for her future goals.

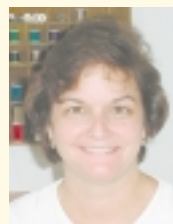
school biz

Exploring opportunities

Jill Bergeron, a product of Manatee County schools, a graduate from Florida State University, and a veteran teacher of nineteen years, has been teaching Family and Consumer Science at **Braden River Middle School** since the school opened.

Jill's 6th grade students have the opportunity to explore Family and Consumer Science for 24 days, 7th grade students are under her instruction for one quarter, and 8th grade students for a semester.

Hands-on projects are favorite assignments of Jill's students. Jill allows them many opportunities to succeed through sewing projects, experimenting in the kitchen lab and creating video commercials about new products. Jill finds their successes very rewarding. Jill incorporates the latest technology into her lessons, but feels strongly about the importance of teaching her students about family, home, community and service to others. Last year the Family Community Career Leaders of America (FCCLA), a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO), were involved in two service projects: Feed the Hungry and the Solve House. They received both Gold and Silver recognitions at State competitions.



Jill Bergeron

- Braden River Middle School
- Ballard Elementary Magnet
- Daughtrey Preparatory 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 - Do plants have an appetite for flies, insects, or pizza?

Service Learning

Critical learning experience

Many young people like YOU, are concerned about what is going on in their communities and are looking for ways to get involved. Service Learning, sometimes referred to as community service, is defined as a method of teaching and learning that integrates practical life experience, service to the community, and academics for students of all ages. **Hey kids, don't stop reading, it really gets interesting!** Service learning strives to reinforce classroom academics. It also provides opportunities for character building and personal growth. Students learn more about diversity in our world and develop compassion and understanding as well as a sense of civic responsibility. Research has discovered that service learning makes a huge impact. Benefits include:

- Development of a connection to the community
- Skills learned through real-life situations
- Increased self-esteem
- Development of confidence
- Motivation and interest in learning is increased
- Positive attributes are strengthened
- Values of justice, compassion and/or citizenship are reinforced
- More community support for education

Service learning helps young people to really understand what helping the community is about. Instead of just taking from the community, they find they can give back too. Through activities outside the classroom young people can greatly improve their behavior during the regular school day. Kids involved in effective service learning projects tend to do a better job of staying on task while in class. It is being discovered that some of the students' most critical learning experiences often take place outside the classroom.

In a recent Prudential survey of nearly 1,000 young people, 95% of those interviewed support volunteering. Almost two-thirds of those surveyed said that individual responsibility is the best way to solve community problems. 67% indicated that they devote some of their time to volunteer activities. Are you asking yourself why so many students are interested in serving their communities? Why not?



- ❖ They feel they are making a difference
- ❖ They are developing new skills
- ❖ They are exploring career paths
- ❖ They are having fun working with friends
- ❖ They feel good about themselves

So, if you want to know how to feel better about yourself, *the question is not what your community can do for you, but what can you do for your community?*

explore it

Do you or your family want to get involved in a service learning project? Follow the steps listed and you'll be on your way to making a difference!

- ✓ Find a project that fits!
 - Get together with your family and talk about project ideas. Brainstorm a list of the people or organizations you would like to help. Think about the things you like to do. Determine how much time you have to volunteer. Contact an organization.
- ✓ Get ready and get prepared!
 - Prepare through conversation. Talk with your family about what it means to help someone. Talk about how those around you are helping others. Think about what supplies you'll need for your project and gather them together. Learn about the group you are going to help.
- ✓ Volunteer!
 - Bring any needed supplies. Make sure everyone in your family that is participating has a task, so they feel involved. Just in case, bring snacks! Rest if necessary, so you can remain enthusiastic throughout the project.
- ✓ Reflect
 - After you volunteer, gather the family together to reflect on your experience.



Discover the Future

Way back when, Family and Consumer Sciences were referred to as Home Economics. But times do change, and so do the options students have when considering careers. Persons with interest, knowledge, and skills in one or more Family and Consumer Sciences content areas are employable in a wide variety of occupations. Some of the familiar careers include teacher, dietitian, cooperative extension, service specialist, consumer specialist in business or industry, homemaker, and parent. However, Family and Consumer Sciences skills are also used in some unexpected career areas such as:

- Health Care Careers
- Social Service Careers
- Careers in Religion
- Physical Fitness Careers
- More specific careers include:
- Advertising Sales Agents
- Barbers
- Amusement and Recreation Attendants
- Coaches and Scouts
- Commercial and Industrial Designers
- Concierges
- Demonstrators and Product Promoters
- Epidemiologists
- Floral Designers
- Graphic Designers
- Public Relations Specialists

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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Habitat for Humanity
<http://www.habitat.org>

Earth Force
<http://www.earthforce.org>

America's Charities
<http://www.charities.org>

American National Red Cross
<http://www.redcross.org>

Boys & Girls Clubs of America
<http://www.cwla.org>

Corporation for National Service
<http://www.nationalservice.org>

Community Service for young people
http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/cic_text/children/spirit/spirit.pdf
 *National Organizations with Information for Young Volunteers

