

Citizenship Projects 2005-2006

Raleigh Charter High School

Reference Letter: 05A Program Name: SAFECHILD

Students will learn about SAFEchild, a child abuse prevention program, and prepare supplies for student art projects.

Reference Letter: 05B Program Name: Art Therapy at the Durham Ronald McDonald House

Students will visit the Durham Ronald McDonald House, a temporary residence for children receiving treatment at Duke Hospital and their families, and present an art therapy project to the residents. During the first one-hour meeting we will discuss art therapy and talk about the project that will be implemented. During the second-hour meeting we will do the project ourselves to work out the kinks and get prepared. We will visit the Ronald McDonald House on Wednesday evening November 9th, so this project requires that a special permission slip be signed by parents of participants.

Reference Letter: 05C Program Name: Building Manipulatives for Handicapped Children

Students will construct 30 to 40 manipulatives, or pedagogical toys, facilitating the development of fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination for handicapped children. Using the example of some already-made manipulatives, we will establish what type, and how much material we will need for the construction of our projects. We will find ways to obtain the required material and collect and prepare it for construction. Finally, we will construct the toys, inspect them for sturdiness and safety measures, and have them ready for delivery to two elementary schools.

Reference Letter: 05D Program Name: Knitting for the Needy

Several local groups have need for knitted items. Our finished projects may go to premature infants, homeless adults or children in crisis. We will begin with infant hats that we will knit for babies born at Rex Hospital. This service project may work better for students who are experienced knitters or have comparable handiwork skills (crochet, sewing, etc). Knitting will be the main activity and will occur on campus.

Reference Letter: 05E Program Name: Motivating Middle School Students

Students will write academic competition questions for middle school students. They will, then, travel to schools and host an academic competition for the students.

Reference Letter: 05F Program Name: Triangle Land Conservancy

This program gives students the opportunity to learn more about local land management and conservation by working with experts from the Triangle Land Conservancy, an agency that "protects important open space – forest, farmland, stream corridors, wildlife habitats and natural areas – to keep our six county region a healthy and vibrant place to live and work." Students will be able to participate in some of the hands-on work of land conservation, including trail blazing, clean-up, invasive species eradication, and data collection.

Reference Letter: 05G Program Name: Living in Poverty

This program will be looking at poverty here in the U.S. as well as world-wide. Experts working at anti-poverty agencies will discuss issues such as health care, nutrition, overpopulation, AIDS, and other problems faced by many living in our world today. Service projects will, at this date, include working at Catholic Relief Services and 10,000 Villages

Reference Letter: 05H Program Name: Get Running

Physical activity is very often overlooked as an important component of healthy living. In order to draw attention to this matter, students will participate in various race-oriented activities promoting youth and adult physical activity. We will work with organizations such as Girls on the Run, a life-changing character development program for girls ages 8-12 that uses running to teach values and a sense of self. The program may be shortened on the citizenship day since all students involved will be asked to volunteer at an out-of-school activity, so this project requires that a special permission slip be signed by parents of participants.

Reference Letter: 05I Program Name: Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

This group will investigate the issues of sexual assault and domestic violence. We will be working for a local agency called Interact that provides shelter, counseling, and other support services to victims in the area. In preparation for our service, we will talk to representatives from the agency and learn about the causes of domestic violence and sexual assault and its impact. In the second semester, students will focus on teen sexual assault and dating violence and design an educational campaign for RCHS.

Reference Letter: 05J Program Name: Glean the Fields

Students will travel to farmers' fields to harvest crops that will be used to feed those in need.

Reference Letter: 05K Program Name: Caring for Keystone Carnivores

Students will learn about worldwide endangerment of large carnivores (especially big cats) and help care for them at a sanctuary for them near Pittsboro called Carnivore Preservation Trust.

Reference Letter: 05L Program Name: Homelessness

In the first semester, we shall investigate the causes of homelessness and create a display that informs our community about the problem. In the second semester, we shall learn about Wake County's "Ten-Year Action Plan to End Homelessness." We shall create a second display that informs our community about the plan and suggests ways to get involved.

Reference Letter: 05M Program Name: School Improvement and Support

Students will develop and implement various plans to make Raleigh Charter High School a better place.

Reference Letter: 05N Program Name: Abandoned Animal Care

Explore two area animal shelters (Second Chance Pet Adoptions, and the Wake County SPCA). These groups present their mission statements, their primary activities, and important considerations when taking care of a pet. They will also discuss how their facilities' function to provide good homes for animals. Following these presentations, the students will have the opportunity to travel to these facilities and actually participate in grooming, cleaning, and socializing with the animals.

Reference Letter: 05O Program Name: Aubade

An aubade is a morning serenade. Talented RCHS musicians (strings, woodwinds, vocals) will serenade elementary-school students or retirement-home residents. All woodwind instruments, string instruments (including *acoustic* guitars) and vocalists are welcome, but in order to get into Aubade they must either audition or have a permission slip from the music department.

Reference Letter: 05P Program Name: Connecting with Senior Citizens

Senior Citizens living in an extended care facility usually enjoy and benefit from interacting with young people, but have limited opportunities to do so. We will visit an assisted-living home and spend the morning getting to know some of the residents. We'll do a hands-on crafts activity, helping them create personalized seasonal decorations for their rooms, and have snacks with them afterwards.

Reference Letter: 05Q Program Name: We'd love to pamper you

Female students will offer a day-spa experience to residents of the Women's Center of Wake County.

Reference Letter: 05R Program Name: Books on Tape

If you love reading children's books, we need you to put some books on tape. We will be helping a class of preschool students by putting some of their books on tape. Students with foreign-language proficiency are welcomed because we might be taping some books in other languages. Our first job will be to discuss the project and make a plan. We will, then, tape the books at our school. Once the project has been completed, we will visit the elementary school class and read to the students, play games, and have fun.

Reference Letter: 05S Program Name: Library Database

Students will create an inventory of books and other educational materials owned by or available for use by RCHS. After the inventory, we will conduct a systems analysis to determine how RCHS staff wants to use the information and how we can electronically manage it.

Reference Letter: 05T Program Name: Sustaining the Roots of Music

Based in Hillsborough, NC, The Music Maker Relief Foundation (MMRF) raises money for, and records local blues musicians to preserve American roots music. Students will learn about MMRF before organizing and publicizing a MMRF lecture/recital. Part of this project may require evening work in the spring, so this project requires that a special permission slip be signed by parents of participants.

Reference Letter: 05U Program Name: Tech Theatre/Not for Profit Arts Management

Students will form a partnership with a local theatre company. We will assist the theatre with a tech-theatre project or house management, ushering, and running crew. Students will learn about the importance of community involvement and support for the success and health of a not-for-profit arts organization.

Reference Letter: 05V Program Name: Designing and Building a Garden

Students will design, implement, and maintain a themed container garden on the school patio.

Reference Letter: 05W Program Name: Conservation and Ecology

Students will participate in a project to benefit the environment: clean a stream, plant trees, maintain trails, etc.

Reference Letter: 05X Program Name: Food Bank

Students will assist with projects at the NC Food Bank.

Reference Letter: 05Y Program Name: Working with Special-Needs Children

Students will visit the Tammy Lynn Center, a residential facility for individuals with developmental disabilities. They will assist the staff by reading to, talking to, and playing with disabled children. They may be asked to help with some work on the grounds.