Top 10 Food Rescue Student Leader Ideas

As your students become more engaged in Food Rescue activities, these ideas will enrich their experience. Most are independent activities that only take some encouragement to get started. Once you review them with your students, encourage them to brainstorm their own ideas and email them to Food Rescue.

- 1. Make a video clip (1 minute or less) promoting Food Rescue for social media.
- (2) Work on posters to promote Food Rescue throughout the building.
- 3. Type out an announcement and send it to our Media Specialist to be read for the announcements about Food Rescue.
- 4. Role play how to talk to someone about Food Rescue at lunch (another student).
- 5. Role play how to talk to someone about Food Rescue at home (parent, grandparent, friend that doesn't go to our school, other adults).
- Write a thank you note to cafeteria staff, custodians, or anyone supporting Food Rescue.
- Submit a one or two paragraph blog post with a photo to Food Rescue via
- Write a thank you note to somebody for inviting you to be a part of helping with Food Rescue.
- Write a note to an administrator explaining what we do as a class with Food Rescue.
- 10. Investigate Food Rescue online, including pictures of items that can be donated and facts that can be shared about food waste in America.

Let's end the practice of "landfill feeding" one school cafeteria at a time in every state and preserve over 1 billion unopened and unpeeled food items annually.

K-12 Food Rescue programs are a joint cooperative venture between local schools, local food pantries/qualified caring agencies, and local health departments. The entire program and relationship is between these three parties, and Food Rescue has no oversight over any K-12 Food Rescue programs.



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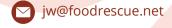
Name	
Date	Phone Number
Birthday	Student ID #
Address	City
State	_ Zip Code
Please place a check next to the Food Rescue job you wish to apply for. Be sure to read each job's responsibility before applying.	
Manager for Food Resc	ue Heavy Lifter
Student Coach	Sorter
Counter	Other
Why would you like to have this job? (Please write in complete sentences).	

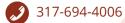
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What are some of the responsibilities you think you will have if you get this job? (Please write in complete sentences).	
What strengths do you have or what have you done in the past to help you do this job well? (Please write in complete sentences).	
Please copy the following statement on the lines below:	
I promise that if given this Food Rescue job, I will perform it to the best of my abilities.	



John Williamson Food Rescue President Inspiring Student Leaders









Manager:

The manager is in charge of making sure the entire job of sorting, counting, labeling, and packing of the food is done well, not only by the manager, but also by the other employees.

- 1. The manager writes down the food item categories on an inventory list or uses an already existing inventory list on a clipboard.
- 2. The manager gives employees job assignments (picks a category that needs to be gathered, sorted and counted and assigns a student or group of students to).
- 3. The manager writes down the number of items for each category as reported by the Sorter/Counter employees.
- 4. The student manager labels the boxes by category using a sharpie.
- 5. The student manager supervises everyone to insure they are doing their jobs at all times.
- 6. The student manager encourages his or her student employees throughout work to make them feel valued.





Student Coach/Job Coach Assistant:

The student coach/job coach assistant works with another student one on one to help them learn how to do a new job. The student coaches with their voice without doing the job for the student who is learning. They also encourage the new employee and help them feel successful at their new job.

- 1. The student coach picks up the new student employee on the way to the Food Rescue job if the student employee is not in their classroom.
- 2. The student coach makes sure the new student employee meets the manager and asks the manager for a job assignment.
- 3. The student coach follows the new student employee around and helps the new employee learn what to do without physically doing it for them. (Coach with your mouth, not with your hands).
- 4. The student coach encourages the new student employee and makes sure they understand why they are doing things a certain way.
- 5. The student coach makes sure the new student employee reports information to the manager.
- 6. The student coach makes sure the new student employee makes it back to their class and feels encouraged about their work.





Gatherer/Heavy Lifter:

The Gatherer/Heavy Lifter needs to be strong so they can lift the boxes and move carts without help. They also need to be confident enough to ask the cafeteria staff for the boxes and cart of food without a teacher's help. There can be 1-2 Gatherer/Heavy Lifters on the job.

- 1. The Gatherer/Heavy Lifter gets the crates of food from a cafeteria worker or from the back cooler on the Food Rescue shelf.
- 2. The Gatherer/Heavy Lifter gets the cart from the pantry, if it isn't given to him or her by a cafeteria employee.
- 3. The Gatherer/Heavy Lifter moves the crates from the cart, to the tables to be sorted.
- 4. The Gatherer/Heavy Lifter gathers cardboard boxes.
- 5. The Gather/Heavy Lifter puts the crates of food and the cardboard boxes on the cart and brings them out to the cafeteria.
- 6. The Gatherer/Heavy Lifter gives the cart to the cafeteria employee and says "thank you" or puts the cart with the food in the cooler at the end of the sorting process if no one is available.
- 7. *The Gather/Heavy Lifter is allowed to help Sorters and Counters with their jobs, if they completed #1-4 and are waiting until they are needed for #5 and #6.





Sorter:

The Sorter is in charge of sorting all the food into the categories labeled on the boxes. This person needs to understand the different types of foods and all the different categories. There can be 2-3 Sorters on the job.

- 1. Sort the milks by expiration date, based on how you would at the grocery store (milk that expires closest to today's date in the front and milk that expires furthest from today in the back), that way the food bank can get the milks that are going to expire soonest out to families or people in the community quickest.
- 2. Take the food out of the crates and place it in the box of the category it goes into.
- 3. Talk to the manager if you are unsure about which box the food should be sorted into.

Kids Idea:

Use a Food Rescue crate and just sort using lids of paper boxes that our custodians save for us each week.

Stack the lids in the crate and label the different categories (snacks, juices, etc.). Place the milks at the bottom of the crate, and if the apples and oranges are too heavy, place them in a separate box. Other times they are placed on the first layer on top of the milk. The lids fit perfectly in the crate and provide the ability to sort the crate into categories.





Counter:

The Counter counts the items in each category. This person needs to have good counting and math skills. There can be 2-3 Counters on the job.

- 1. Count the items in each category and report the amounts one at a time to the manager. Have the manager double check your counting if you are unsure you did it correctly. Make sure to get the manager's attention quickly, so you don't forget the number! ©
- * You can also combine the Sorter and Counter position into one employee that can do both skills. If that is the case, they will sort the food from the crates that goes in the category they were assigned and then count the food.

After the food is counted, report the total of each category to the manager.

All workers can work on posters to spread the word about Food Rescue when your part of the job is over. You can create an Instagram post highlighting the Food Rescue results for the week. Employees may also work on decorating the Food Rescue crate. You can come up with and write down what you are going to say to get the word out about Food Rescue to your peers in other classes.

You can also brainstorm new ideas for getting the word out.

*See Top 10 Ideas of things to do when you are not sorting for Food Rescue this week for more ideas.



Announcements



Video/School-wide Announcements:

Help save the food from being thrown away!! Ms./Mr. _____ class is teaming with Food Rescue this year to help Save the Food! Instead of throwing away an unopened or packaged food item after lunch, place it in the Food Rescue bin.

The Food Rescue team prevents the food from going into a landfill by connecting it to a local food pantry instead.

There are Food Rescue bins near the trash cans. Unopened milk, fruits, snacks, cheese sticks, and juices are examples of food items we should keep out of landfills. Basically anything in a package. Food is not Trash!

Cafeteria Microphone announcement (Student):

Hey guys! My name is _____ and I wanted to let you know about a new school project. We are working with Food Rescue to try to decrease the amount of food our school is placing into the trash, where it ends up in a landfill.

Please consider putting your unopened milk, juice, and snacks in the Food Rescue crate or box at the end of lunch instead of the trash can. FOOD IS NOT TRASH!

Cafeteria Microphone announcement (administrator):

Let's keep unopened food out of landfills. Once you have finished eating, if you have an unopened food item that you were going to throw away, it can go into the Food Rescue crates located by the trash cans instead. Food items like unopened milk, juice, and snacks can be rescued from the trash by placing them in the crate or box at the end of lunch. FOOD IS NOT TRASH!



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Stars of Encouragement:



Great Job!

You are a Food Rescue Rock Star

Great Job!

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