



## Community Service Learning

# Making the World a More Beautiful Place

*Miss Rumphius is a heartwarming story about a woman who makes the world a beautiful place. When she was very young, Miss Rumphius decided that she wanted to live in faraway places, live beside the sea, and make the world more beautiful, just like her grandfather did. After she accomplishes her first two goals, she realizes that the third goal will be the most difficult. Then she has a wonderful idea to plant flowers all over the fields, along the highways, down country lanes, and all over the place. The next spring, when the flowers bloomed, Miss Rumphius had accomplished her third goal of making the world more beautiful. This story is available from local libraries, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, etc.*



### Discussion Questions to complete after reading the entire story:

1. How did Miss Rumphius make the world a more beautiful place? What could you do to make the world a more beautiful place?
2. Why did people call Miss Rumphius "That Crazy Old Lady"? Do you think she is a crazy old lady?

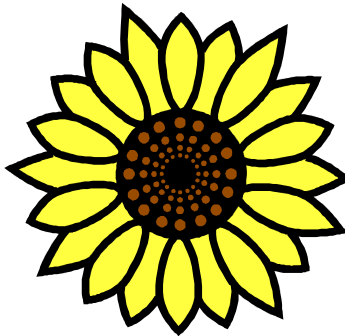
### Suggested Activities to Make the World a More Beautiful Place

- Clean up trash along a river or in a park. Clean up litter inside and outside of your school.
- Ask your principal for permission to plant and maintain a garden or trees on your school grounds.
  - Research which plants grow best in your area and what they need in order to grow. Decide which plants you want to use and where you want to plant them.
- Adopt an acre of rainforest through an organization such as the Nature Conservancy. See the next page for more information on the Nature Conservancy.
- Conserve energy and resources. See the next page for conservation ideas.



### Information about the Nature Conservancy

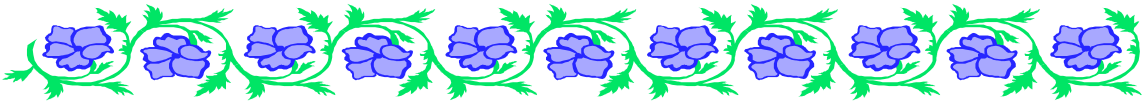
- The Nature Conservancy is the leading conservation organization working to protect the most ecologically important lands and waters around the world for nature and people.
- The Nature Conservancy was founded in 1951 and has protected more than 117 million acres of land and 5,000 miles of river around the world.
- By donating \$50 per acre through the Adopt an Acre program, you will help to protect the Forests of the Rift Valley in Kenya and Tanzania, which is one of the world's most diverse and fragile habitats. Within this rainforest, leopards and elephants roam the floor while chimpanzees and black and white colobus monkeys hang in the canopies above.
- For more information about the Nature Conservancy and the Adopt an Acre program, please visit [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)



### Suggestions to Conserve Energy and Resources

1. Turn off lights, computers, TVs, and other appliances when you are not using them.
2. Buy less stuff. Everything we buy creates waste and uses energy both in the manufacturing process and after we use it.
3. Take shorter showers to reduce the amount of hot water you use.
4. Recycle bottles, paper, cans, and anything else that is recyclable.
5. Close your window blinds at night to keep heat in the house.
6. Don't keep the refrigerator door open any longer than you need to and make sure you close it all the way.
7. Use rechargeable batteries instead of regular batteries.
8. Walk or ride your bike places instead of going in the car.





## Community Service Word Jumble

*Please unscramble the following words. The words can be found throughout this community service learning packet. Answers are listed at the bottom of this page.*

1. LOWFESR \_\_\_\_\_

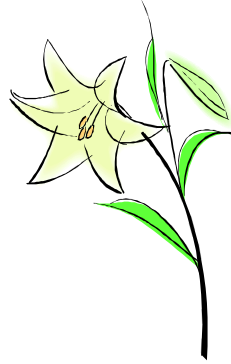
4. ERCONESV \_\_\_\_\_

2. UFITEABLU \_\_\_\_\_

5. IRANORETSF \_\_\_\_\_

3. RLDWO \_\_\_\_\_

6. ERNEGY \_\_\_\_\_



**Reflection:** After completing your community service project or making changes to conserve energy and resources, please take a few moments to reflect upon your activities. How did it feel to work to make the world a more beautiful place? What other projects and activities can you do to improve the environment and conserve resources?

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*Answers to the Word Jumble: 1.) Flowers, 2.) Beautiful, 3.) World, 4.) Conserve, 5.) Rainforest, 6.) Energy*

For more information and resources, please contact:  
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