

Time and Talent Exploration

Description of Activity

Participants think about what they are good at and what they could enjoy contributing in service to others.

- Read aloud the Time/Talent/Treasure Survey below. A little quiet time to write helps everyone find their own answers rather than be influenced by the responses of others.

If I had (more) time to help out in my community, I would want to:

I am really good at:

One way I use my talent to help others is:

If I won \$100, I would:

If I won \$100 and wanted to give the money away, I would:

Explain that you will read each question aloud, ask family members to reflect silently for a few moments, and invite them to raise their hands when they have a response to share. Record responses. When all questions have been addressed, invite family members to consider how their particular gifts might be of use to the communities to which they belong.

Activity Expansion

This activity expansion gives family members a chance to consider the ways they contribute to meeting the needs of others.

Help to trace one another's bodies with a pencil as each family member lies on a length of paper. Then ask family members to write or draw on their body outline the ways they use their bodies to help the world. Suggest some of their gifts may be associated with particular body parts. For example, near the tracing of their ears someone might write, "I listen with compassion when my friends have problems to talk about."

Give everyone a chance to admire one another's work. Ask if they learned anything new about somebody in the family. If some people have been shy about coming forward with how they help their community, allow a brief exchange of sincere compliments or appreciation for what you know one another to be good at.