

TEAM KIDS CHALLENGE: A SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAM

Team Kids' core program is the five-week **Team Kids Challenge (TKC)**, a research-based and empirically validated approach to youth development that is offered at no charge to participating schools. During the flagship, award-winning Team Kids Challenge, a five-week elementary school-based program, every student is invited to work alongside police, firefighters, parent volunteers and Team Kids mentors to address real-world issues, such as homelessness, hunger, safety and the environment. A Leadership Team helps the students fulfill three weekly service challenges that address community needs, while planning a fundraising carnival that occurs during the final week and benefits a cause chosen by the students. The TKC is comprised of a kickoff assembly, Leadership Team meetings, a student-run carnival and a celebration meeting.

KICKOFF ASSEMBLY:

“INVITED TO SERVE FROM COMMUNITY HEROES!”

Team Kids staff, police officers, and fire-fighters lead a kickoff assembly at the school to outline the program, demonstrate teamwork and deliver the critical message that children are powerful resources for change in the world. The students are presented with three community issues, such as homelessness, animal protection, health, safety and the environment, and are given a weekly challenge to collect a certain amount of funds or resources surrounding each issue, such as school supplies for homeless children or gently used blankets for animal shelters.

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS:

“MOBILIZED AS SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS
AND COMPASSIONATE LEADERS!”

Fifth and sixth graders volunteer for the Leadership Team (LT), which meets once a week during lunch recess, to enhance their leadership and entrepreneurial skills by planning a school-wide carnival for the last week of the TKC. The LT breaks into groups, brainstorms issues and collectively selects a charitable cause, to which all the carnival proceeds will be donated. Each group is responsible for creating and operating a booth at the carnival.

They determine their booth name, activity, supplies, and responsibilities. They create booth posters and decide how many tickets to charge for participation.



Team Kids
Challenge