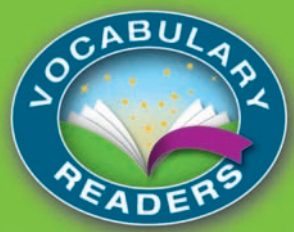


Community Teamwork

by Joanne Mattern



HUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT



Community Teamwork

by Joanne Mattern



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT
School Publishers

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS: 3 (b) Harcourt; 6 Photodisc, Inc.; 11 (b) © Lawrence Manning/Corbis; 12 (b) Digital Vision; 14: (b) Harcourt.

All other photos © Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishers

Copyright © by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner unless such copying is expressly permitted by federal copyright law. Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be addressed to Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Publishers, Attn: Permissions, 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32887-6777.

Printed in China

ISBN-10: 0-547-25317-6

ISBN-13: 978-0-547-25317-6

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 0940 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11

If you have received these materials as examination copies free of charge, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt School Publishers retains title to the materials and they may not be resold. Resale of examination copies is strictly prohibited.

Possession of this publication in print format does not entitle users to convert this publication, or any portion of it, into electronic format.

 **Contents**

People Power	4
It Starts with an Idea	5
Spreading the Word	7
Raising Money.....	8
Make a Plan	11
Build It and They Will Come.....	12
Making a Better Place	14




Suppose that a community had no place for children to play. Or suppose that a neighborhood was littered with trash. Most people would look at these situations and say, “Something should be done to fix these problems. But what can I do to help?” It’s hard for one person to solve a big problem. Many communities, though, have discovered that when everybody works together, they can accomplish amazing things. And students just like you can be an important part of the process.



People Power

All over the United States, people have come up with **schemes** to improve their communities. These improvements come in many different forms and are tied to the needs of a specific place.

 Community organizations can help improve communities. Community groups such as the YMCA or the Boys and Girls Clubs are a great force for change. Students can become involved in these groups and work to make their hometowns better.



It Starts with an Idea

Every community project starts with an idea. One person **suspects** there is a problem and wants to change it. He or she talks to friends and neighbors about ways to solve the problem. The solution might include anything from having more after-school activities to setting up a neighborhood crime watch to prevent **burglaries**. More people help the group to get the project done. It's a small beginning, but in time their efforts will pay off in a big way.



Spreading the Word

People must also get the word out about what they are trying to accomplish so that anyone who wants to **assist** can join in. Suppose a community wanted to install a traffic light at a busy intersection. Writing letters to the editor of the newspaper is a great way to get the ball rolling. The group could also bring its story to local radio or television. Students could make posters to hang around town, or put together a Web page or multimedia presentation for schools and community groups so that the project won't be **misjudged**. It won't take long before everyone knows what needs to be done.

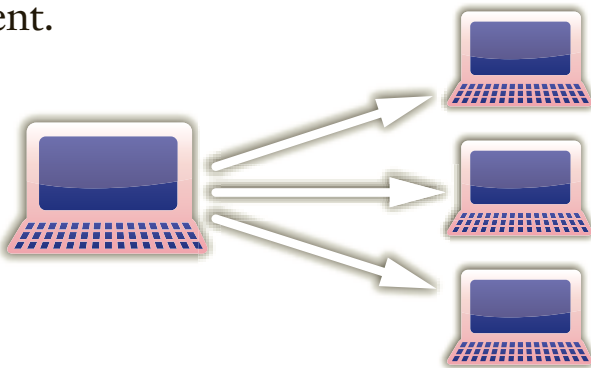
Raising Money

No matter what project a community group decides to solve, fundraising is **regretfully** the first and most important part of any project.

There are many ways to raise money. Groups might hold spaghetti dinners or community auctions. They might sponsor a sporting event, an art show, or a musical performance. Students could even hold a car wash to raise money and awareness.



🔊 The Internet can be a powerful tool to raise money and send out information. Groups often set up a Web site to promote their efforts. They'll also e-mail people and organizations asking for funds. E-mail is a great way to reach a large number of people in a short amount of time. The group's sender types one message and with the click of a mouse can instantly contact dozens, hundreds, even thousands of people. Even people outside of the community can follow the group's progress through e-mails or by following a Web page. Using e-mail can save both money and time because it is so efficient.



🔊 Although the Internet is a powerful tool, it is not perfect. Many computers have spam filters that might send e-mail from an unknown group straight into the trash. People also might not like being part of a mass mailing and might not answer the e-mail or even read it. It's also important that Web sites are kept up to date. People find it discouraging to check on a Web site, only to find news from months earlier!



Make a Plan


Raising money is only the first step. Committee members ask friends for **favors** to get materials. People may decline an invitation but know someone else who can help.

Some communities set aside one day each year for a special community project. **Prior** to that day, volunteers need to be assigned specific tasks at the location. Otherwise, work will grind to a halt.



Build It and They Will Come

Many communities have built playgrounds using a model set up by an organization called KaBOOM! KaBOOM! provides guidance and information, but it's the community volunteers who do the actual building.

 Several months before the building date, students attend a Design Day. They give their ideas of what they would like the playground to look like. Then adults go over the plans and decide what features their playground will include. Those features are submitted to the company that will manufacture the equipment.





After weeks of planning, it is finally time to start building. Build Day is an exciting day! By eight o'clock in the morning, teams of volunteers arrive at the site. Team leaders assign jobs and make sure the work is done correctly. A KaBOOM! project manager oversees everything. Other workers set up food and safety stations. Usually, the media is on hand to photograph the event and describe what's going on. By mid-afternoon, the playground is done. It's been a very successful day!

Making a Better Place

Many students want to make a difference in their community and in the world. They may **speculate** that they are **innocent** and helpless, because it is hard for just one person to create a big change. But when individuals join together, they are no longer small and helpless. They are a team. They are a community. And community teamwork can change everything.



Responding



TARGET VOCABULARY

Word Builder

You can add prefixes or suffixes to root words to create new words. Can you find the root words for some of your vocabulary words? Copy the chart below and add four words and the root word for each.

Vocabulary Word	Root Word
burglaries	burglary



Write About It

Text to World Think of a problem in your community that you would like to solve. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper explaining the project and what you think could be done to solve it. Use words from the Word Builder in your letter.



TARGET VOCABULARY

assist

burglaries

favor

innocent

misjudged

prior

regretfully

scheme

speculated

suspect



TARGET STRATEGY

Analyze/Evaluate Ask

questions to analyze and evaluate the text's meaning.



What happens when a woman is convicted in court of something she didn't do? She is _____.

Level: 0

DRA: 38

Social Studies

Strategy:

Analyze/Evaluate

Word Count: 1,101

4.1.4 Build Vocabulary

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN
Online Levelled Books



ISBN-13: 978-0-547-25317-6
ISBN-10: 0-547-25317-6



**HOUGHTON
MIFFLIN
HARCOURT**
School Publishers

1387980