A Volunteer Service Meaningful to Me

In recent years, more and more high school students are devoting themselves to volunteering, willing to spend their free time on helping the needy without asking for anything in return. As a teenager who has the time, energy and passion to serve others, volunteer service is the best way for me to attain valuable experiences and fulfill my life. In all the different categories of volunteer service, I especially want to extend a helping hand to children who lack education or suffer from poor education environments.

Growing up in Taiwan, I’ve always received high-quality education and studied in safe environments. I don’t need to sit in classrooms with leaking roofs or write on the dirt floor due to the lack of desks and chairs. However, in many parts of the world, children living in poverty cannot enjoy the same affluent resources as I do, and some of them, although yearning to go to school, have to stay home because their families can’t afford tuition fees. Education enlightens us, provides us with knowledge and prepares us for the future. For those underprivileged children, education is the only way for them to escape poverty and connect with the world. Unfortunately, they are often struggling with poor economic conditions or dangerous learning environments. I firmly believe that education is a basic right for all human beings, and as a student who understands the joy of learning, it breaks my heart to see those children unable to enjoy the same happiness as I do. Therefore, I would love to devote myself in volunteering and provide free education for needy children.

Volunteering is the ultimate act of giving without expecting repayments. Although there are no salaries, many people are still willing to become volunteers. The biggest motivation behind their acts of kindness is the spiritual happiness they acquire when helping others. This kind of happiness cannot be bought with money; instead, we can only get it through selfless giving. Once, a classmate of mine shared her experience of volunteering on a remote island in the Philippines. She showed my class photos of smiling local children playing games with the volunteers and the attentive looks of students taking lessons taught by the volunteers. Those photos really touched me and made me realized that there is repayment for volunteering: true happiness. If I have the chance to fulfill my volunteering goal and help children receive sufficient education, I can experience that unique kind of happiness, too. I will understand that giving means much more than receiving, and in the future, whenever I see people in need, I won’t hesitate to reach out and help because volunteering taught me the importance of giving.

When seeing people who aren’t as lucky as we are, we would start to appreciate our surroundings and everything we have. This is another benefit of volunteering, and something that many people nowadays need. In school, I often hear my classmates groaning about all the tests and homework and complaining about the boredom of studying. Sometimes, I also feel the same way as they do and daydream about not needing to go to school. But I believe that by becoming an education volunteer, I would realize how lucky I am, able to study without worries and go to school everyday. There are many children out there who have the will to study, but their families’ economic condition simply can’t allow them. As a volunteer, beside doing my best to help them receive education, perhaps I would be inspired by the children’s determination to learn under any circumstances and reflect on myself. If these children, with such insufficient resources, are so thirsty
for knowledge, why should I complain about studying and learning? Compared to them, I have no reason to whine about my life and be unhappy. Through volunteering, I can learn to be grateful for what I have and appreciate being able to receive education.

Above all, it is clear that becoming an education volunteering is an important goal for me. It not only suits my interest, but will also help me realize true happiness and appreciate my life. As Ghandi has said, “Be the change you wish to see in the world,” through providing education for underprivileged children, I can put my idea of education as a basic right into action and give those children a ray of hope for their futures. This will be very meaningful for my life and for those children’s, too. Giving is better than receiving, and volunteering is certainly a solid proof for that idea. Now that I have a goal, I do hope that I can make it come true someday.