

## November: Service – Lending a hand to help someone else

**SAY IT:** This month, we are talking with your child about how fun and rewarding it can be to serve others. We would love for you to get in on the conversation about service with this family activity you can do at home or on the go.

First, see if your child can remember the value and the definition. Then, say the Big Idea and definition together as a family: “Service—lending a hand to help someone else.” Now, can the whole family say the definition:

- At a normal pace while standing
- In fast forward while jogging in place
- In a whisper while tiptoeing
- Shouting while marching
- In slow motion while jogging in slow motion
- In a normal voice while walking backward

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**KNOW IT:** Dig a little deeper this week with these discussion starters about service:

- Can you think of a good example of someone who demonstrates service in your school, neighborhood or church? How do you see them serving others?
- Have you ever been in need of someone’s help? What might have happened if no one came to help you?
- Can you think of someone who might need your help? What might happen if no one helps them?
- What are some reasons that we choose not to serve someone?
- Have you ever done something to help someone and no one else knew about it?

**SEE IT:** Now that you know what we say service means, and you know what service means to you, check out what other kinds of animals serve each other each and every day:

In the movie *Finding Nemo*, Nemo and his father live in a sea anemone. But did you know that the ocean is actually full of clownfish who really do live inside sea anemone? The clownfish serve their anemone homes in multiple ways. They chase away potential predators who want to eat the anemone. They also attract fish that the anemone can eat for survival. Clownfish act as a vacuum for the anemone—eating any leftover food the anemone doesn’t eat and creating better water circulation around the anemone. That’s a pretty ingenious way to serve those around you!

Now, why don’t you take a break from saying “anemone”, pop a big bowl of popcorn and snuggle on the couch to SEE Nemo and his dad practicing service in the movie, *Finding Nemo*?

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**BE IT:** There are so many people in this world in need of a helping hand that it can be a little overwhelming. It’s easy to get defeated thinking of all the people, in all the continents in all the countries who don’t even have their basic needs met.

So let’s look closer to home. This month, serve others by finding a local community volunteer project to work on as a family. Research on sites like [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org) or [www.dosomething.org](http://www.dosomething.org) to find an opportunity that fits your family best!