



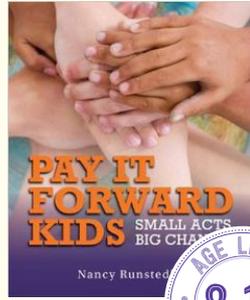
# Pay It Forward Kids: Small Acts, Big Change

## CHAPTER 11: MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE, ONE BOOK AT A TIME

by Nancy Runstedler

### Themes

- Encourage Others
- Love of Reading
- Kindness
- Pay-It-Forward
- Community Service
- Donations
- Book Drive



The smallest act of kindness can encourage others and create a chain reaction. This book features the individual stories of young men and women such as Maria Keller from Minnesota (Chapter 11). At age 8, she felt it was unfair that some children didn't have books to read. Her story tells how her love to read and compassion for others inspired her to gather book donations and distribute to those who didn't have books.

### Key Vocabulary

- Underprivileged children:** those that don't have the same opportunities as other children – often because of finances
- Teetering piles:** wobbly or unsteady
- Donations:** a gift of something given rather than purchased
- Recruited:** to invite to join your group
- Categorizing:** to arrange or organize by common groupings
- Philanthropy:** an effort to do good for others
- Scarce:** in short supply, not enough

### Discussion Starters

- Describe Maria's passion for books.**  
*She loved to read. She was surrounded by books and loved falling into stories and getting lost in the adventure. She knew that reading helped her perform better in all subjects at school.*
- How did Maria choose to encourage other children?**  
*She felt bad that some children did not have books. She wanted to help encourage others by giving them books so they would have the choice to be able to read just like she did so she started collecting books to share.*
- How did Maria get all the books she gave away?**  
*Donations, word of mouth, publishers, authors, public. She had collection drives to gather books from a lot of different sources.*
- Who did she give the books to?**  
*Children at schools, homeless shelters, food banks, orphanages, churches, hospitals, non-profit organizations...even books to prisons, nursing home.*
- How did she pay for the expenses of storing the books and shipping the books?**  
*She requested money donations from individual donors and grants to cover the extra costs.*
- What is Maria most proud of?**  
*It's not the number of books she has collected but that children get to keep the books - it makes her happy when she sees them thankful and happy. The E in NED's name reminds us to encourage others and be a champion in life. Maria is a NED Champion. She hopes her pay-it-forward efforts will help other children to love books as much as she does. She hopes they will someday PAY IT FORWARD to another person by giving them a book!*



When your school had The NED Show, most likely it was gifted to you by another school. So...when you bought a yo-yo after the assembly, you helped pay-it-forward to the next school. Now that's keeping kindness going!

### Aligned to Common Standards

For correlation information for all of our lesson plans, please visit [theNEDshow.com/lessonplans](http://theNEDshow.com/lessonplans)



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PRINTABLE:  
NED's Newspaper

## Writing Prompts

Practice writing a news report on your book drive event. As a reporter, be sure to include all the highlights (who, what, when, where, why and how). If you were to include one photo what would it be? Include a strong, catchy headline and draw a picture with a caption.

## Activities

### Planning a Pay-It-Forward Event: Children's Book Drive

Start a class discussion about what it takes to have a children's book drive. Allow students to freely brainstorm as you facilitate the discussion and helps them organize their thinking. Encourage them to think about ALL the details! We have provided a teacher's guide to help you get started.

### Promo Flyer

Design a flyer that promotes your event. Include interesting words, pertinent information and appealing visuals so your audience will want to read your ad.

Be sure to include the information listed to the right.

### Share

Tell us about your project (send us a photo and description) and it will be added to **NED's Keep Kindness Going Gallery** at [www.theNEDshow.com/keepkindnessgoing](http://www.theNEDshow.com/keepkindnessgoing). We may even select your project to receive a small donation from the All for KIDZ employee Pay-It-Forward Fund.

### THE PROMO FLYER

Include the following info:

1. SCHOOL/CLASS NAME
2. NAME OF THE EVENT
3. DATES (START AND END)
4. WHY WE ARE DOING THIS
5. OUR END GOAL

### Additional Resources

#### For more info...

Maria Keller:

- [www.readindeed.org](http://www.readindeed.org)
- [readindeedforkids@yahoo.com](mailto:readindeedforkids@yahoo.com)
- [www.facebook.com/readindeed](http://www.facebook.com/readindeed)

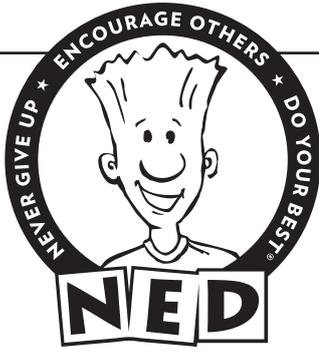
#### Create a Kindness Day at Your School!

Check out all the activities, available at [www.thenedshow.com/kindness](http://www.thenedshow.com/kindness), for creating an all-school celebration of kindness at your school! Daily announcements, a poster, a bulletin board kit, kindness cards and more can help kick start a Kindness Day!



#### Kindness Button

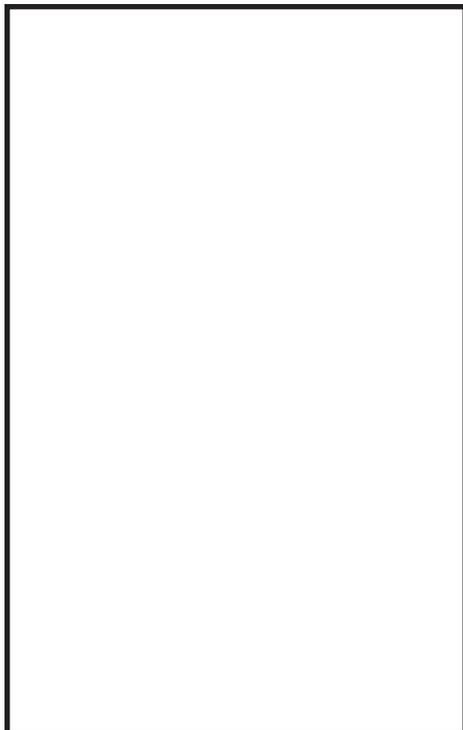
Did you know you can purchase NED's kindness buttons for your class? Visit [www.thenedshow.com/shop\\_ned](http://www.thenedshow.com/shop_ned). Use them as a reward or incentive to encourage your students as they pay kindness forward!



# NED TODAY

★ ★ ★ ★ NO. 1 IN KINDNESS | PAY-IT-FORWARD TODAY! ★ ★ ★ ★

TODAY'S HEADLINE



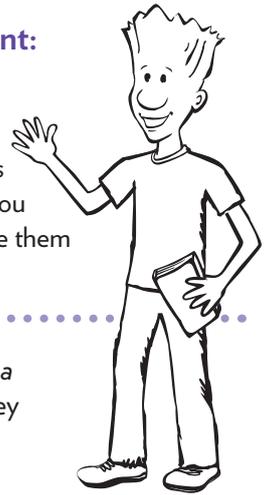
CAPTION

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# TEACHER'S GUIDE to Planning a Pay-It-Forward Event: Children's Book Drive



Teachers, use this as a guide to start a class discussion about what it takes to have a Children's Book Drive. Allow students to freely brainstorm as you facilitate the discussion and help them organize their thinking. Encourage them to think about ALL the details - some are listed below!

## PLAN



- What is the need in our community for children books? (*A hospital, a nearby school, our own school, After School Care facility, etc.*) Do they need/want our help?
- What age range of books to we want to collect?
- What are the starting & ending dates of our drive?
- Do we have permission from the school/district for our drive?

## PREPARE



- Who could we ask for books?
- How will we collect book donations?
- Where will we store the books until we deliver?
- How will we deliver the books to our community?

## PROMOTE



- What should a flyer say? How will flyers be distributed?
- Who will make the fliers?
- Who will make collection boxes? Drop them off? Collect them?
- How else can we promote the event? *Ideas: Newspaper, local TV or radio, school website, PTA*



PRINTABLE:  
**Collection Box Label**

## PREDICT



- Estimate the number of books to be collected. Have students each write down their guesstimate on a post-it and add it to the goal sheet printable.



PRINTABLE:  
**Goal Sheet**

## PARTY



- Plan to celebrate your success. Help students to feel proud and excited that they paid kindness forward. What is a good celebration? Reading books with recipients of books, younger grade students? Eating popcorn? Allow time for each child to share how they feel about encouraging others by paying kindness forward?

### Resources

#### Recommended Books...

*Doing Good Together: 101 Meaningful Service Projects...*  
by Jenny Friedman Ph.D.

*Kids Taking Action: Community Service Learning Projects, K-8*  
Pamela Roberts

*The Giving Book: Open the Door to a Lifetime of Giving* by Ellen Sabin

*The Kid's Guide to Service Projects* by Barbara A. Lewis

#### Share

Tell us about your project (send us a photo and description) and it will be added to NED's Keep Kindness Going Gallery at [theNEDshow.com](http://theNEDshow.com)! We may even select your project to receive a small donation from the All for KIDZ employee Pay-It-Forward Fund.



# Children's Book Drive Box Label

Directions: Print copies of the label for the collection boxes.



**DONATE  
HERE**

**Collecting Children's Books**

# Keep Kindness Going: Goal Sheet

Directions: Keep track of your progress!

Attach to other strip

CUT OUT

CUT OUT

OUR GOAL

Attach to other strip