



# 11 Service Projects Kids Can Do

## **Host a Hunger Heroes play date.**

Teach kids to help the hungry by hosting a [Hunger Heroes food drive play date](#). Kids can bring food to donate to the local food pantry and learn why it's important to help others.

## **Clean up litter in your community.**

Pick up litter at the park, the beach, your neighborhood—anywhere you can make a difference. It's a simple act that makes a big difference.

## **Send a thank you for a service member.**

Write cards, letters or even send pictures to those serving in the military. [This post](#) has information on where to send your letters.

## **Collect donations in lieu of birthday gifts.**

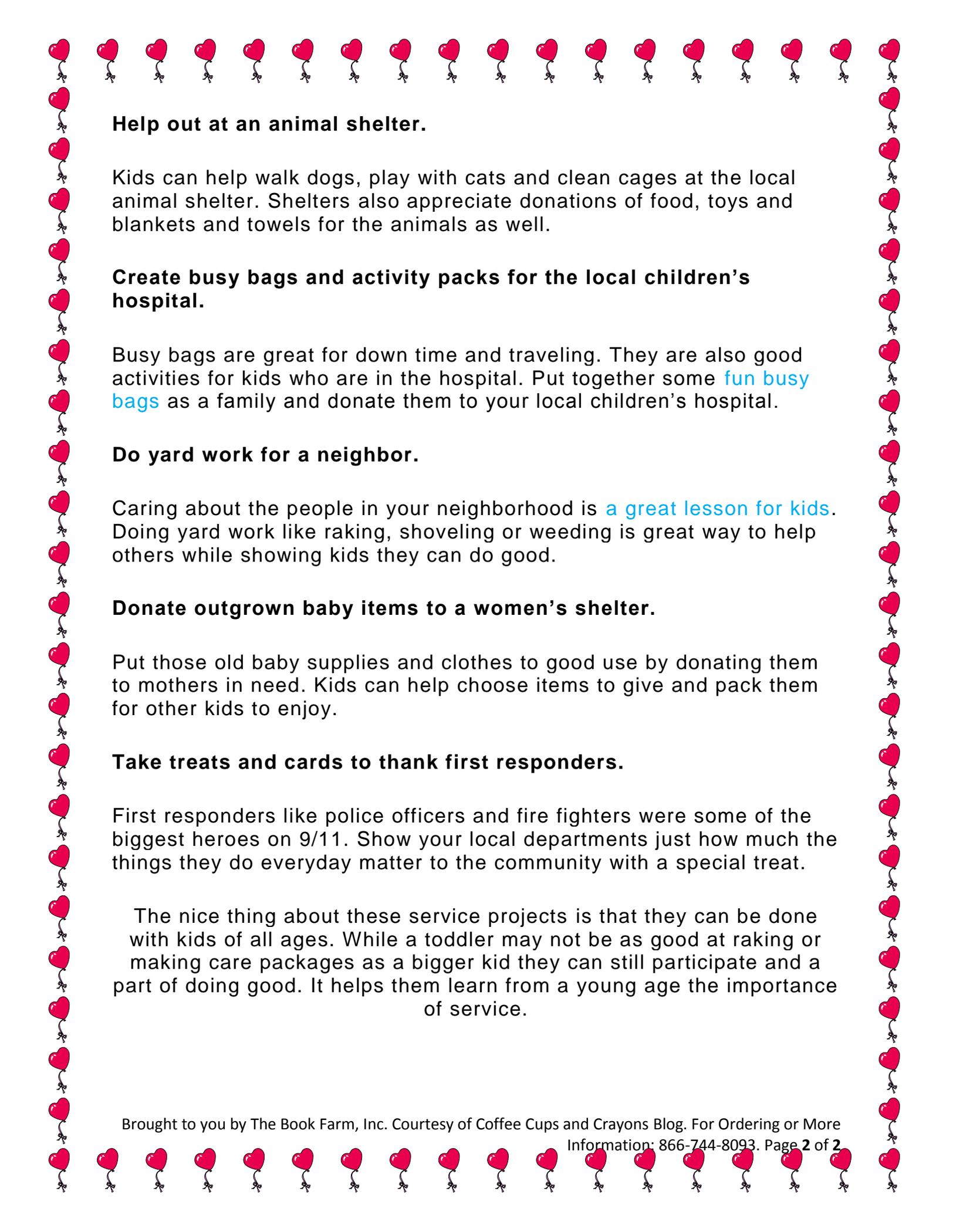
Instead of birthday gifts have guests bring donations! You can choose your favorite charity and ask for supplies they need or monetary donations. It's a great way to spread awareness and help an organization at the same time.

## **Create care packages for those who are homeless.**

Pennies of Time has a great post about [creating care kits for the homeless](#). I love the idea—especially the clean socks. If you don't feel comfortable passing these out yourself you can always take them to a shelter to pass out.

## **Draw pictures for or visit residents in nursing homes.**

Residents in nursing homes don't always get a lot of visitors. Take the kids for a visit to sing songs or play games with residents, it's so much fun for everyone!



## **Help out at an animal shelter.**

Kids can help walk dogs, play with cats and clean cages at the local animal shelter. Shelters also appreciate donations of food, toys and blankets and towels for the animals as well.

## **Create busy bags and activity packs for the local children's hospital.**

Busy bags are great for down time and traveling. They are also good activities for kids who are in the hospital. Put together some [fun busy bags](#) as a family and donate them to your local children's hospital.

## **Do yard work for a neighbor.**

Caring about the people in your neighborhood is [a great lesson for kids](#). Doing yard work like raking, shoveling or weeding is great way to help others while showing kids they can do good.

## **Donate outgrown baby items to a women's shelter.**

Put those old baby supplies and clothes to good use by donating them to mothers in need. Kids can help choose items to give and pack them for other kids to enjoy.

## **Take treats and cards to thank first responders.**

First responders like police officers and fire fighters were some of the biggest heroes on 9/11. Show your local departments just how much the things they do everyday matter to the community with a special treat.

The nice thing about these service projects is that they can be done with kids of all ages. While a toddler may not be as good at raking or making care packages as a bigger kid they can still participate and a part of doing good. It helps them learn from a young age the importance of service.