

Elizabeth Groh - Our Lady of Victory - Seton High School

I love working with and spending time with younger children. At the beginning of my eighth grade year at Our Lady of Victory I talked to the first grade teacher and asked if I could help out in her class. I gave up my recess four days a week to be with the first graders, as a friend and an assistant to the teacher. When I visit, I help pass out papers, keep students on track, and help those falling behind or confused with the instructions. The younger students look up to me as an eighth grade friend. They are always so happy to see me whether it be a run-in in the halls or when I visit during my recess time. It makes me feel overjoyed to see that the small sacrifice of giving up recess has such a large impact on the children.

Also, I am a Girl Scout Program Assistant (PA). I volunteer at day camps over the summer. At the camps there are children anywhere from the age of four to twelve. I run games, teach what being a Girl Scout is all about, and have fun with the kids. The younger scouts that attend are influenced by the PA's actions and we are rewarded with pride as we see that our hard work through the week paid off and they're smiling so happily. In addition, I work with Victory's first grade Girl Scouts and help their troop at meetings by being an entertainer with Girl Scout songs at down times. Also, I've taught them what it means to be a Girl Scout through teaching them the Girl Scout Promise and parts of the Girl Scout Law. These teach them to be a sister to every Girl Scout, to be helpful to others around you, and to be honest and true to your Girl Scout friends. Passing on my Girl Scout knowledge with younger children has started and will continue to affect their Girl Scout time as well as times spent with others in their lives. I hope the seeds I plant in the younger kids will continue to sprout in them throughout their life.

I enjoy working with younger children, especially my six year old sister, Anna. She has so much joy in her heart. Her smiles and giggles are contagious. I watch her after school until my mom gets home from work. Being a big sister to such an awesome kid is one of the things that I am most proud of. We have so much fun together even though she is only in the first grade. The smiles we share will always be a part of me. I have learned that by giving to all of these younger kids I receive so much more back. My life is full of little first graders and it has been so much fun.