

## Carla Wosoba- AmeriCorps Summer 2002

### Resurrection School

My second term as a summer AmeriCorps member has been very different from my first. When I began my summer at Resurrection Children's Center, I was afraid I wouldn't make it through the entire summer. The children at Resurrection are very different from those at the playgrounds. I found it frustrating that the games I had played with other kids were not interesting to these children. Most of the kids spend their free time during the summer at home in the air conditioning watching TV. It was really difficult to find something they enjoyed doing that didn't involved a TV or video games. I found out that the kids love to play tag. So we came up with variations of the game so that it didn't get too boring, and then everyone was willing to play.

This summer, I felt that I would not make a difference for any children, because I didn't think these kids needed me. But I learned that even the kids who have great family lives need mentor too. I learned that different kids need different kinds of attention and help. I hope that I have helped these children to be more creative, more confident of their abilities, and most of all, respectful of themselves and others. This summer has taught me that what may seem like something small can make a large difference to a child.

Field Trips and Friendships were part of my experience as an AmeriCorps member. Here the group going on a field trip to the Dubuque Arboretum.



Playground time was a time for making some new friends.