

Abby Dardis - AmeriCorps Fall 2003-2004

Marshall School and Audubon Summer Playground

Marshall School was a fantastic placement. I was able to work one-on-one with many students to help improve their reading skills. Sharing stories, providing encouragement, and watching the students grow was a tremendous experience. I loved to get kids excited about reading and learning, as well as being able to offer experiences that may not have been attainable otherwise, such as field trips. Providing kids with a comfortable and safe environment, modeling respect and kindness as well as teaching communication and trust are opportunities that are all available through AmeriCorps. Many kids do not have the advantage of adults that model these behaviors. In addition to reading help, I supervised recess. This gave me a new perspective on the school atmosphere and prepared me for my future career as many management techniques were learned on the playground.



Irving Kindergarten Jumpstart, where I provided extra help, offered encouraging words, and of course gave a lot of smiles!

Participating at the summer Audubon playground was a challenge. Consistency, discipline, and patience is often more difficult than given credit! However, this was the most rewarding and helpful experience I have ever had. Knowing that one person can change attitudes, hearts, and life decisions is mind-boggling. What a new and awesome perspective on life I have achieved!

Helping students and their parents through patience, guidance, games and kindness at R.E.A.D. (Read, Eat And Do)



Doing community service at the Arboretum, meeting new faces, and brightening kids' days through Bunny Business!

AmeriCorps has taught me valuable lessons that are vital to a well-rounded life. I have come to understand that the choices one makes sets the tone for everything in one's life. Positively influencing children's perspectives is an opportunity AmeriCorps provides daily.

