

# Nursing Home Placemats Service Project

I like to do this one near a holiday to spread cheer to those in nursing homes. We also have a convent nearby with an infirmary and the sisters enjoy getting these as well. We do this at Easter and Thanksgiving a lot.

## What you need:

White paper placemats (I purchased off Amazon here

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B077KDJVBY/ref=ppx\\_yo\\_dt\\_b\\_search\\_asin\\_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B077KDJVBY/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1)) You will need enough for the residents

you plan to give them to.

Markers

Samples (Make up a couple for the less creative students to copy from)

Tablecloths (or cut open trash bags to cover the tables)

## Prepare:

Make up some samples of the placemats for the less creative students to copy from

Call around to local nursing homes, care facilities, or convents. Find out how many residents they currently have and if they would like the placemats to give to their residents with their meal tray. I try to estimate 3 placemats per student to make during this youth night. They can always make more than needed since the residents can receive more than one at different mealtimes.

Spread out tablecloths over the tables first. The placemats tend to let marker bleed through

# Agenda

## **Prayer:**

Gracious Lord, Thank you for the blessing of Life. Thank you for giving us the ability to run, play, and be young in this stage of our lives. As we work today, please help us to remember that the elderly in our community were once like us.

Lord, we bring before You all the elderly and infirm in our community and all those who care for them. Give grace to those that find it difficult to grow older. Please give comfort to those who are in pain or feel loneliness in this stage of their lives. Through You, all things are possible. Amen

## **Announcements:**

Let your youth group know of any upcoming events, youth nights, or other activities they should be aware of

## **Placemats:**

Let the students know who the placemats are for and how many are needed. I like to emphasize how many each students should try to make and that we do not want any of the residents to not receive one. Let them work in groups and use their devices to search up ideas. I also like to play music in the background while they work. Spread the markers and placemats around so they can share. When they complete a placemat, have them drop it off to the inspection area. ALWAYS, ALWAYS inspect their work for appropriateness before dropping these off at the nursing home. (there's always that one student!)

## **Memory Test:**

For larger groups, break into groups no larger than 10. Have the students get in a circle. One student will start by saying their name and a food that starts with the same letter (ex: Sally, Spaghetti). Then the person to their left will repeat and say their own name and food (ex: Sally, Spaghetti; Rich, Rice). The person to their left will continue this until everyone in the group has said their name and a food. Then the first person, after repeating the groups names and foods, will again say their name and food and add a color that begins with the same letter (ex: Sally, Spaghetti, Slate). The person to their left will repeat and add their color. The person to their left will continue this until everyone in the group has said their name, food, and color. You can continue this until the group is bored or parent pick-up. Other ideas for words that start with the same letter – animals, places, transportation, clothing, hobby, sport, etc.