Everyone Can Help

Helping others is an important part of being a good citizen. It is also a terrific way to make friends. And best of all, it makes you feel good. Think of ways in which you might assist, or help, your community.

You could volunteer to do something useful in your neighborhood. Volunteering means working without being paid. If you like animals, think about volunteering at an animal shelter. Shelters often need people to help feed, walk, and brush rescued animals. People can also help shelters by raising money to buy food and supplies for the animals. Holding bake sales or taking part in charity runs are some ways to raise money for a good cause.

Some people adore nature and the outdoors, so they volunteer to work outside. Many cities and towns encourage young people to help look after neighborhood parks. For example, children plant trees, pull weeds, and water plants. They can also help clear paths and trails in larger parks. When playground equipment is in need of fixing, they let adult park workers know.

Young people can also teach skills to other people. They may teach friends and other children sports such as skating, basketball, or cycling.

If you enjoy building with your hands, put them to work! You could work with other volunteers to build a house. When volunteers work in groups, they can get things done quickly.

To learn about volunteer programs near you, check for lists at city offices. You might check in the library. You could call a nearby animal shelter. If you want to volunteer, you can find a way to do it. Everyone can help!
Answer the questions. You may reread parts of the passage to help you.

1. Which word provides a clue to the meaning of the word *assist* in the sentence below?

   Think of ways in which you might assist, or help, your community.
   - help
   - might
   - think
   - ways

2. What does the author think is an important part of being a good citizen?
   - having a pet
   - helping others
   - playing basketball
   - going to the library

3. According to the passage, what is one way to raise money for a good cause?
   - feeding a rescued animal
   - holding a bake sale
   - building a house
   - pulling weeds

4. What is the MOST LIKELY reason the author wrote “Everyone Can Help”?
   - to explain what a charity run is
   - to encourage people to volunteer
   - to describe how to help clear a path
   - to tell what people do at animal shelters

5. List three examples of volunteer work that the author includes in the passage. Write your response on another sheet of paper.