**Friend (5th Grade) Parents**

As we begin a new Pathfinder experience with your Pathfinder we don’t want to overwhelm you with information, but we do want you to be informed about what we will be doing throughout the year, as well as make you aware of what your young person will need to do “at home”. As you get the items done, please send a note saying they have finished it, or you can email us at [bparner@hotmail.com](mailto:bparner@hotmail.com) or [pamarner@hotmail.com](mailto:pamarner@hotmail.com) .

Here is a list of items. You will find a more detailed account below the list:

* Watch (or read) The Book of Matthew
* Plan ways and find opportunities to spend time being a friend with someone in need.
* Bring someone who does not regularly attend church to a church/school program or activity.
* Set up a bird/mammal feeding station and report the visitors you observe for one week.
* Collect 20 seeds (from non-commercial seed packages)—by November 2
* Collect 50 postcards—by January 18

**The Book of Matthew**

Do a search online for “The Book of Matthew”. There is an over 4 hour Youtube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0qGrVcz-eQ>) depicting the book of Matthew. You may not want to watch this in one sitting, but it is a nice rainy Sabbath day or Friday night activity you can do as a family. If you don’t have internet access, the Church library has a copy you can check out for a week. Or, you can read the book from the Bible.

**A Friend to Someone in Need**

Do you have a neighbor or relative that needs help around the house? Do you know an elderly person that would enjoy being read to? Maybe going to a nursing home and visiting with the residents?

**Church/School Program or Activity**

Invite someone to a Christmas program, Church service, Pathfinder Sabbath, SonRise, etc.

**Feeding Station**

Do you already have a bird feeder at your house? If so, observe it for 15+ minutes and write down what kinds of birds visit it each day. Don’t have a feeder? Put out birdseed or bread crumbs on the ground and observe it.

**Seeds**

Each Pathfinder needs to collect 20 seeds from home for the Seed Honor, from non-commercial seed packages. This means you should save seeds from food that you eat: apples, oranges, grapefruit, tomatoes, cucumbers, okra, cantaloupe, nuts, mangos, corn, beans, etc. It’s best to let them dry out before sealing them in a bag. The date should also be noted as to when the seed was acquired. What some found worked well was the plastic craft containers that have a flip-up lid and approximately 1 inch square storage space. Aluminum foil was put in each square so the seeds wouldn’t stick to the container, number each square, put one kind of seed in each square, and kept a separate paper with the name of the seed, the date acquired, and from where (home, a different state, etc.). This allowed the seeds to dry out before putting them in plastic bags to make the seed collection book (which is done during a club meeting.) You can come up with your own collecting method! Seeds need to be brought to the November 2 meeting.

**Postcards**

Each Pathfinder needs to collect 50 postcards. (No two postcards alike.) The collection MUST include the following:

a.     A postcard of a religious nature

b.     Postcards from at least 10 states/provinces/countries

c.      Postcards from at least 2 other countries that are not your own

Where can you find postcards? Here are a few suggestions.

* Tourist locations (local places include Aquarium, Ruby Falls, Choo Choo, Rock City, Chickamauga Battlefield, etc.)
* Truck stops
* Antique stores
* ebay
* Sometimes brochures of tourist attractions (found at rest areas) are actually postcards
* Motels sometimes have postcards advertising their motel in each room
* The Adventist Book Store would have religious ones.
* Did you get a Christmas postcard last year?
* Ask friends and relatives to send your child one or more from wherever they live.
* Maybe friends and relatives have some they have collected in their travels they’d be willing to share.
* Ask via email and Facebook.
* Have duplicates? Bring them to trade with other Pathfinders.
* Have more than 50? Share with those that need a little help.

If your child was in fourth grade at AW Spalding last year, you may have postcards already from when they did their social studies project where they collected postcards from different states/countries.

We look forward to spending an enjoyable year with your young person!

Brian & Pam Arner

& The Friend Staff