

COMMUNITY SERVICE

I had just finished volunteering at my community center, Alpine recreation center. They were holding a Halloween carnival, and my Kung Fu teacher who was part of the recreation center asked for any volunteers who were willing to stay at the park for the whole day. I decided that I would be killing two birds with one stone, I would be able to get hours of volunteer work and I would be having fun. I dragged myself out of bed and arrived at 8:30 am, along with several other people and was put to work right away. Within hours, I had put up several dozen tents, wrapped the tent poles with colorful paper decorations, carried out tables and chairs, and finished setting up all the fun and games there were to offer. I was assigned first to a Spin-The-Wheel booth (which in my opinion was the most boring booth of all), then I was moved to help an adult with the shaving ice machine, then moved again to a throwing dart booth where I nearly lost my life SEVERAL TIMES!!! Finally, I moved to one of the jump houses that contained a huge slide. There, I got slammed into by seven year old kids who couldn't listen to the simple instruction, "wait". But, finally at 6:30 pm, only a few kids were left, and I was allowed to slide also! I invited a couple other volunteers whose booths already had been closed down to go slide with me. A couple bruises, scrapes, and burns later, my overseer told me that it was time to clean up everything. I also learned endurance from having to deal with many parents who were unsatisfied with the ticket price, the rewards that my booth gave, or claiming that I rigged the game. At the end of the day, I was aching and sore all over my body, but it was also very fun at the same time. I can't wait until the next event to volunteer again!

