




Finding volunteering opportunities



Aim of session:

- To use the internet to find information on volunteering.

Objectives of session:

- understand how the internet can be useful for finding volunteering opportunities
- get to know some useful volunteering websites
- find some local opportunities which might be of interest.

Approx timing	Topic	Activity
5 minutes 	Introduction	<p>Talk a bit about volunteering and what sort of volunteering your mentee might be interested in doing. Tell them about what you think of being a Digital mentor.</p> <p>If your mentee knows what kind of volunteering they want to do, perhaps put a list together of organisations to search. By going directly to organisations' volunteering sections on their websites, you might find opportunities that don't show up on more general searches.</p>
10 minutes 	General search	<p>You could start by searching generally using key words like 'volunteering in London' and perhaps adding any search words which relate to your mentee's interests.</p> <p>See what sorts of things come up and have a chat about how relevant they are and how the search might be adapted (for example, UK sites only).</p>
20 minutes 	More specific searches	<p>Take a look websites which give you more specific information on volunteering.</p> <p>For advice, information and opportunities: www.timebank.org.uk</p> <p>For news and information: www.volunteering.org.uk For specific opportunities: www.do-it.org.uk</p> <p>Show your mentee how to search for volunteering locally through websites like TimeBank and Do-it. Search tools like TimeBank's are simple to use – you can search via postcode and if your mentee has an interest like gardening or young people, they can focus their search even more.</p>

Approx timing	Topic	Activity
		<p>Don't forget – TimeBank can help you or your mentee if you get stuck, just ring or email our helpdesk team. And, if they're still not sure after searching, they can sign up to TimeBank and we'll send some useful tips, link them to their local volunteer centre and send them monthly newsletters to give them ideas.</p>
<p>20 minutes</p> 	<p>Signing up to opportunities</p>	<p>When they've found something they're interested in, suggest they have a good look around the organisation's website so they can find out a bit more about it.</p> <p>If they want to sign up to volunteer, give them a hand with filling in the application form.</p> <p>If your mentee would like more information about volunteering they could also register on the TimeBank website – again, this is a simple online form and will be good practice.</p>
<p>5 minutes</p> 	<p>Evaluation</p>	<p>Don't forget to ask your mentee do their online evaluation.</p>



Be *open minded*
Be a volunteer