



## GRADS Buddy Builders Group 1 of 3 (Ages 0-3)

(Group Recreation and Developmental Support)

### What We're Looking For

We're looking for warm, attentive volunteers who enjoy spending time with infants and toddlers and supporting early childhood development through sensory play, music, and connection.

While experience working with children and/or children with disabilities is a plus, it's not required—what matters most is a positive attitude and a willingness to learn alongside our team and families.

Our Buddy Builders program meets three Tuesdays per month from 9:30 to 11am, providing children with the chance to explore, grow, and make friends.

### Requirements

- All volunteers must complete a background check and review DGCKids volunteer training.
- Consistency is particularly important for children with visual impairments, and we encourage volunteers to commit to attending regularly to help build meaningful connections with both children and parents.

### What You Will Be Doing

- **Supporting parent-child play** and interaction through developmentally appropriate activities like songs, movement, sensory play, and story time
- **Engaging with children ages birth to 3** in a gentle and nurturing way that fosters connection, trust, and confidence  
**Helping with set-up and clean-up**, including prepping materials like soft toys, musical instruments, or sensory bins and sanitizing surfaces before and after the session
- **Celebrating each child's progress**, and working with staff to ensure every child is supported, included, and safe
- **Playing with or watching siblings (typically up to age 6)** who may attend alongside their brother or sister, helping them feel included and entertained.



## GRADS Explorers Group 2 of 3 (Ages 4-6)

(Group Recreation and Developmental Support)

### What We're Looking For

We're looking for compassionate volunteers who enjoy working with preschool and kindergarten aged children.

While experience working with children and/or children with disabilities is a plus, it's not required — what matters most is a positive attitude and a willingness to learn alongside our team.

Our [Explorers](#) program meets one Saturday a month throughout the school year, providing a fun and supportive environment for children with visual impairments.

Consistency is particularly important for children with visual impairments, and we encourage volunteers to commit to attending regularly to help build meaningful connections with both children and parents.

### Requirements

- All volunteers must complete a background check and review DGCKids volunteer training.
- Consistency is particularly important for children with visual impairments, and we encourage volunteers to commit to attending regularly to help build meaningful connections with both children and parents.

### What You Will Be Doing

- **Engaging with children ages 4–6 years old** through hands-on play, music, and movement activities designed to support early learning and social interaction
- **Building relationships and offering support to children** who are blind or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities, by encouraging participation and celebrating each child's unique strengths
- **Helping prepare and organize materials** for group activities which may include setting up play stations, prepping craft supplies, or laying out instruments for music time
- **Maintaining a safe and clean environment** by sanitizing toys, instruments, and shared surfaces before and after use to ensure the health and safety of all children

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[www.dgckids.org](http://www.dgckids.org)



## GRADS School-Age Group 3 of 3 (Ages 7+)

(Group Recreation and Developmental Support)

### What We're Looking For

We are seeking passionate, reliable, and empathetic individuals who are eager to make a positive impact on the lives of children and youth with visual impairments.

While experience working with children or individuals with disabilities is a plus, it's not required —what matters most is a positive attitude and a willingness to learn.

Our [GRADS](#) program takes place one Saturday each month during the school year, with participants grouped by age (elementary, middle, and high school).

Consistency is especially important for children and youth with visual impairments, so we encourage volunteers to commit to attending regularly to build meaningful, supportive relationships with participants.

### Requirements

- All volunteers must complete a background check and review DGCKids volunteer training.
- Consistency is particularly important for children with visual impairments, and we encourage volunteers to commit to attending regularly to help build meaningful connections with both children and parents.

### What You Will Be Doing

As a volunteer, you will be engaging directly with children and youth and providing support for a variety of fun and educational activities, ranging from:

- Reading to [CHAMP](#) Therapy dogs
- Visiting a local rock-climbing facility
- Lessons on simple cooking and meal preparation
- Group discussions on topics like school, peer pressure, and navigating life with a visual impairment
- Walking to Mr. Wizards Ice Cream shop for a fun treat
- Clinics on self-defense, yoga, physical fitness, and more
- Guest speaker events

Many participants require one-on-one support to fully engage in these activities, and your role as a volunteer will be crucial in helping them enjoy and succeed in these experiences.