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"You will find, as you look back on your life, that the moments that stand out are the moments when you have done things for others." - Henry Drummond

A well rounded student should attain good grades, participate in various extracurricular activities, and become an active member within their community. Throughout my high school career I have been involved in several service projects. One of my most prominent projects was Teen Trendsetters Reading Mentoring.

The Teen Trendsetters Reading Mentoring program was designed to aid third grade students in reading in preparation for the state standardized FCAT Test. Every week I would go over to the neighboring elementary school. I was paired up with a third grade student that I would work with for the remainder of the year. Every session my student and I would complete several workbook exercises pertaining to FCAT skills. I would then let her choose a book out of my provided collection. We would read the book together, alternating between readers, and at the end my student could keep the book. Partaking in one of my favorite activities, reading, with someone half my age was surprisingly rewarding. I learned to love reading at a young age so I felt I was able to pass on my appreciation for literature to another child. As the year progressed, I was able to see a remarkable improvement in my pupil. Besides being able to better attack reading passages and successfully answer questions, my third grader enjoyed reading more. She displayed a new found confidence while reading and took on the emotion of the characters in the stories. This service project was very enjoyable because of my student's success. I was able to have a helping hand in guiding a third grader to a better future, which now includes a love for reading.

