

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

August 2025

VFW Auxiliary – Department of Wisconsin
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SPONSORING AND WORKING WITH YOUTH

Let's get our kids involved! Your Auxiliary can engage children in any one of our many Programs, including activities to honor our veterans and display patriotism. You can find youth groups everywhere – sports teams, church youth groups, 4-H, Boys & Girls Clubs, school clubs and programs, Scouts, home-school associations, JROTC, and more. Think outside the box – consider a local youth theater group, robotics/STEM group or Academic Challenge team. Don't forget about your own members' children and grandkids! Many youth organizations require community service hours – tap into that and encourage youth to take part in our Auxiliary projects. These activities can even bring new membership to your Auxiliary. When youth and their whole family are included, they feel more connected to your Auxiliary. Be sure to get proper permission from schools and parents for different activities. Our youth are important – let's work together with them to show our love and support for our veterans, our community and our country!



What are some things we can do with our youth?

- Make cards or gifts for veterans.
- Visit nursing homes and hospitals.
- Deliver groceries to disabled veterans.
- Help a veteran with yard work or repairs.
- Teach computer skills to a veteran.
- Discuss proper flag folding and etiquette.
- Conduct a Missing Man Ceremony.
- Be "Reading Buddies" together.
- Send care packages and mail to troops.
- Help with "Buddy" Poppy drives.
- Support the Illustrating America Contest.
- Take part in parades and patriotic events.
- Conduct a flag retirement ceremony.
- Participate in the Oral History Project.
- Get involved in Wreaths Across America.
- Promote Patriotism Through Literacy.
- Organize food and clothing drives.
- Send cards/gifts to the National Home.
- Recognize youth with patriotic awards.
- Honor students going into the military.
- Award Scholarships to graduating seniors.
- Place flags on veterans' graves, and more!



NATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM AWARD

The above list contains just some ideas of how we can interact with our kids. Your Auxiliary probably has some amazing projects you've accomplished together with youth. This year's National Youth Activities Award for Auxiliaries is for the **"Most creative and/or unique activity and/or event of the VFW Auxiliary working with a youth group."** Why not give it a try? Be creative! A copy of the 2025-26 entry form is included along with this Youth Activities Report.