

 **BUILDING BLOCKS STUDENT WORKSHEET**

Writing about giving

Donating to a charity provides funding for important causes, but it's a good idea to research an organization before you give.

Instructions

- 1 Research local charitable organizations.
- 2 Complete the "Organize your letter" section.
- 3 Write your letter in the space provided.
- 4 Answer the reflection question.

Research charitable organizations

Use the guidance below to do research online about a local charitable organization.

- Search the Combined Federal Campaign website at <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov/> offerings for a cause you care about.
 - Be sure to include the name of your city or state in your search so you can find local charities.
 - You can refine your results by searching for a keyword like youth, animals, or education.
- Select a charity.
- Check out the charity's website and think about these questions:
 - Does it give information about the programs you want to support or how it uses donations?
 - How much of your donation will go directly to support the programs you care about?



- If you can't find detailed information about a charity's mission and programs, be suspicious.
- If you have time, you can also use CharityWatch at <https://www.charitywatch.org/> or Charity Navigator at <https://www.charitynavigator.org/> to help you find background information on the charity you chose.

Organize your letter

1. What cause were you interested in and why?
2. Which charity did you select?
3. What does this charity do?
4. How do you want to support this charity?

Write your letter

Use the information from the “Organize your letter” section to write a letter to a friend or family member about the charitable organization you researched. Be sure to include persuasive language to encourage your friend or family member to support the organization. Remember there’s more than one way to support an organization. In addition to giving money, people can also give property or volunteer their time and talents.

Reflection question

Do you think you’ll support the organization you chose in the future? Why or why not?