animal rescue

This guide to the basics of service-learning for parents is a companion piece to the Learn and Serve America video, Bring Learning to Life: This eight-minute video offers insights from teachers, principals, and young people who have experienced the benefits of service-learning, and provides an introduction to service-learning as an effective strategy to improve academic achievement, increase student engagement, improve social behavior, build civic skills, and strengthen community partnerships. The video, available in VHS, CD-ROM, and VOD formats, also includes two television public service announcements (80-second PSA and 30-second PSA).

Visit www.servicelearning.org or call 1-866-245-7250, ext. 130 to order free copies of Bring Learning to Life DVDs, posters, and the teachers’ getting started guide Service-Learning in Action. To share with your school. Across America, service-learning is helping students perform better in school while improving their communities through service. By connecting classroom lessons with community service projects, service-learning helps us bring learning to life!

For more about service opportunities in your area and additional resources, visit Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse “Resources for Parents” page at www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/parents/index.php.

Books can help you learn more, see examples of service-learning projects, and promote service-learning in the community.

- The Busy Parent’s Guide to Volunteering: Do good, live well, make a difference as a family by Jenny Lynn Friedman, Lisey Lampe Brooks. A comprehensive resource for teachers, youth workers, and parents that covers service-learning planning and implementation, with over 300 examples of service-learning services.
- Parent Involvement in Service Learning, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, National Dropout Prevention Center. Part of the Linking Learning with Life Series, this publication provides an introduction to service-learning for parents in supporting service-learning in schools and engaging in service-learning as a family.

What does service-learning look like? Here are a few examples.

Elementary children in Florida studied the consequences of natural disasters through books and newspaper articles and by interviewing city officials. They determined that families need a place to gather their important papers in case of evacuation. So the children designed a large envelope with a checklist for this purpose. They added tips about securing pets and other advice to make a difficult situation easier. Students distributed the envelopes to families through school and community organizations.

Middle school students in Pennsylvania learned about the health consequences of poor nutrition and lack of exercise. They wanted to do something to change the habits for themselves and their families. So students conducted health fairs to educate their neighbors and worked with their English teachers and families to create a cookbook with healthy versions of family recipes. Then, because it was difficult to find fresh produce, students worked with their math, social studies, and shop teachers to open a fruit and vegetable stand for the school and community.

High school students in Oklahoma investigated how a local creek became polluted. In social studies, they researched the history of mining that led to the problem. They learned which government agencies help clean toxic waterways. Science students created local water tests.

Find out more Resources

BRING LEARNING TO LIFE

What Is Service-Learning?

A Guide for Parents

What is Service-Learning?

Service-learning doesn’t just happen in school. Inquire at local youth, community, or faith-based organizations to find existing service-learning programs where your child can be involved. If they’re not involved in service-learning, introduce them to its benefits with Bring Learning to Life materials.

Visit the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse “Resources for Parents” page for additional information on service-learning and a list of organization websites you can search for volunteering and service-learning opportunities.

www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/indices/index.php

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service Learning Clearinghouse.

www.servicelearning.org

This eight-minute video offers insights from teachers, principals, and young people who have experienced the benefits of service-learning, and provides an introduction to service-learning as an effective strategy to improve academic achievement, increase student engagement, improve social behavior, build civic skills, and strengthen community partnerships. The video, available in VHS, CD-ROM, and VOD formats, also includes two television public service announcements (80-second PSA and 30-second PSA).

Visit www.servicelearning.org or call 1-866-245-7250, ext. 130 to order free copies of Bring Learning to Life DVDs, posters, and the teachers’ getting started guide Service-Learning in Action. To share with your school. Across America, service-learning is helping students perform better in school while improving their communities through service. By connecting classroom lessons with community service projects, service-learning helps us bring learning to life!

For more about service opportunities in your area and additional resources, visit Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse “Resources for Parents” page at www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/parents/index.php.

Books can help you learn more, see examples of service-learning projects, and promote service-learning in the community.

- The Busy Parent’s Guide to Volunteering: Do good, live well, make a difference as a family by Jenny Lynn Friedman, Lisey Lampe Brooks. A comprehensive resource for teachers, youth workers, and parents that covers service-learning planning and implementation, with over 300 examples of service-learning services.
- Parent Involvement in Service Learning, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, National Dropout Prevention Center. Part of the Linking Learning with Life Series, this publication provides an introduction to service-learning for parents in supporting service-learning in schools and engaging in service-learning as a family.

Written by Cathryn Berger Kaye, M.A. © 2007 Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (wshipping for noneducational purposes is permitted.

Portions of this brochure adapted from Parent Involvement in Service Learning, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, M.A. © 2006. Used with permission from Goodspeed Publishing Inc., Minneapolis, MN 55407-7122 www.goodspeed.com. All rights reserved.

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service Learning Clearinghouse at www.servicelearning.org.

L124-1/08

Resources

- Parent Involvement in Service Learning, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, National Dropout Prevention Center. Part of the Linking Learning with Life Series, this publication provides an introduction to service-learning for parents in supporting service-learning in schools and engaging in service-learning as a family.

What does service-learning look like? Here are a few examples.

Elementary children in Florida studied the consequences of natural disasters through books and newspaper articles and by interviewing city officials. They determined that families need a place to gather their important papers in case of evacuation. So the children designed a large envelope with a checklist for this purpose. They added tips about securing pets and other advice to make a difficult situation easier. Students distributed the envelopes to families through school and community organizations.

Middle school students in Pennsylvania learned about the health consequences of poor nutrition and lack of exercise. They wanted to do something to change the habits for themselves and their families. So students conducted health fairs to educate their neighbors and worked with their English teachers and families to create a cookbook with healthy versions of family recipes. Then, because it was difficult to find fresh produce, students worked with their math, social studies, and shop teachers to open a fruit and vegetable stand for the school and community.

High school students in Oklahoma investigated how a local creek became polluted. In social studies, they researched the history of mining that led to the problem. They learned which government agencies help clean toxic waterways. Science students created local water tests.
**Service-learning can be defined** as a teaching method that includes service. With service-learning, students:
- connect academic content, with real-world community needs,
- become leaders who contribute ideas, make decisions, and solve problems,
- discover benefits for everyone involved, go to work with community partners and develop as active members of society.

**Four stages of service-learning**
- Participation: Students gain new information or or they read, research, interview, and visit places, all leading to a better understanding of real community needs.
- Preparation: Students develop and implement a plan of action, transforming ideas into practical ways to contribute to the common good.
- Reflection: Students consider how their experiences, students may:
  - make a positive contribution to their community;
  - be better prepared for college and the workplace;
  - have a better sense of self;
  - increase motivation and desire to learn;
  - become leaders who contribute ideas, make decisions, and solve problems;
  - improve in many academic areas;
  - have a better sense of self;
  - develop the ability to work well with others;
  - experience positive relationships with peers and community members, replace stereotypes with respect for others;
  - be exposed to career options;
  - be better prepared for college and the workplace;
  - learn about community resources for themselves and their families;
  - make a positive contribution to their community; and
  - begin to develop a lifelong commitment to public service and to learning.

**Is there a role for parents with service-learning?**

Absolutely! Parents play a key role in the success of service-learning in a variety of ways.

*Parent involvement in schools*
- Parents bring valuable resources, information, and ideas to service-learning.
- Consider these ways parents have been partners:
  - Parents inform administrators and teachers about service-learning and available aide and natural resources.
  - Parents educate other parents about service-learning so they can help their children make a positive contribution to their community; and
  - Parents attend service-learning conferences to stay informed and involved.
- Parents attend service-learning programs to intervene and offer support:
  - placing service-learning on parent meeting agendas;
  - making presentations, or create a website.

**Research** shows that service-learning positively affects youth in these general areas:
- academic engagement and achievement, civic skills and behavior, and personal and social development.

**Whole child’s development**
- When supporting service-learning, you also teach your child the following areas:
  - social and personal skills.

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America's National Service-Learning Clearinghouse: www.servicelearning.org.

---

*“Service-learning is a natural extension of the civic mission of schools—giving students the tools to become better educated while giving our society a better citizenry. It is a wonderful bridge between the classroom and the community that brings parents and youth to both.”*

Elizabeth Bumster
Western State Association

*“We know that service-learning benefits young people in a variety of ways. As individuals, service-learning improves self-esteem and self-confidence, and reduces risk-taking and problem behavior. As citizens, service-learning grows young people into informed and active, civic responsibility and a commitment to public service. “It is an important, unique tool for schools.” And for life, service-learning helps improve school performances and engagement!”*

Dr. William Robinson
Former President @ CEO W.K. Kellogg Foundation

*“Schools and college campuses are reinforcing the role that civic and community education, including through a great idea: service-learning—yet one that resurfaces academic study with real-world problems and solutions. We can all do as much as mentors, with service-learning.”*

Angus King
Former Maine Governor

---

Delivering meals
Assisting immigrants
Community gardens
Stocker food pantries
Writing books
Building homes
Recycling

---

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America's National Service-Learning Clearinghouse: www.servicelearning.org.
With service-learning, students apply knowledge, skills, and talents as they show leadership and restored. Every year, students sponsor a conference to involve students and others, and ways to improve as they continue to learn and serve.

### Four stages of service-learning

- **Preparation:** Students gather new information or resources, to read, research, interview, visi...ing to a better understanding of real community.

- **Action:** Students develop and implement a plan of action, transforming their ideas into sustained action.

- **Reflection:** Students examine their actions as a way to understand, to reflect on their experiences and to learn together.

- **Demonstration:** Students share their ideas and experiences as they continue to learn and serve.

As educator

John Dewey said, "Education is not preparation for life. It is life itself."

Research indicates that service-learning positively affects youth in three general areas: academic engagement and achievement, civic attitude and behavior, and social and personal skills. To read more about this research, information is provided by the U.S. Department of Education at the website: www.learnandserve.gov.pdflp-07-2014, "Understanding service-learning pdf.

For example...

A study in Portland found that fifth-grade students participating in service-learning programs showed higher rates than non-participants in tests for language arts and science. Teachers and students showcase service-learning at Back-to-School Night, writing an article for the school newspaper, assisting students to create service-learning displays, and incorporating or showing Brigit Living in Light materials at parent-teacher meetings.

Being involved in your child’s education sends a direct message to your child that learning matters. When supporting service-learning, you also teach your children that at every age we can be contributing members of society. Parent encouragement of their child’s involvement in service-learning has a multitude of positive effects on students’ performance and academic engagement.

Parents attend service-learning conferences to stay informed and involved, discover benefits for everyone involved, become leaders who contribute ideas, meet real community needs, connect academic subjects, and develop as active members of society.

**Service-learning** is a natural extension of the civic mission of schools—giving students from the earliest grades a background in a better education while giving our society a better citizen. It is a natural bridge between the classroom and the community that brings parents and energy to both.

Elisabeth Bumstead

Western State Apartment

"We know that service-learning benefits young people in a variety of ways. As individuals, service-learning improves self-esteem and self-confidence, and inducement of civic and volunteer behavior. As citizens, service-learning grows young people into informed and involved civic responsibility and a commitment to service. Service-learning helps improve school performance and academic engagement."
Service-learning differs from community service or volunteer work. Service-learning differs from community service or volunteer work because the education of students and young people is always at the core. Students are actively participating in the process of understanding, integrating, and applying knowledge from various subjects as they work to improve their communities. The question “Why am I learning this?” disappears as they see what they have learned used in action.

**What does service-learning look like?**

Continued from front page...

**Research** shows that service-learning positively affects youth in three general areas: academic engagement and achievement, civic attitudes and behaviors, and social and personal skills. To read more about this research, information is provided by Learn and Serve America at this website: service-learning.org/ops/pali-72024, involved-service-learning.pdf.

For example...

A Philadelphia study found that fifth-grade students participating in service-learning programs had higher test scores than non-participants in tests for language arts and science.

Community engagement activities around the schools of graduates and improved high school students’ progress in reading, math, science, and history. (Dávila, A. and Mora, M. 2007)

Students in service-learning had a higher set of goals and more related skills and aspirations than students who did not participate. (Dávila et al, 2006)

Students classified as a “lot skills” had significant progress in reading, writing, and math. (Dávila et al, 2006)

General surveys and general surveys: Attendance and participation rates increased, as did grade point averages and positive attitudes toward themselves and school. (Kraft and Whittier 2005)

**Four stages of service-learning**

**Participation** means sharing new information or ideas. They research, interview, and visit places, leading to a better understanding of real community needs.

**Action**—Students develop and implement a plan of action, transforming their ideas about community needs into practical ways to contribute to the common good.

**Reflection**—Students consider how their actions made an impact on themselves and others, and ways to improve as they continue to learn and serve.

**Demonstration**—Students share or tell others what they have learned and contributed. They may write articles, make presentations, or create a website.

**How does student benefit from service-learning?**

Studies show that service-learning can develop students’ knowledge and abilities in many ways. Through service-learning programs and experiences, students may:

- increase motivation and desire to learn;
- develop responsibility, make decisions, and solve problems;
- improve in many academic areas;
- have a better sense of self;
- develop the ability to work well with others;
- experience positive relationships with peers and community members;
- replace stereotypes with respect for others;
- be exposed to career options;
- be better prepared for college and the workplace; and
- learn about community resources for themselves and their families; make a positive contribution to their community; and
- begin to develop a lifelong commitment to public service and to learning.

**How is service-learning different from community service or volunteer work?**

Students in service-learning had a higher set of goals and more related skills and aspirations than students who did not participate. (Dávila et al, 2006)

Students classified as a “lot skills” had significant progress in reading, writing, and math. (Dávila et al, 2006)

General surveys and general surveys: Attendance and participation rates increased, as did grade point averages and positive attitudes toward themselves and school. (Kraft and Whittier 2005)

Research shows that service-learning positively affects youth in three general areas: academic engagement and achievement, civic attitudes and behaviors, and social and personal skills. To read more about this research, information is provided by Learn and Serve America at this website: service-learning.org/ops/pali-72024, involved-service-learning.pdf.

For example...

A Philadelphia study found that fifth-grade students participating in service-learning programs had higher test scores than non-participants in tests for language arts and science.

Community engagement activities around the schools of graduates and improved high school students’ progress in reading, math, science, and history. (Dávila, A. and Mora, M. 2007)

Students in service-learning had a higher set of goals and more related skills and aspirations than students who did not participate. (Dávila et al, 2006)

Students classified as a “lot skills” had significant progress in reading, writing, and math. (Dávila et al, 2006)

General surveys and general surveys: Attendance and participation rates increased, as did grade point averages and positive attitudes toward themselves and school. (Kraft and Whittier 2005)

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (www.service-learning.org).

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (www.service-learning.org).

**Parent participation in non-school settings**

Whenever youth gather, service-learning is a way to engage in meaningful activities that benefit everyone. A service-learning approach may include leadership development, surveys of community needs, and plans that allow your youth to transform ideas into action. Discuss with program staff ways parents can help contribute throughout the process.

Parent participation in service-learning is a way to engage in meaningful activities that benefit everyone. A service-learning approach may include leadership development, surveys of community needs, and plans that allow your youth to transform ideas into action. Discuss with program staff ways parents can help contribute throughout the process.

Parents bring valuable resources, information, and ideas to service-learning. Consider these ways parents have been partners.

- Parents inform administrators and teachers about service-learning and available state and national resources.
- Parents educate other parents about service-learning so they can support their children and the classroom.
- Parents attend service-learning conferences and stay informed to bring new ideas back to the classroom.
- Parents supervise student projects, interviews, and visit places, all leading to a better understanding of real community needs.
- Students in service-learning had a higher set of goals and more related skills and aspirations than students who did not participate. (Dávila et al, 2006)
- Students classified as a “lot skills” had significant progress in reading, writing, and math. (Dávila et al, 2006)
- General surveys and general surveys: Attendance and participation rates increased, as did grade point averages and positive attitudes toward themselves and school. (Kraft and Whittier 2005)

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (www.service-learning.org).

Parents bring valuable resources, information, and ideas to service-learning. Consider these ways parents have been partners.

- Parents inform administrators and teachers about service-learning and available state and national resources.
- Parents educate other parents about service-learning so they can support their children and the classroom.
- Parents attend service-learning conferences and stay informed to bring new ideas back to the classroom.
- Parents supervise student projects, interviews, and visit places, all leading to a better understanding of real community needs.
Is service-learning happening at your child’s school? Talk to teachers and administrators to find out whether service-learning is already taking place at your child’s school.

Yes! What now?
1. Let your support be known! Talk to your child’s teachers and/or school administrators to find out how you might be able to help.
2. Make sure those in charge of service-learning at your child’s school are aware of all the great resources available through the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse.
3. Consider working with the PTA—the parent, teacher, student association—or another parent/teacher organization to develop a plan for parents to be of support to teachers. The PTA recognizes that collaboration with the community strengthens schools, families, and student service projects. Service-learning is an excellent way to support the community. Support your child in helping the community! Visit www.pta.org for more information.

No. What now?
1. Take copies of Bring Learning to Life materials to your child’s school to inform teachers and administrators of the benefits of service-learning.
2. School administrators may welcome articles on the impacts of service-learning in education. Resources on this and other service-learning topics can be found on the last page of this publication and by visiting www.servicelearning.org.
3. State Education Agencies receive funding from Learn and Serve America to help build networks of teachers, school administrators, parents, and other activity agency partners who are knowledgeable about service-learning and can work to get programs started. Visit the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse “Resources for Parents” page at www.servicelearning.org/INSTANT_INFO/parents/index.php.

Books can help you learn more, see examples of service-learning projects, and promote service-learning in the community.
- Parent Involvement in Service-Learning, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, National Dropout Prevention Center. 1998. Part of the Linking Learning with Life Series, this publication provides ideas to involve parents in supporting service-learning in schools and engaging in service-learning as a family.

What does service-learning look like? Here are a few examples.

Elementary children in Florida studied the consequences of natural disasters through books and newspaper articles and by interviewing city officials. They determined that families need a place to gather their important papers in case of evacuation. So the children designed a large envelope with a checklist for this purpose. They also met with farmers and other small business owners to get information on the situation, and learned more about service-learning. This group of students then developed a brochure and mailed it to all the families in their community.

Middle school students in Pennsylvania learned about the health consequences of poor nutrition and lack of exercise. They wanted to do something to change those habits for themselves and their families. So they conducted health fairs to educate their neighbors and worked with their English teachers and families to create a cookbook with healthy recipes. Students in the after-school program at a school in West Virginia also learned about service-learning and began organizing intervention activities to help the local community. They mapped out a neighborhood park and conducted a survey to determine the most needed services. Based on the survey results, some neighborhoods organized a community garden while others planned to create a neighborhood center.

High school students in Oklahoma investigated how a local creek became polluted. In social studies, they researched the history of mining that led to the problem. They learned which government agencies help clean toxic waterways. Science students continued their work by finding fresh produce, students working with their math, social studies, and shop teachers to open a fruit and vegetable stand for the school and community.

Bring Learning to Life
What Is Service-Learning?
A Guide for Parents

This guide to the basics of service-learning for parents is a companion piece to the Learn and Serve America video, Bring Learning to Life. This eight-minute video offers insights from teachers, principals, and students who have experienced the benefits of service-learning, and provides an introduction to service-learning as an effective strategy to improve academic achievement, increase student engagement, improve social behavior, build civic skills, and strengthen community partnerships. The video, available in VHS, CD-ROM, and DVD formats, also includes two television public-service announcements (60-second PSA and 30-second PSA).

Visit www.servicelearning.org or call 1-866-245-7270, ext. 130 to order copies of Bring Learning to Life DVD(s), posters, and the teachers’ getting started guide Service-Learning in Action to share with your school. Across America, service-learning is helping students perform better in school while improving their communities through service. By connecting classroom lessons with community service projects, service-learning engages students in civic responsibility and builds the capacity to contribute to solving problems by helping others in their school community, their neighborhood, or around the world. When students apply what they are learning in ways that help others, the results are momentous. Students gain a sense of their own power, and while learning, they develop the ability to contribute to a better society and use all their talents.

For more about service opportunities in your area and additional resources, visit Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse “Resources for Parents” page at www.servicelearning.org/INSTANT_INFO/parents/index.php.

Books can help you learn more, see examples of service-learning projects, and promote service-learning in the community.
- Service-Learning in Action, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, National Dropout Prevention Center. 1998. Part of the Linking Learning with Life Series, this publication provides ideas to involve parents in supporting service-learning in schools and engaging in service-learning as a family.
Is service-learning happening at your child’s school? Talk to teachers and administrators to find out whether service-learning is already taking place at your child’s school.

Yes! What now?
1. Let your support be known! Talk to your child’s teachers and/or school administrators to find out how you can be of help.
2. Make sure those in charge of service-learning at your child’s school are aware of all the great resources available through the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse.
3. Consider working with the PTA—the parent, teacher, student association—or another parent/teacher organization to develop a plan for parents to be of support to teachers. The PTA recognizes that collaboration with the community strengthens schools, families, and student learning. Service-learning is an excellent way to engage parents in the community. Support your child in helping the community! Visit www.pta.org for more information.

No. What now?
1. Take copies of Bring Learning to Life materials to your child’s school to inform teachers and administrators of the benefits of service-learning.
2. School administrators may welcome articles on the impacts of service-learning in education. Resources on this and other service-learning topics can be found on the last page of this publication and by visiting www.service-learning.org.
3. State Education Agencies receive funding from Learn and Serve America to help build networks of teachers and school administrators, parents, and faith-based community agency partners who are knowledgeable about service-learning and can work to get programs started. Visit www.learnandserve.gov/about/contact/sea.asp to find contact information for someone in your State Education Agency who can help connect you to this larger community of service-learning supporters.

Get involved in other service-learning opportunities. Service-learning doesn’t just happen in schools! Inspire at local youth, community, or faith-based organizations to find existing service-learning programs or create new ones. Service-learning is an excellent way to engage parents in the community. Support your child in helping the community! Visit www.pta.org for more information.

This guide to the basics of service-learning for parents is a companion piece to the Learn and Serve America video, Bring Learning to Life: This eight-minute video offers insights from teachers, principals, and students who have experienced the benefits of service-learning, and provides an introduction to service-learning as an effective strategy to improve academic achievement, increase student engagement, improve social behavior, build civic skills, and strengthen community partnerships. The video, available in VHS, CD-ROM, and DVD formats, also includes two television public-service announcements (30-second PSA and 30-second PSA).

Visit www.servicelearning.org or call 1-800-245-7270, ext. 130 to order copies of Bring Learning to Life DVDs, posters, and the teachers’ getting-started guide Service-Learning in Action to share with your school. Across America, service-learning is helping students perform better in school while improving their communities through service. By connecting classroom lessons with community service projects, service-learning engages students to learn and help others.

For more about service opportunities in your area and additional resources, visit Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse “Resources for Parents” page at www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/parents/index.php.

Books can help you learn more, see examples of service-learning projects, and promote service-learning in the community.
- The Busy Family’s Guide to Volunteering: Do good, have fun, make a difference as a family! by Jenny Lynn Friedman, Routledge Press, 2004. A comprehensive resource for teachers, youth workers, and parents that covers service-learning planning and implementation, with more than 300 examples of service-learning success stories.
- Parent Involvement in Service-Learning, by Cathryn Berger Kaye, National Dropout Prevention Center. 1998. Part of the Linking Learning with Life series, this publication can help parents in supporting service-learning in schools and engaging in service-learning as a family.

For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse www.servicelearning.org.

What is Service-Learning?
A Guide for Parents provides information about your role in supporting service-learning and outlines the many ways you can make a difference in teaching and learning. Service-learning takes place in schools and in youth groups across America. Your involvement can make a difference! Simply put, service-learning provides an opportunity for youth to learn in the natural setting of the classroom while contributing to solving problems by helping others in their school community, their neighborhood, or around the world. When students apply what they are learning in ways that help others, the results are momentous. Students gain knowledge that lasts a lifetime.

While learning, they develop the ability to contribute to a better society and use all their abilities.

High school students in Oklahoma investigated how a local creek became polluted. In social studies, they researched the history of mining that led to the problem. They learned which government agencies help clean toxic waterways. Science-students created a video and poster to help the community.

Elementary children in Florida studied the consequences of natural disasters through books and newspaper articles and by interviewing city officials. They determined that families need a place to gather their important papers in case of evacuation. So the children designed a large envelope with a checklist for this purpose. They added tips about securing personal and other advice to make a difficult situation easier. Students distributed the envelopes to families through school and community organizations.

Middle school students in Pennsylvania learned about the health consequences of poor nutrition and lack of exercise. They wanted to do something to change these habits for themselves and their families. So students conducted health fairs to educate their neighbors and worked with their English teachers and families to create a cookbook with healthy versions of family recipes. Then, because it was difficult to find fresh produce, students worked with their math, social studies, and shop teachers to open a fruit and vegetable stand for the school and community.


For more information, contact Learn and Serve America’s National Service-Learning Clearinghouse www.servicelearning.org.

Resources
- What Is Service-Learning?
- BRING LEARNING TO LIFE
- BRING LEARNING TO LIFE
Students will understand philanthropy and service learning. They will analyze past actions to determine if they have contributed to the common good. This lesson will give the context for succeeding lessons in the unit so that students will be able to complete an action for the common good and evaluate their effort for a future philanthropic project. Days47.jpg. Lesson Rating. Ask, “What is philanthropy? After hearing responses, define the term as “giving of one’s time, talent or treasure for the sake of another, or for the common good.” Additional definitions include: voluntary action for the public good; voluntary giving, voluntary service and voluntary association, primarily for the benefit of others; giving and serving; active effort to promote human welfare.”