

SERVICE LERNING



PROJECT SUMMARY

This powerful learning opportunity teaches youth their role in creating local, state, national, and global change. Through leadership roles youth will experience all stages of service learning by identifying and meeting a genuine need. Learning to plan and carry-out meaningful service projects builds life skills such as problem solving, teamwork, and concern for others. These experiences will foster an ethic of service and participation in the youth who will be tomorrow's leaders.



STARTING OUT BEGINNER

Youth will participate in projects that are led by more experienced youth and at least one adult leader. Research, planning, participating in the project and reflection will be the main components for youth at this stage.

LEARNING MORE INTERMEDIATE

Youth will participate in projects as co-leaders. Research, needs assessment, goal setting, planning, project participation, reflection and evaluation will be the main components for youth at this stage.

EXPLORING DEPTH ADVANCED

Youth at this stage will take a leadership role. They will do a community needs assessments, research and identify projects. Youth will learn to build community partnerships, collect resources and establish project and financial guidelines.

REFLECTION

Youth will journal their experiences and share with the group.

REFLECTION

As a group youth will reflect and evaluate the project.

REFLECTION

As a group youth will reflect and evaluate the project.

TRAINING

This interactive workshop will cover:

- The purpose of service learning
- The importance of being civically engaged
- Strategies for identifying extrinsic needs
- How to carry out service projects that align with youth passions and interests
- How to evaluate and reflect on outcomes

CURRICULUM

- Agents of Change (<https://shop4-h.org>)
- Discover 4-H Service Learning
- [Ready, Set, Serve](#)
- [Helping Hands](#)

RESOURCES

- [What is Service Learning](#)
- [4-H Service Learning Standard and Best Practice Guide](#)
- [Conducting 4-H Community Service Learning](#)
- [Youth Service Learning Project Planning Guidebook](#)

4-H PATHWAY

The four components of the Pathway provide intentional and progressive education and leadership skills for youth of all ages.



EXPLORE FIND THE "SPARK"

LEARN CAMPS, EVENT, OPPORTUNITIES

PRACTICE 4-H CLUBS & CONTESTS

EXPERIENCE CAREER PATHWAYS

Youth who are exposed to service learning can develop early interest civic engagement and improve their leadership abilities.

Service learning projects improves youth understanding of social needs, as well as their problem-solving and teamwork skills.

Youth who have continued service learning experiences and engage with community partners before entering high school are more likely to remain engaged in civic leadership opportunities.

Real-world service learning opportunities are key. Service participation appears to have its strongest effect on the student's decision to pursue a career in a service field. (Astin et al 2000)

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Service learning can be integrated into all 4-H projects. Example: Participants complete a needs assessment and decide that making pillowcases for the homeless shelter will make an impact in their community. They raise money for supplies and hold planning sessions. They invite the 4-H community to join the project. Youth gather to evaluate and celebrate their project.

LEADERSHIP

- Recruit youth members and adult leaders
- Build community partnerships
- Identify and research community needs
- Assist in creating budgets
- Fundraising for projects

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

4-H PROJECT

- Community Service Activities
- Teen Councils
- Ambassador Roles

AREA OF STUDY

- Human Services
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Liberal Arts
- Criminal Justice

CAREER OPTIONS

- Public Welfare
- Child Welfare
- Family Services
- Health Care
- Counselor
- Market Research
- Worker's Advocate
- Non-Profits