

Sample Project Focusing on Children

Identify The Need	
Service-Learning	Community-Service
<p>Students will meet with representatives from a local day care center or visit a local day care and observe to identify a need.</p> <p>Example: Students invite the director of the local day care to meet with the class. Students develop a list of questions to be asked. As a class, they vote on which questions will be asked from the list. Students interview the day care director. Students make a list of needs based on information from interviews and choose one to address.</p> <p>Example: Students determine the need is an improved area in the day care for make-believe play.</p>	<p>Teacher calls a representative from the local food bank and asks what the needs are.</p> <p>Example: Teacher reports back to the class about her conversation with the food bank.</p> <p>Example: Teacher determines that the need for the food bank is food that serves families who have children.</p>
Set a Goal	
<p>Students take chosen need and set the goal for meeting the need.</p> <p>Example: Students set the goal of improving the designated space to make it more conducive for make-believe play.</p>	<p>Teacher tells the students what the class goal is for meeting the need.</p> <p>Example: Teacher and students set a goal of collecting food for the food bank through a school contest.</p>

Form a Plan

Students determine the who, what, when, where, why and how of their project. Students record each task required on a different sticky note. Teacher guides the process by asking questions to make sure all areas are addressed.

Example: Students call out tasks that must be done to complete the project. The student who calls out the task records it on a sticky note - one task per sticky note. Through this process, the teacher asks questions to make sure all areas are covered. For instance, if the students say they need to paint the area, the teacher would ask: "What materials will we need?" or "Who in this class can draw the background that we will be painting?" After listing all tasks, the students work together to put the tasks in the order in which they are to be completed. Leave the assigned tasks displayed as a guide. Students can also be assigned specific tasks. Tasks for this project might include: Contact administration for approval, gather supplies for painting, schedule work time with daycare, collect donations for make-believe area, organize dress-up clothes and props to make them child-friendly for use and teacher-friendly for storage.

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Example: Students call out tasks that must be done to complete the project. The student who calls out the task, records it on a sticky note - one task per sticky note. Through this process, the teacher asks questions to make sure all areas are covered. For instance, if the students want to get other classes to donate supplies for the boxes, the teacher might ask: "How do we let them know what to donate?" or "How do we motivate other classes to donate?" After listing all tasks, the students work together to put the tasks in the order in which they are to be completed. Leave the assigned tasks displayed as a guide. Students can also be assigned specific tasks. Tasks for this project might include: Contact administration for approval, prepare donation flyers and display around school, prepare donation boxes, arrange to make announcement on school public address system, write announcement, prepare visual to show progress, (if you are doing a class contest at Thanksgiving, give each class a turkey and add feathers for every item donated) and request transportation to deliver items.

Act	
Students carry assigned tasks on sticky note organization chart. As the project progresses, they may discover they need to add or adjust the order of the tasks.	Students carry assigned tasks on sticky note organization chart. As the project progresses, they may discover they need to add or adjust the order of the tasks.
Follow Up	
Students reflect on their project and determine if further action is needed. Students showcase and celebrate their results. Example: Students hold a ribbon cutting for the new area with press coverage.	Students reflect on their project and determine if further action is needed. Students showcase and celebrate their results. Example: The students deliver the food and help organize it at the food bank. They help with the next distribution day. To celebrate, the winning class has a water balloon fight with the faculty (this may sound crazy - but the students and teachers enjoy it!).