2013

Service Learning Reflection Journal for Kids: Tools and Activities to Help You with Your Service Learning Project from Beginning to End

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Recommended Citation
http://dx.doi.org/10.5703/1288284315195.

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SERVICE LEARNING REFLECTION JOURNAL

for Kids

Tools and Activities to help you with your Service Learning project from beginning to end

Margaret Shu-Mei Sass, EdD, JD
SERVICE-LEARNING REFLECTION JOURNAL for Kids

Tools and Activities to help you with your Service-Learning project from beginning to end

Elementary School Series
Margaret Shu-Mei Sass, EdD, JD

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INTRODUCTION

This handbook helps you think about making a difference in your community, and why it’s so important to volunteer.

How to use this handbook:

• Take the Public Affairs quiz before you start your project
• Fill out the “What do you think?” sheet
• Fill out the Service-Learning Project Plan
• Fill out the Community Service Log Form if your teacher assigns it
• Fill out the daily journal or weekly journal based on your teacher’s instructions
• Complete the Final Service-Learning Project Assignment if required by your teacher
• Do “Picture Perfect!”
• Complete “The End” quiz
• Finish the “Last thoughts about Community Service” sheet
• Have fun!

How important is community service?
WHAT DO YOU THINK? SCALE

Please read each sentence and circle the number that best fits your answer. Remember, there is no right or wrong answer.

1. not at all! 2. not really 3. not sure 4. maybe a little 5. yes!

1. I've done community service in my classes before.
   1 2 3 4 5

2. I know I can make a difference in my community.
   1 2 3 4 5

3. I will volunteer in the future.
   1 2 3 4 5

4. People I know like doing community service.
   1 2 3 4 5

5. Volunteering helps me think about things differently.
   1 2 3 4 5

6. I plan to do some volunteer work next year.
   1 2 3 4 5

7. Volunteering makes me feel like I am helping the community.
   1 2 3 4 5

8. I do things for a cause bigger than myself.
   1 2 3 4 5

9. Community service is necessary to make our communities better.
   1 2 3 4 5

10. I feel that I can make a difference in the world.
    1 2 3 4 5

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Do you enjoy helping the community?

2. What does “community service” mean to you?

3. If you volunteered in the past, what did you like about it? What did you not like about it?

4. If you could help anywhere, where would that be?

5. Do you think all kids should help their community at least once?

6. Do you think doing community service will help you with your school work? Why or why not?
# COMMUNITY SERVICE LOG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization or Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Signature (from teacher or non-profit supervisor)</th>
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Total Hours Volunteered: ________________

## COMMUNITY SERVICE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

- **BRONZE**: 10 hours of community service
- **SILVER**: 20 hours of community service
- **GOLD**: 30 hours of community service
- **PLATINUM**: 40 hours of community service
SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT PLAN

Your Name:

Where you are helping (doing community service):

The nonprofit organization’s purpose (why do they exist?):

Purpose of Project:
• Who will you help from your project? (people, animals, the earth, etc.)
• How will your community service project help you do better in class?
• What things do you think you will learn from this project? Explain.

Community Needs:
• How will your project help the nonprofit organization?
• Why did you choose this nonprofit organization?
• What makes the nonprofit organization special?
1. What does community service mean to you?

2. What did you learn about the nonprofit organization you are working with?

3. What did you learn about the people, animals, or planet the nonprofit organization is helping?

4. How does community service help you understand what you learn in class?

5. Do you think you made a difference today or this week? Why?

6. Is there anything you would do differently? Why?

7. What do you plan on doing next time you help the nonprofit organization?

Feedback from teacher:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Grade _________________________

8
On a scale of 1–5, circle the number that best fits your thoughts from I don’t agree at all (1) to really, really agree (5)

I am making a difference where I’m volunteering.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me understand my role in this world.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me learn more about the community.
1 2 3 4 5

I understand how important community service is.
1 2 3 4 5

I am able to understand school assignments better when I do community service.
1 2 3 4 5

(Draw a picture or attach pictures of what you did today.)
1. What does community service mean to you?

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2. Volunteering helps me understand my role in this world.
   1   2   3   4   5

3. Volunteering helps me learn more about the community.
   1   2   3   4   5

4. I understand how important community service is.
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   1   2   3   4   5

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18
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6. Is there anything you would do differently? Why?

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Feedback from teacher:

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Grade ___________________________

20
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I am making a difference where I’m volunteering.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me understand my role in this world.
1 2 3 4 5

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Feedback from teacher:

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

Grade _______________________

24
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I am making a difference where I'm volunteering.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me understand my role in this world.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me learn more about the community.
1 2 3 4 5

I understand how important community service is.
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Feedback from teacher:

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Grade __________________________

26
On a scale of 1-5, circle the number that best fits your thoughts from I don't agree at all (1) to really, really agree (5).

I am making a difference where I'm volunteering.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me understand my role in this world.
1 2 3 4 5

Volunteering helps me learn more about the community.
1 2 3 4 5

I understand how important community service is.
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6. Is there anything you would do differently? Why?

7. What do you plan on doing next time you help the nonprofit organization?

Feedback from teacher:

Grade ___________________________
FINAL SERVICE-LEARNING
PROJECT ASSIGNMENT

Purpose of Project:
• To think about your community service/Service-Learning project, what you did, and how you made a difference in the community.
• To show how your project helped you understand the class better.

Content of the paper:
• what you did
• who you helped
• when you did it
• where you did the community service
• why did it make a difference for the community

Questions and thoughts to think about:
• Think about your project and what activities you did.
• What does service learning mean to you? What does community service mean to you?
• Do you think community service is different after your project?
• Did any of the class books, handouts, or other assignments help you with the project?
• Was this project hard?
• What did you learn from your project?
• How did you help the community through your project?
PICTURE PERFECT!

Draw a picture or create a collage of your Service-Learning project.
THE END QUIZ

Please read each sentence and circle the number that best fits your answer. Remember, there is no right or wrong answer.

1. not at all!  2. not really  3. not sure  4. maybe a little  5. yes!

1. I've done community service in my classes before.
   1 2 3 4 5

2. I know I can make a difference in my community.
   1 2 3 4 5

3. I will volunteer in the future.
   1 2 3 4 5

4. People I know like doing community service.
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5. Volunteering helps me think about things differently.
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7. Volunteering makes me feel like I am helping the community.
   1 2 3 4 5

8. I do things for a cause bigger than myself.
   1 2 3 4 5

9. Community service is necessary to make our communities better.
   1 2 3 4 5

10. I feel that I can make a difference in the world.
    1 2 3 4 5

LAST THOUGHTS ABOUT COMMUNITY SERVICE

1. Did you enjoy doing community service?

2. What did you like about it? What did you not like about it?

3. If you could help the community again, where would that be?

4. Do you think all kids should do community service at least once a year? How many times should kids help the community?

5. Do you think doing community service helped you with your school work/homework? Why or why not?
BRONZE

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This certificate is awarded to:

__________________________________________________________________

In recognition of
10 hours of Community Service

Signature________________________________________________________

Date________________________
SILVER

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This certificate is awarded to:

________________________________________

In recognition of
20 hours of Community Service

Signature__________________________________________

Date_________________
GOLD

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This certificate is awarded to:

__________________________________________

In recognition of

30 hours of Community Service

Signature

Date
PLATINUM

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This certificate is awarded to:

_____________________________________________________

In recognition of

40 hours of Community Service

Signature_______________________________________________

Date________________________
For more information, please contact Margaret Sass at sassm@purdue.edu

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