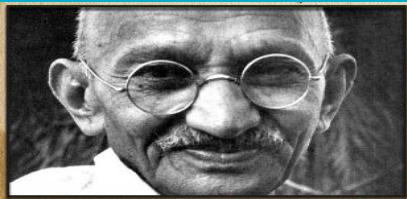


8th Grade Service Learning Project



**THE BEST WAY TO
FIND YOURSELF IS
TO LOSE YOURSELF
IN THE SERVICE OF
OTHERS.**

- MAHATMA GANDHI -

Brad Siegel (Quad)

Jerry Goodman (Allendale)

Meredith Smolyn (Ho-Ho-Kus)

Kathy Teehan (USR)

Eileen Tyburczy (USR)

Jefferson Street, Hoboken



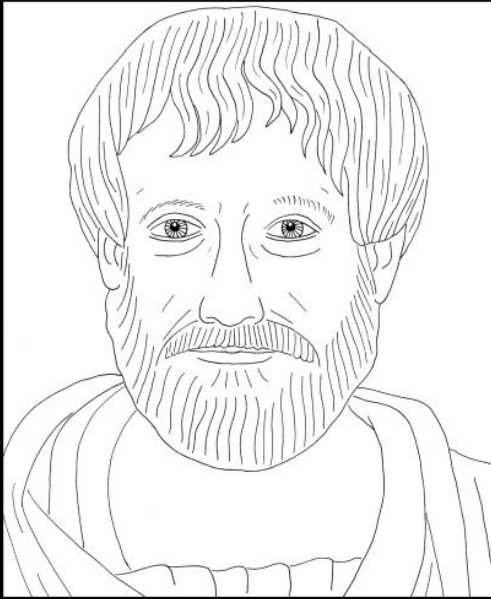
What examples of service do we see in our local communities?



MEVO Farm, Mahwah

BE A HERO FOR A BETTER WORLD

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"What is the essence of life?
To serve others and to do good."
-- Aristotle

Citizenship in Action

Citizenship in Action: This 8th grade course is constructed as a capstone to students' K-8 educational careers in evaluating civic and citizenship preparedness. The course will explore the various and complex meanings of citizenship in the school, local community, state and national government, and global arena. Students will investigate contemporary problems through an issue-based lens, which requires knowledge of social sciences; research, analysis, and information literacy skills; and, methods to communicate informed actions. The C3 (College, Career, and Civic Life Framework) Inquiry Arc is the way students' investigations of civic issues will be framed. Throughout the course, students will be expected to study and take part in civic issues, outside of the classroom, relevant to the curriculum and their personal interests.

What does it mean to be a citizen?

Personally
Responsible
Citizen



Participatory
Citizen

Justice-Oriented
Citizen

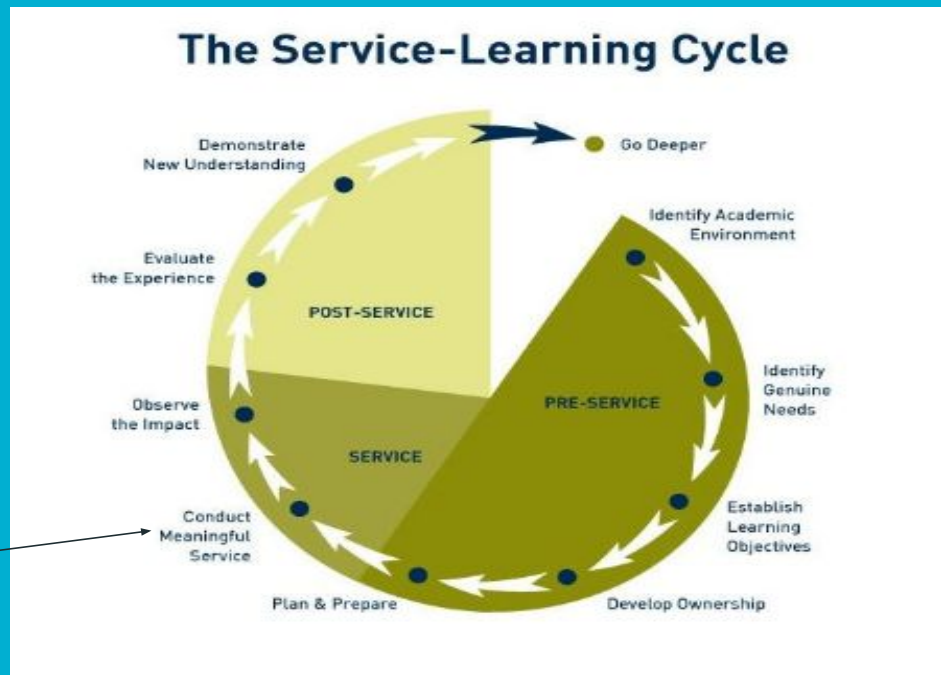
Value of service learning to middle school students

Benefits and Key Dimensions

- ❑ **Civic competency & dispositions**: Planning, deliberation, knowledge of institutions, participation; civic engagement & efficacy
- ❑ **Developmental growth**: Early understanding between individual, community, and world; increased self-esteem and confidence; academic performance
- ❑ **Experiential learning**: People learn by doing; see direct connection between the academic and real world

Research: [Civic Youth, Association for Middle Level Education \(AMLE\), Celio et. al. \(2011\)](#)

Service Learning v. Community Service



Community Service: A single act

Independent Service Learning Project

Intergenerational Learning: How can we build knowledge between generations?

Identify a community of <u>need</u>	Elderly population lacking knowledge of current technology
Identify a community of <u>resources</u>	Young adolescents (digital natives); Apple, Microsoft
<u>Research</u> and <u>analyze</u>	Study about local, national, and global implications of the existing gaps in technology between the haves and have nots
Develop an <u>action plan</u> and <u>perform service</u>	Identify elderly centers in local community and teach mini-lessons/coach
<u>Reflect</u> , <u>celebrate</u> , and <u>grow</u>	Journals, interviews, photographic essay, blog How can we build knowledge between generations?

What is the role of teachers and families in service learning?

INSTRUCTOR & FACILITATOR

COACH & MENTOR

MODEL

TEAM BUILDER & COLLABORATOR

RESEARCHER

COMMUNICATOR

Teacher Tips

FINDING YOUR COMMUNITY Ms. Teehan	ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING Mrs. Smolyn
BALANCING ACADEMIC WITH SOCIAL NEEDS Mr. Goodman	GETTING SUPPORT Mrs. Tyburczy

November Trips to Community Food Bank

