

Curriculum Integration 1

The following example is derived from curricula developed by NYLC for PlayPumps International. For free global water issues lesson plans, visit www.knowh2o.org.

Start with the Service Project ▶ **Connect Service to the Educational Standard**

How to Integrate Service-Learning into the Curriculum

Service-learning can be integrated with curriculum standards to achieve powerful results. Teachers can approach this in two ways:

1. **Start with the service project in mind and connect the project to educational standards or learning objectives.**
2. **Start with selected educational standards or learning objectives and design a service experience that meets them.**

The second approach can be used effectively to involve students in designing the curriculum. (See Curriculum Integration 2.)



CARYN PERNU
Managing Editor

The Teacher Tools can help guide you as you integrate service and learning in your curriculum. These pages offer reproducible forms you can use as you and your students plan service-learning projects.

Additional resources and tools are available in NYLC's Online Resource Center at www.nylc.org/curriculumintegration.

Service Project

Description: Fifth-grade students write a class book to help second-grade students and the larger school community understand the drinking water crisis in Africa.

Main goal (or essential question): Students create a teaching tool that can be used in other classrooms to raise awareness of the drinking water crisis in Africa.

Language Arts Standards

- Engage in a writing process.
- Apply standard English conventions when writing.
- Locate and use information in reference materials.

Geography Standards

- Understand the physical and human characteristics of places.
- Understand how to use maps and other tools.
- Understand how physical systems affect human systems.

Fine Arts Standards

- Use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories.
- Explore and understand prospective content for works of art.
- Select subject matter, symbols, and ideas to communicate meaning.

Activities

1. Connect with students' prior knowledge about drinking water, its sources, and drinking water access at home and around the world.
2. Students research picture books and analyze how they are put together.
3. The class works as a team to brainstorm the framework for the story and pictures for a class book.
4. Students work on writing or illustration teams to create a class book.
5. Students share their book and their knowledge about the drinking water crisis in Africa with other classrooms.

Start with the Service Project ▶ Connect Service to the Standard



Service Project

Description:

Main goal (or essential question):



Educational Standards

Educational Standards

Educational Standards



Activities



Curriculum Integration 2

The following example is derived from curricula developed by NYLC for PlayPumps International. For free global water issues lesson plans, visit www.knowh2o.org.

How to Integrate Service-Learning into the Curriculum

If you have identified educational standards that you need to address, use the following approach to design a service-learning project that meets them:

1. **List the standards or objectives you wish to achieve.**
2. **Connect these to genuine community needs. Students can research needs in their community associated with these standards:**
 - Scan local media sources for information on needs in their community.
 - Walk through the local area to document assets and needs.
3. **Teacher and students generate criteria for selecting a need to address. For example:**
 - Meets the required content standards.
 - Can be done in the allotted timeframe.
 - Addresses the root causes of a community problem.
 - Fits with student interests.
4. **Students develop their service-learning project:**
 - Suggest projects that fit the criteria.
 - Evaluate possible projects based on the criteria.
 - Select a project and then further develop it by locating partners, developing schedules and action plans, and alerting the media when appropriate.

Start with Educational Standards ▶ **Connect to Genuine Community Needs**
▶ **Design a Service-Learning Project**

Educational Standards

Civics Standards: The Role of the Citizen

- What are the roles of the citizen in a democracy?
- What is citizenship?
- What are the responsibilities of citizens?
- How can citizens take part in civic life?

English Language Arts Standards

- Conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems.
- Gather, evaluate, and synthesize data from a variety of sources to communicate discoveries in ways that suit the purpose and audience.

Connect to Genuine Community Needs

Research Community Needs Associated with Standards:

Students will explore water use in their own community through a variety of methods:

- Surveying their families and community members on personal daily water use.
- Conducting online and library research to explore community and worldwide trends in water availability and use.

Criteria for Selecting a Community Need:

- Includes study on the content standards listed above.
- Connects to working with a town in Africa.
- Involves sharing what the class learns with a wider audience.
- Addresses some of the root causes and problems of the lack of access to water.
- Requires student leadership role in solving significant community problems.

Design a Service-Learning Project

Service-Learning Project:

Raise public awareness about the problems a lack of drinking water has in Africa and raise funds toward building a PlayPump water system in a town.

Activities:

- Create PSAs and poster campaign to share what students learn about the drinking water crisis and PlayPumps playground equipment as a potential solution.
- Distribute materials and play announcements within the school and community.
- Raise funds to build a PlayPump water system in a selected city in Africa.

Start with Educational Standards ▶ Connect to Genuine Community Needs ▶ Design a Service-Learning Project



Educational Standards

Standards

Standards



Connect to Genuine Community Needs

Research Community Needs Associated with Objectives:

Criteria for Selecting a Community Need:



Design a Service-Learning Project

Service-Learning Project:

Activities:

