

Class Service Project

Objectives and Standards

3RD THROUGH 5TH GRADE



AmeriCorps

INTERACTIVE

Lesson 5 – Class Service Project

Objectives and Standards

Teacher Goals

- Lead students in selecting a class service project.
- Guide students through implementing the class service project.

Student Goals

- Collaborate with peers to select a class service project.
- Participate in the class service project.
- Reflect on the class service project.

Social-Emotional Domain

- Responsible decision-making

Common Core State Standards

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3-5.8
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3-5.1

C3 Framework for Social Studies Standards

- D2.Civ.7.3-5
- D2.Civ.9.3-5
- D4.6.3-5
- D4.7.3-5
- D4.8.3-5

MATERIALS

- Class Service Project Analysis printable
- Student Pledge Card printable
- Scissors
- Crayons and/or pencils
- Camera(s)
- Photo printer or service
- Journal #4 printable
- Computer with internet access and the ability to post photos online
- Miscellaneous art and presentation supplies (see “Share It” below)
- Family Letter #4 printable



PREPARATION

- Before the lesson, brainstorm a few possible classroom or school service projects in case students need help thinking of them later.
 - If you need help thinking of a project, ask your administrators and co-workers what needs they see.
 - Popular project ideas include:
 - cleaning up the school grounds
 - sorting objects for recycling
 - beautification projects like planting trees or gardens
 - straightening or organizing the library
 - creating artwork for common areas
 - organizing a book, toy, or school supply drive for a classroom or the library
 - reading to younger students (or buddying up with them for other tasks)
- Print a copy of the Class Service Project Analysis for each student.
- Print a copy of the Student Pledge Card for each student.
- Prepare a class display area large enough to display all Student Pledge Cards, such as a bulletin board in the room or a wall display in the hall.
 - Possible titles include “Our Pledge” or “Our Service Project”. See “Pledge It” below.
 - Be sure to save room for photos of the project!
 - If your project is one that will make a large visual impact (for instance, if students are painting a wall or planting flowers), snap a “Before” photo now to post alongside an “After” photo later.
- Print a copy of Journal #4 Printable: Class Service Project for each student.
- Customize Family Letter #4 by adding photos or student quotations related to the class service project to the blank space.
 - If you choose quotations (which may print better), mine these from students’ Journal #4 entries or their learning artifacts (see “Share It” below).
 - If you are going to post photos of the service project online, also add a hyperlink to the letter.
- After customizing Family Letter #4, print a copy for each student.



Lesson 5 Activities

Plan It

- Remind students of the things they learned in Lessons 1-3 about good deeds, gratitude, and 9/11 Day.
- Tell the class that it is time for them to complete a school service project together.
- Brainstorm possibilities together.
 - Draw a concept web on the board and write “Class Service Project” in the center circle.
 - Have students call out ideas for potential service projects, writing each idea in its own circle connected to the center circle. Try to keep the list between five and eight ideas; combine ideas if they are related.
 - Note: You may wish to pause the lesson here until you have a chance to present the list of options to your administrator for approval.
- Place students in small groups of 4 or more to debate the ideas.
 - Have each group discuss the ideas on the board and work together to choose one idea they find interesting.
 - This is a good opportunity to discuss and practice consensus building. However, if consensus cannot be reached in a group, be prepared to assign an idea.
 - Distribute a copy of the Class Service Project Analysis for each student. Have each group discuss the benefits and challenges of the idea they chose. Each group member should take their own notes on the Class Service Project Analysis.
 - Next, tell students discuss (and record) ways to eliminate or reduce the challenges they wrote down.
 - Be sure to point out that some challenges cannot be eliminated or reduced.
- Discuss each idea as a class.
 - Invite a student from each group to identify and describe the idea they discussed.
 - Have a second student share the benefits the group thought of.
 - Ask a third student to share the challenges.
 - Invite the fourth student to discuss any ways the group thought of to overcome the challenges.
 - When each idea has been discussed, have the class vote by secret ballot.
 - You may wish to hold the vote in a separate session, after you have time to create a ballot form.
 - Or, you can simply have students write their vote down on a piece of scrap paper.
- Announce the results of the vote and praise the students’ choice.
 - Once the vote is complete, be sure to secure administrator approval / permission for the project!

Pledge It

- Distribute a copy of the Student Pledge Card to each student.
- Tell students that this pledge card is similar to one they will be signing for their 9/11 Day projects soon.
- Have students fill in the fields on the cards, assisting as needed.
 - One of the fields asks students to write down what their task is during the service project. If you have not already done so, talk to students about what task(s) each of them is responsible for.
- Have students cut out their cards before adding them to the class display you prepared.

Do It

- Guide students through any necessary preparation for the service project. Depending on the project, this may involve any number of the following:
 - making a list of steps necessary to complete the project
 - making a list of supplies
 - gathering needed supplies
 - scheduling the event
- When preparation is complete, lead students through the steps in completing the selected service project.
- Have a parent, volunteer, or even students themselves take photos as you complete the service project.
 - In some cases, you may wish to take photos Before, During, and After to document the impact the project had.
 - Before the “Share It” activity below, print the photos.

Reflect on It

- Show students the photos of your service project.
- Have the class select which photos to add to your display.
- Have students reflect on their experience with the service project by completing Journal #4: Class Service Project.

Share It

- Create an online photo album to share pictures from the service project with students' families.
- Have students create learning artifacts (video, photo, slide deck, written essay, poster, etc.) in a medium of their choice to share their personal stories and experiences about the service project with others.
- Share students' learning artifacts publicly. This might make a nice parent night display, but you can also share students' artifacts online.
- Give each student a copy of the Family Letter #4 printable to share with their family.

Extension Activities

- As the class finishes the service project, consider starting a new service project for the idea with the second most votes (and so on, as time allows).
- Read a book about serving others aloud to students.
 - *Fantastic Kids: Helping Others* by Elizabeth Anderson Lopez
 - *Inspire the World: A Kid's Journey to Making a Difference* by Sammie Vance



Name _____ Date _____

Class Service Project Analysis

What service project idea did your group discuss?

Make a list of the benefits and challenges of the idea. You should list at least two benefits and two challenges. Next, write ideas for eliminating or reducing the challenges. How can you work around them?

Advantages	Disadvantages	Ways to Overcome Disadvantages





Student Pledge Card

9/11 DAY

GOOD DEED PLEDGE



For 9/11 Day this year, I will:

My Name _____

My Grade _____ My State _____ My Country _____

School/Teacher _____

Share your pledge on social media and tag us!

@911day @911day @911day 911day.org #911day



See printable version on page 11. Cut in half, 8.5" x 5.5"

Name _____ Date _____

Journal #4: Class Service Project

Write about the class service project you completed.

Our class service project was _____.

My task in the project was _____.

What parts of the service project went as you expected?

What parts of the service project were unexpected?

What impact did the service project have on your school?

Dear Family,

We are in the final stages of preparing for our individual service projects as part of the 9/11 National Day of Service! We have just completed our class service project.

Ask your child to tell you how we worked together to do something good for our school!

Here are some questions to help guide the discussion:

- What service projects did your class consider?
- Which idea were you hoping the class would choose?
- How did your class decide on a service project?
- Which idea did your class choose?
- How did you feel about the class decision?
- Who did the service project help?
- What was your task during the service project?
- What part of the project did you enjoy most?
- How did you feel when the project was done?

Consider planning your own family service project to benefit the school, the neighborhood, or another cause that is special to your family. This could be as simple as providing a meal to an elderly neighbor, or it can be as elaborate as volunteering on a regular basis at the animal shelter. The possibilities are endless!

As we bring our 9/11 Day unit to a close, students are looking forward to choosing and planning our individual service projects to celebrate the 9/11 National Day of Service.

Stay tuned! We can't wait to share more!

9/11 DAY

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My Name _____

My Grade _____ My State _____ My Country _____

School/Teacher _____

Share your pledge on social media and tag us!

✉ @911day  @911day  @911day  911day.org #911day



9/11 DAY

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