

Personal Service Project

Objectives and Standards

6TH THROUGH 8TH GRADE



INTERACTIVE

Lesson 4 – Personal Service Project

Objectives and Standards

Teacher Goals

- Guide students in selecting a personal service project.

Student Goals

- Define “pledge.”
- Pledge to complete a personal service project.

Social-Emotional Domain

- Self-management

C3 Framework for Social Studies Standards

- D2.Civ.7.6-8
- D4.6.6-8
- D4.7.6-8
- D4.8.6-8

MATERIALS

- Service Project Ideas printable
- Computer with internet (to access 911Day.org)
- Pencils
- Student Pledge Card printable
- Camera(s)
- Journal #6 printable



PREPARATION

- Before the lesson, brainstorm a few possible classroom or school service projects in case students need help thinking of them later.
 - Browse the two good deed documents available at 911Day.org for more than 100 ideas.
 - 30 Good Deeds for 9/11 Day
 - 9/11 Day: More Good Deeds for You (100 more!)
 - If you still need help thinking of project ideas, ask your administrators and co-workers what needs they see.
 - Print a copy of Service Project Ideas for each student.
- Print a copy of the Student Pledge Card for each student.
- Print a copy of Journal #6: Personal Service Project for each student.

LESSON 4 ACTIVITIES

Plan It

- Tell the class that it is time for them to select a personal service project to do on their own.
- Model how to brainstorm possible service projects.
 - On the board, recreate the graphic organizer on the Service Project Ideas printable students will fill out later.
 - Ask volunteers to suggest two or three service project ideas. Write them in the left column.
 - Choose one of the ideas and ask students to name positive and negative aspects of the idea.
 - Example: Donating children’s books to the library will help children in the area (positive), but it could be expensive if we have to purchase new books (negative).
 - If time allows, repeat the process for the other ideas you wrote on the board.
 - Point out some of the negatives, and ask students to think of ways to eliminate or reduce them.
 - In the example of donating books to the library, students might say they could avoid purchasing new books by donating books they no longer read.
- Distribute a copy of Service Project Ideas to each student.
- Have students fill out their own graphic organizers based on project options they are interested in completing.
 - If students struggle for ideas, share some of the 100+ ideas available in these [911Day.org](https://www.911day.org/resources) resources: [911Day.org/resources](https://www.911day.org/resources)
 - 30 Good Deeds for 9/11 Day
 - 9/11 Day: More Good Deeds for You (100 more!)
- Have student volunteers talk about which ideas they are considering and explain why. Then have students circle the idea they are going to complete.
- Once all students have chosen a service project, meet with them individually to talk about the project they circled on the Service Project Ideas page.
 - As you discuss their selections with students, consider whether they have the necessary resources and support to complete their project outside of class. If not, gently encourage them to choose a school-based project.
 - Discuss when and how the student will complete the project, including discussion of what supplies they might need.

Pledge It

- Distribute a copy of the Student Pledge Card to each student.
 - Ask students what a pledge is. If needed, remind them that a pledge is a serious promise that a person makes to do something.
 - Explain that when students sign the Student Pledge Card, they are making a promise to complete the service project they choose.
- Have students fill out the Student Pledge Card.
- Instruct students to keep their Student Pledge Cards with them as a reminder of their promise.

Do It

- After Lesson 5, help students complete school-based projects by providing time, supplies, and assistance as needed.
- Support students who chose projects outside of school by routinely reminding them of their pledge and asking for updates.
 - You may wish to follow up with individual families to find out whether you can support them in completing the service project; you may even need to guide students to another option (perhaps even school-based) if they are experiencing roadblocks.
- Have families and students take photos as they complete the service project.
 - In some cases, you may wish to suggest they take photos Before, During, and After to document the impact the project had.

Reflect on It

- As the last students complete their service projects, invite all students to share their experiences with their service projects.
- Have students reflect on their experience with the service project by completing Journal #5: Personal Service Project.

Share It

- Create an online photo album to share pictures from all the service projects with students' families.

Extension Activities

- Consider starting a service-based after school club where students can collaborate and/or work independently on service projects they were interested in but did not have time to complete during the unit.
- Share with students ideas and excerpts from *The Kid's Guide to Service Projects: Over 500 Service Ideas for Young People Who Want to Make a Difference* by Barbara A. Lewis, or make the book available for interested students to examine in more depth.



Name _____ Date _____

Service Project Ideas

Brainstorm a list of service projects you are interested in completing on your own. For each service project, list one or more positive and negative points. After considering both the good and the bad, decide which project you will complete and circle it.

Service Project	Positives	Negatives

Student Pledge Card

#IWILLFOR911DAY



For 9/11 Day, I pledge to perform the following good deed in tribute:

My Name _____

Organization (if any) _____

State _____ Country _____

Visit 911day.org/IWillPledge to share your good deed, or post of social media, #IWillFor911Day



@911day
 @911day
 @911day
 911day.com

See printable version on page 10. Cut in half, 8.5" x 5.5"

Name _____ Date _____

Journal #6: Personal Service Project

Write a summary of your personal service project. Describe what you did and who was served as a result of the project.

Why did you choose this service project instead of other options?

Now that the project is complete, what were the most positive aspects of the project?

Describe any negative aspects to the project. Did you anticipate these, or were you surprised?

If you completed this service project again, what would you do differently next time?

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