

# Class Service Project

## Objectives and Standards

6<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH 8<sup>TH</sup> 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.
- Write a persuasive essay in support of a class service project.
- Participate in the class service project.

### Social-Emotional Domain

- Responsible decision-making

### Common Core State Standards

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6-8.8
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6-8.9
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6-8.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6-8.4
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6-8.6
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6-8.1

### C3 Framework for Social Studies Standards

- D2.Civ.7.6-8
- D4.1.6-8
- D4.2.6-8
- D4.7.6-8
- D4.8.6-8

### MATERIALS

- Concept Web printable
- Paper, pencils or pens, or computer and paper if preferred
- Device for recording student videos
- Student Pledge Card printable
- Camera(s)
- Photo printer or service
- Computer with internet access and the ability to post photos and videos online
- Journal #5: Class Service Project printable
- Miscellaneous art and presentation supplies (see “Share It” below)



## PREPARATION

- Before the lesson, consider whether you are open to a community-based service project (as compared to a school- or classroom-based service project).
  - Consider the students, administrators, and the community as you make your decision.
  - For ease of planning, we strongly recommend you limit your class service project to the school.
- Brainstorm a few people or groups that might benefit from 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:
    - a classroom of younger students (buddy projects)
    - a new teacher in need of supplies (book and supply drives)
    - custodial and maintenance workers (grounds projects like cleanup and beautification)
    - media center personnel (cleaning electronics and organizing books)
    - all students and staff (creating artwork in common areas)
- Print a copy of the Concept Web for each student.
- Print a copy of the Student Pledge Card for each student.
- 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 #5: Class Service Project 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.
    - You may also choose a more open-ended mind map if you prefer but be aware that students will be completing a concept web of their own in groups and thus may benefit from your modeling it.
  - Have students call out ideas for people or groups that could benefit from a potential service project, writing each suggestion 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.
  - Invite students to vote by simple show of hands for the group of people they would most like to focus on for the service project.
- Place students in small groups to discuss how best to serve the selected people or group.
  - Distribute a copy of the Concept Web for each student. Have each group discuss service project ideas to benefit the people or group the class selected. Each group member should take their own notes on the Concept Web.
    - Encourage students to also make note of any benefits or advantages an idea might offer, since they will be selecting and advocating for one of the ideas later.
- Have students select one of the service project ideas they wrote down with their group and write a very short persuasive essay to convince classmates to vote for that idea.
  - Keep these speeches to three to five paragraphs due to time constraints in subsequent activities.
  - Remind students that when making a claim, it is important to provide support for that claim, such as reasons and evidence.
  - Record a video of each student giving reading their persuasive essay (or have students use smartphones and tablets to record it themselves).
  - Compile the essays into a packet or electronic file that students can access.
  - Give students a few days to watch and/or read other students’ arguments.

- When students have had time to watch and/or read other students' arguments, have the class vote by secret ballot.
- Announce the results of the vote.
  - 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.
  - 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 keep their cards with them as a reminder of their responsibilities during the project.

## 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 students 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

- Have students reflect on their experience with the service project by completing Journal #5: Class Service Project.

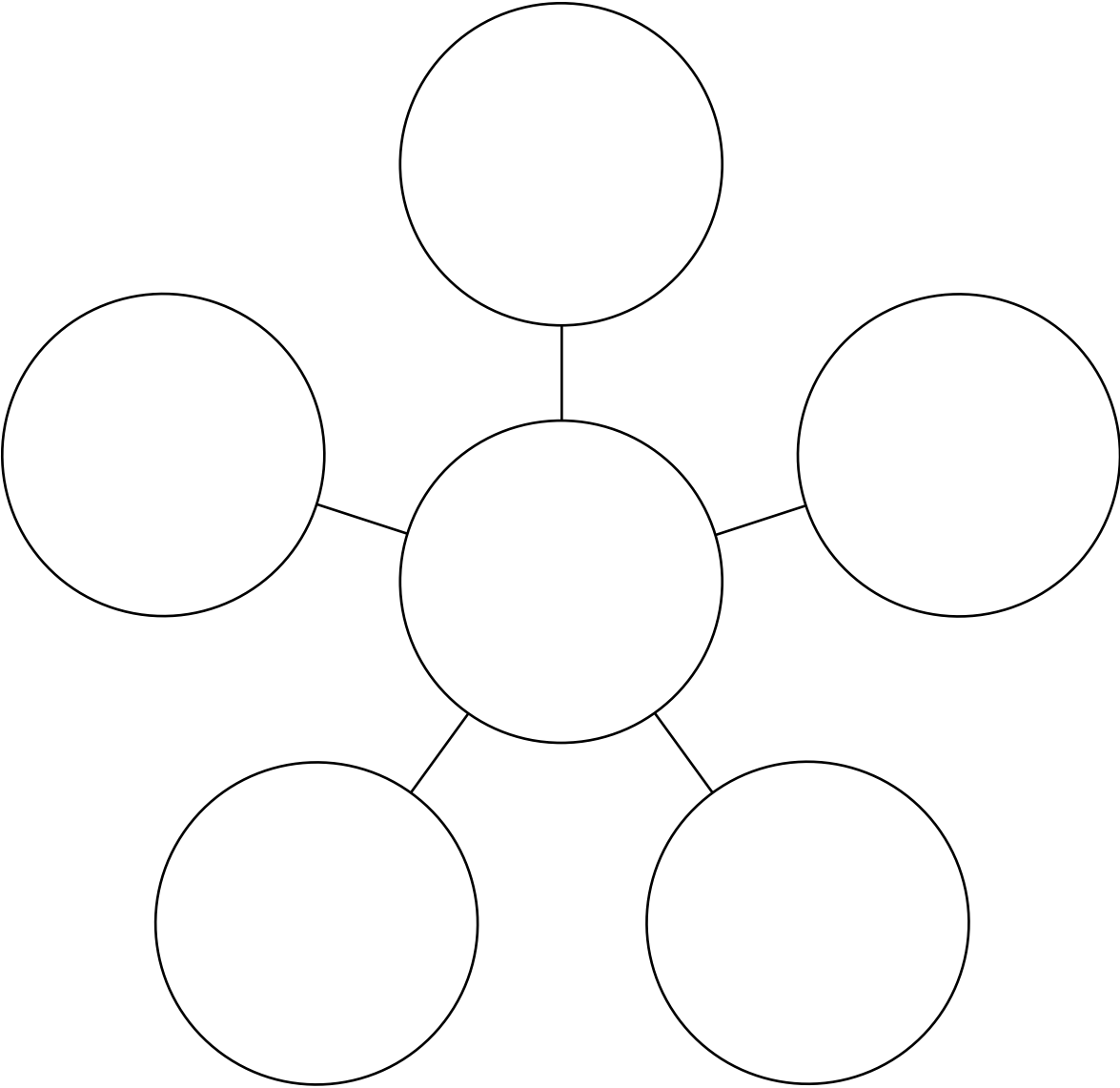
## Share It

- Create an online photo album to share pictures from the service project with students and their 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. At this age, we recommend sharing them online and inviting parents by email to view the artifacts.

## Extension Activities

- Share the [9/11 Day: More Good Deeds for You PDF](#) with students.
  - The 100+ ideas included are organized by the target group, just as this lesson was.
  - You can find 11 different lists that each offer several ways to serve veterans, seniors, neighbors, or the community.
  - Invite students to begin another class service project targeting one of these groups, or encourage them to do so with family members.

# Concept Web





## 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 10. Cut in half, 8.5" x 5.5"



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Journal #5: Class Service Project

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

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Reflect on the impact you think the project had on the people or group you served.

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What did you do well during the service project?

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Do you feel a sense of pride for participating in the project? Why or why not?

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# 9/11 DAY

## GOOD DEED PLEDGE



For 9/11 Day this year, I will:

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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

## GOOD DEED PLEDGE



For 9/11 Day this year, I will:

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My Name \_\_\_\_\_

My Grade \_\_\_\_\_ My State \_\_\_\_\_ My Country \_\_\_\_\_

School/Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

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