

Activity 8

Class Service Pledge

3RD THROUGH 5TH GRADE

Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Select a class service project. ■ Pledge to complete a class service project.
Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3-5.8 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3-5.1
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Class Service Project Analysis printable ■ Student Pledge Card printable ■ Scissors ■ Pencils
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Before the lesson, brainstorm a few possible classroom or school service projects in case students need help thinking of them later. Popular project ideas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tell students that 9/11 Day is a national day of service, which means helping or doing things for other people. ■ It is also a day of remembrance, when we honor the thousands of people who died in a series of events on September 11, 2001. ■ Point out that after 9/11, people did kind things for each other and served their communities together.
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Explain that, like the people who did kind things for each other after 9/11, they are going to do a service as a class. ■ 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.

**Activity**

- 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.
- Tell students to 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 to overcome the challenges.
- When each idea has been discussed, have students write their vote on a piece of paper.
- Announce the results of the vote and praise the students' choice. Once the vote is complete, secure administrator approval as necessary.
- Distribute a copy of the Student Pledge Card to each student.
- Point out the word "pledge" in the title.
- Tell students that a pledge is a promise that a person makes to do something.
- Have students fill in the fields on the cards, assisting as needed.
- Have students cut out their cards before adding them to the class display you prepared.



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?

Benefits	Challenges	Ways to Overcome Challenges



Student Pledge Card

#IWILLFOR911DAY



My Name _____

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

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

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

