

# CONNECTING TO COMMUNITY



**Time Required:** 30-45 minutes

**Content Standards:** AA.S.1 Students will acquire attitudes, knowledge, and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the lifespan.

**Indicators (Students will...):** AA.A.12.1.06 Identify resource people in the community and learn how to give and seek help and make connections.

AA.A.12.1.02 Use communication skills to know when and how to ask for help when needed.

**GOAL:** Students will understand the importance of community and make plans for a group community project.

## Activity Statements:

1. Students will participate in whole group selection of community service project.
2. Students will commit to participation in community service project and turn in verification form.

## Materials:

Handout 1 Contributing Citizenship Worksheet  
Handout 2 Community Service Verification Form  
White or chalk board

## Procedures:

1. Start with discussion below. When suggested, distribute Handout 1 Contributing Citizenship Worksheet and discuss whole group. Individually have students complete the final two questions.
2. Reflect on student responses using discussion format below ending with whole group discussion of service projects.
3. Divide students into triads and have them share their worksheet responses. Have each triad discuss and select possible community service projects.
4. Have each triad write down two of their community service projects on the board. Do not duplicate suggestions.
5. Have groups discuss each idea and vote on a group community service project.

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6. Develop a timeline for community service project; include a due date for return of student verification forms Handout 2.

## Discussion:

1. Discuss how students have been or can become involved at school and in the community. Your students are now in their final year of high school.
  - a. How have they gotten involved in the school? How have they gotten involved in their communities?
  - b. How will their responsibilities change as they graduate from high school (voting, registering for military service, etc.)?
2. Continue discussion using Handout 1 Contributing Citizenship Worksheet
3. Reflect on your students' service activities. By this senior year students should have participated in volunteer service projects.
  - a. What did they do?
  - b. What have they learned?
  - c. What would they like to do next? Why?
4. When students break into triads direct them to consider various factors in selecting a service project such as
  - Can this be accomplished in a small time frame?
  - How will this project benefit school or the community?

## Additional Resources:

Roots and Shoots Community Service Ideas

[http://www.rootsandshoots.org/?gclid=CP2xqu\\_UxJQCFQVxFQodqVHJGQ](http://www.rootsandshoots.org/?gclid=CP2xqu_UxJQCFQVxFQodqVHJGQ)

Student Community Service

[http://www.craigsliftfoundation.org/index.php?page=About\\_Us](http://www.craigsliftfoundation.org/index.php?page=About_Us)

## Extension Activities:

Find a community or school sponsor to help group complete service project or additional service projects. Seek out leaders such as Boy Scout Leaders, Rotary Club Leaders, Ministers, etc.

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