

Service Learning Lesson Plan

Project Title: Did You Hear the News?
Main Subject Area: ELA

Grade Level: 7
Theme: The Elderly

Duration: 2 weeks

Objective/Description

Students partner with a local nursing home and record themselves reading the newspaper for residents, planning how often they will record themselves (weekly, monthly, etc.). They engage in reading non-fiction literature, enhancing their reading fluency and comprehension skills and becoming knowledgeable about current events. They also learn the importance of helping others in their community. Students engage with ELA Common Core State Standards and 21st century learning skills during the project.

Common Core Content Standards

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.1** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.2** Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how the ideas clarify a topic, text, or issue under study
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.6** Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate

Driving Question

How can I help residents in a nursing home keep up to date on current events?

Investigation

Research, class instruction, interview civic leaders and/or professionals, survey neighbors or peers

- As a class, discuss and identify all of the different needs of residents in a nursing home.
- Brainstorm a list of things that could be done to positively affect their lives.
- Guide students to address the needs of residents who are losing their eyesight.
- Have students contact local nursing homes to see if some residents might want to listen to a recording of someone reading the newspaper out loud.

Preparation

Collaborative problem solving, planning, and task assignment by & with the students

- See "Planning Tools" at http://servicelearning.childreninc.org/?page_id=527.
- Instruct students to ask questions of the local nursing home's activity director in order to plan the project:
 - How often will residents want a recording of the newspaper?
 - Is there a specific section that the residents (or a specific resident) would like recorded?
 - How will the recording be delivered to the nursing home each time?
- Direct students to use their critical thinking skills and come up with other logistics for the implementation of this project.

- Have students practice reading and recording with a partner or in small groups.
- Support students in making audio recordings of newspaper articles.

Action

Service activities or methods used for addressing a social issue or community need

Distribute the recordings to the local nursing home(s).

Reflection

Frequent assessment of students' growing knowledge and developing skills; refer to driving question/ objective

- See "Reflection/Evaluation" at http://servicelearning.childreninc.org/?page_id=483.
- As a class, evaluate what news articles the recipients would most wish to hear.
- Stop and discuss current events within the class. What articles interest students?
- Have students write a reflective piece describing how students might stay involved with the people at the nursing home after the project is completed:
 - Why might we want to stay connected to the people at the nursing home?
 - Did reading articles aloud impact my view of local/global events?
 - How does this experience change my views of local/global events?

Demonstration of Knowledge

Assessment of students' knowledge/skills and project outcomes

- Take a field trip to have students visit the nursing home residents who received the recorded news.
- During the visit, have students sit and read with residents, discuss current events and share personal connections to past or current events

Community Partners

Includes anyone who offers expertise to the project or who benefits from the project

Local nursing home(s)

Outcome

Funds or goods generated, direct or indirect service provided, advocacy or education done

Recordings of news articles

Secondary Subject Areas (All that apply are in bold)

- English, Reading, Language Arts
- World Languages
- Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Economics
- Geography
- History
- Government and Civics
- Global Awareness
- Financial, Economic, Business, and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy
- Environmental Literacy

21st Century Skills (All that apply are in bold)

- Career Readiness
- Creativity and Innovation
- **Communication and Collaboration**
- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
- Physical Education
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Consumerism
- Information Literacy
- **Media Literacy**
- **Technology Literacy**
- Productivity and Accountability
- Leadership and Responsibility
- **Social and Cross-cultural Skills**