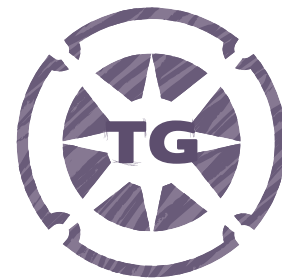


SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS INTRODUCTION



This scheme of work focuses on a series of two-week Service Learning Projects (SLPs). Service Learning is more than just volunteering. Service Learning is the deliberate integration of local community projects into the school curriculum; this encourages pupils to participate in thoughtfully organised lessons that engage and serve the local community with the aim of fostering pupil's civic responsibility. It also builds a school's collective identity, by providing opportunities for collaboration between older and younger peers around a common cause.

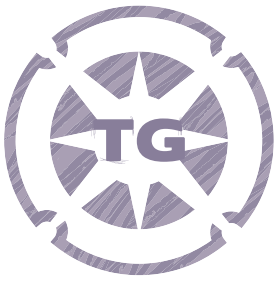
This scheme of work provides a framework for pupils to engage in a series of structured activities. A guide to the content for each year group has been suggested, but these are flexible and may be used across the school. Teachers should decide the focus of the SLP based on criteria such as accessibility, needs of the local community and the opportunities for children to engage in serving these needs.

Two 40-minute structured lessons for each year group are provided in this scheme of work. In order for children to engage deeply with their service learning focus, additional time will need to be incorporated into the timetable between the two lessons and afterwards. This is to provide children with an opportunity to leave their classrooms and visit the local community, to support their needs and celebrate the impact of their work. Schedules permitting, teachers should be encouraged to extend this scheme of work into a longer piece. The more time that children have to learn about and serve the needs of the local community, the better their relationships will be with local people and organisations.

This scheme of work requires teachers to set aside some lead-in time in order to establish a relationship with people and organisations from the local community. This should focus on the opportunities for children to learn about and visit the organisation chosen for the SLP.

Reception	SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT 1: GROWING IN THE COMMUNITY This SLP gives children an opportunity to maintain a public or school garden for the benefit of the local community. It involves organising donations of plants for the garden, planting them, labelling the garden and recording their work
Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT 2: FUNDRAISING FOR A LOCAL CHARITY This SLP gives children an opportunity to learn about a local charity, identify their needs, create a product to sell at a school fundraiser (e.g. a card or tea-towel), and advertise and host a fundraising event.
Year 4	
Year 5	SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT 3: KEEPING COMPANY IN THE COMMUNITY This SLP gives children a specific opportunity to share time with members of the local community by reading and acting out stories. It involves learning about a local charity or place in the local community (e.g. a hospital or nursing home), sourcing donations of books to create a small library, and storytelling in front of an audience.
Year 6	





Each SLP follows the same structure of requiring time to: prepare; act; reflect; and celebrate. Provision is made for preparation (lesson 1) and action (lesson 2) in the schemes of work. Where feasible in the time given to the character lessons, suggestions for reflection are included for each year group – usually in the plenary. Year groups involved in the same SLP may want to celebrate by:

- * holding a celebration assembly;
- * writing a school letter or contribute an article to the school newspaper sharing their project and its impact; or
- * revisit the people and places visited in the local community as part of the project.

The activities in this scheme of work are content-neutral in terms of the ‘theme’ of the event, so that schools can implement the unit at a point of the school year that suits them best, for example before an Easter fete or May Day celebrations.

Many of these SLPs require pupils to leave the school site. In advance of the SLP, it would be advisable to recruit some parent/grandparent volunteers to support this. This is an important feature of the SLP – as pupils see adults around them supporting the local community, their sense of civic responsibility will deepen.





SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT 1 GROWING IN THE COMMUNITY

SERVICE LEARNING
PROJECT 1
TG

This SLP is for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, though it may be adapted for older year groups.

This SLP gives children an opportunity to:

- * Learn about public spaces in the local community and their importance and use by community members.
- * Maintain a public or school garden for the benefit of the local community.
- * Advertise for donations of plants for the garden.
- * Plant and label plants in the local community.
- * Record their work to celebrate with their peers.

Throughout this unit children should be encouraged to think about who uses public spaces in the local community, why maintaining these spaces (or 'keeping gardens beautiful') is important and what their own specific responsibility is over the course of the unit.





SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT 2 FUNDRAISING FOR A LOCAL CHARITY

SERVICE LEARNING
PROJECT 2

TG

**This SLP is for Years 3 and 4,
though it may be adapted for older year groups.**

This SLP gives children an opportunity to:

- * Learn about how a local charity serves the community.
- * Identify the needs of a local charity and think about ways to support and be of service to them.
- * Prepare for and carry out a school fundraising event.
- * Develop friendships and teamwork across year groups.





SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT 3 KEEPING COMPANY IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

SERVICE LEARNING
PROJECT 3

TG

**This SLP is for Years 5 and 6,
though it may be adapted for younger year groups.**

This SLP gives children an opportunity to:

- * Learn about the work of a local community space, for example a nursing home or hospital.
- * Reflect on the social and emotional needs of people who use these facilities, in particular about the importance of spending time with others and sharing conversations.
- * Participate in an outreach event that engages pupils in reading with members of the local community.

