

# Service-Learning

## A Dropout Prevention Strategy and More!

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December 3, 2009



**Solutions**  
*to the Dropout Crisis*

# Words of Wisdom

**You must be the  
change you  
wish to see in  
the world.**

*Ghandi*

**If you think you  
are too small to  
have an impact,  
try going to bed  
with a  
mosquito.**

*Anita Roddick*



# Words

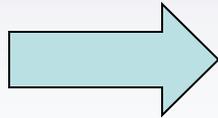
- Inspire
- Enliven
- Envision
- Inform
- Transform
- Predict
- Dream
- Take Us Places
- Surprise
- Mystify
- Provide Dilemmas
- Ideas
- Examples
- Hope



***Words matter – they move us in one direction or another.***

*Deena Metzger, author*

**WORDS**



**Action**



# Quote Art

- Developed **understanding** of quotes
- Took a **School Tour**
- Researched **quotes for different locations**
  - *“Confidence is Contagious, so is lack of confidence.”*  
Vince Lombardi, coach
  - *“I find television very educational, the minute someone turns one on I go to the library and get a book.”*  
Groucho Marks
- Placed **quote placards** around the school
- Created a **scavenger hunt** for students ... in search of uplifting words!
- **Made a CD Screen Saver Art**



# Today's Discussion

- **What is Service-Learning?**  
The **LEARNING** in Service-Learning  
Developing **LITERACY**  
The **SERVICE** and the **LEARNING**  
Community Service vs Service-Learning
- **How does Service-Learning work?**  
Key **Elements** and **Stages**  
Adding **BOOKS**
- **Meeting Needs** of Kids who Question “School”



# What **skills** do students need to be **successful learners**?

- To ask questions
- To listen and retain
- To be observant
- To identify similarities and differences
- To work independently, with partners, and in groups
- To identify and apply their skills and talents
- To acquire assistance as needed
- To be resourceful
  - To gather & manage information
  - To summarize & take notes
- To effectively solve problems:
  - Test hypotheses
  - To follow-through with reasonable steps
- To have **LITERACY** skills that are **transferable**



# Literacy

## Form

- Read
- Write
- Comprehend
- Fluency

## Function

- Civic Literacy
- Cultural Literacy
- Social Literacy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Literacy

Answers the “Why?”





# SERVICE



NATIONAL DROPOUT PREVENTION CENTER/NETWORK AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

**Solutions**  
*to the Dropout Crisis*

# Thomas Alva Edison said . . .

I never perfected an invention that I did not think about in terms of the **service** it might give others . . . .

I find out what the **world needs**,  
**then I proceed to invent.**



# LEARNING



NATIONAL DROPOUT PREVENTION CENTER/NETWORK AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

**Solutions**  
*to the Dropout Crisis*

Educator **Ralph Tyler** said

Learning is like *fish*;  
if you don't use it,  
it won't keep.





**SERVICE**



**LEARNING**



# Aristotle:

Education of the **mind**   
without education of the  
**heart**  is no education at all.



# The Canned Food Drive!

- As **COMMUNITY SERVICE** may look like



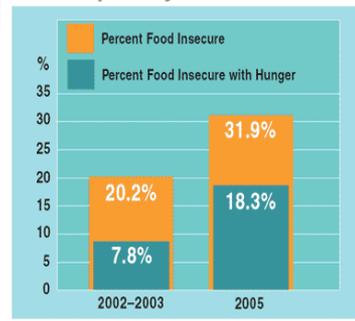
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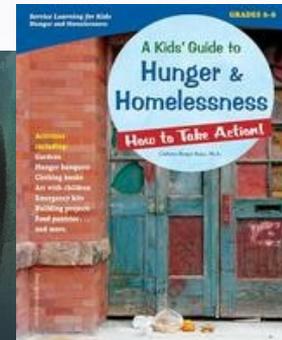
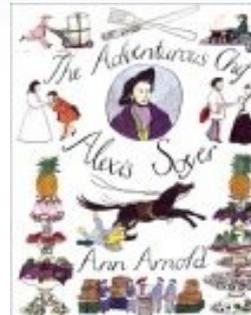
- As **SERVICE-LEARNING** looks like



Food Insecurity and Hunger in Low-Income Communities



Food Insecurity and Hunger in Low-Income Communities in Massachusetts Reached a New High in 2005



=



# Hunger

**How many people in the world do you think go to bed hungry every day?**

- 100,000
- 5,000,000
- 800,000,000

**How many people in the world do you think live on less than two dollars a day?**

- 25% or about 1.5 billion
- 15% or about 900 million people
- 50% or about 3 billion people



# West Hollywood, California Youth Led – Campaign!

- Kids visit food bank
- See FIRST HAND need
- Design a PR Campaign
- Involve ALL GRADES
- Promote in  
COMMUNITY
- Held in **April** (brilliant!)
- Volunteer as “tasters” for  
community cookbook



# K-12 Service Learning Standards

- **Duration & Intensity**
- **Linking to Curriculum**
- **Reciprocal Partners**
- **Meaningful Service**
- **Youth Voice & Choice**
- **Reflection**
- **Diversity**
- **Progress Monitoring**



<p><i>English/Language Arts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><i>Social Studies/History</i></p>	<p><i>Languages</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><i>Theater, Music, &amp; Visual Arts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>Service Theme</p>	<p><i>Math</i></p>
<p><i>Physical Education</i></p>	<p><i>Computer</i></p>	<p><i>Science</i></p>



<p><i>English/Language Arts</i></p> <p>Find examples of how people who are homeless or living in poverty are depicted in literature</p>	<p><i>Social Studies/History</i></p> <p>Interview a public official about government services for people in need</p>	<p><i>Languages</i></p> <p>Research how hunger impacts a country where the language being studied is spoken</p>
<p><i>Theater, Music, &amp; Visual Arts</i></p> <p>Find out which popular artists take action through their music and their public presence to end poverty and hunger</p>	<p>Hunger and Homelessness</p>	<p><i>Math</i></p> <p>Read food labels and discuss percentages of what is nutritious</p>
<p><i>Physical Education</i></p> <p>Create a child-friendly exercise video for a family shelter</p>	<p><i>Computer</i></p> <p>Develop a brochure for a local food shelter</p>	<p><i>Science</i></p> <p>Study the effect of hunger and poor nutrition on student achievement and on adults trying to enter the workforce</p>



# What gives something MEANING?

- **Personalization**
- Ownership – allowing for my ideas and commitment to be taken seriously
- Relevance
- Demonstrable Outcomes
- Engaging with aspects of FUN and CHALLENGE
- **Personalization**



# Five Stages of Service-Learning

- **INVESTIGATION**
- **PREPARATION & PLANNING**
- **ACTION**
- **REFLECTION**
- **DEMONSTRATION**



# Investigation: Personal Inventory

## *Interests, Skills, and Talents*

- ★ ***Interests*** What you like to learn and think about
- ★ ***Skills and Talents*** I can ...
- ★ ***Being helpful*** ... when you helped someone
- ★ ***Receiving help*** ... when someone helped you



# Investigation: Community Need??

- **Media**
- **Observation/Experience**
- **Surveys**
- **Interviews**



# Investigation

- **Inventory Students**
  - **Interests, Skills, and Talents**
- **Gather Information about a Community Need**
  - Observation and Experience
  - Interview
  - Survey
  - Media



**Solutions**  
*to the Dropout Crisis*



# PREPARATION & PLANNING

- Ask Questions
- Read
- Accumulate Information
- Share Ideas
- Research
- Field Trips
- Connect With the Community
- **Plan for Action**



# **ACTION ACTION ACTION**

- **DIRECT SERVICE**
- **INDIRECT SERVICE**
  - **ADVOCACY**
  - **RESEARCH**



# REFLECTION

- **Before Service ...**
  - **During Service**
    - **Following Service**

**Continuous...Connected...Challenging**

Eyler, Giles and Schmiede



*From The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler  
by E. L. Konigsburg*

***“I don’t agree with that. I think you should learn, of course, and some days you must learn a great deal. But you should also have days when you allow what is already in you to swell up inside of you until it touches everything. And you can feel it inside you. If you never take time out to let that happen, then you just accumulate facts, and they begin to rattle around inside you. You can make noise with them, but never really feel anything with them. It’s hollow.”***



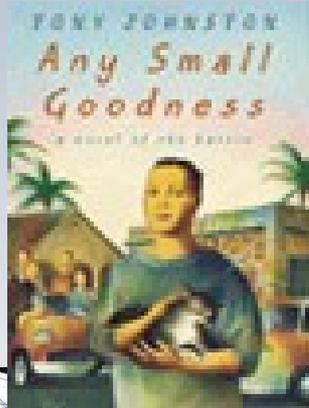
**DEMONSTRATION**

**THE BIG  
WOW!**

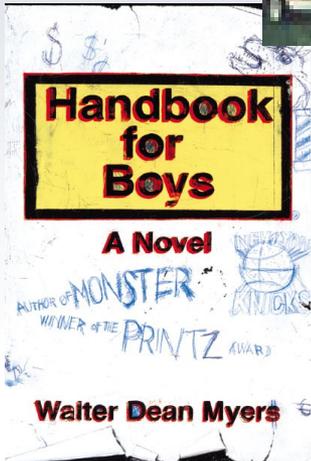
**Findings are illuminated  
Process of learning articulated  
“Public” communication**



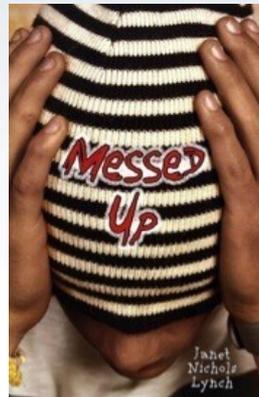
# Literature



- ***Any Small Goodness: A Story of the Barrio***



- ***Handbook for Boys: A Novel***



- ***Messed Up***



# Meeting Needs of YOUTH

- Replace ***Boredom*** with Active Learning +
- Build on students ***Interests, Skills, & Talents*** +
- Strengthen ***Transferable Skills*** +
- Develop ***Mutually Respectful Relationships*** +
- Increase ***Competence and Confidence*** +
- Use ***Engaging Teaching Strategies*** =  
***Service-Learning***



**The purpose of life  
is having  
a life of purpose.**



For More Information

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