

The Service-Learning Framework

by National Youth Leadership Council



Definition

Service-Learning is teaching and learning strategy integrating meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

(National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, 2011)

Standards of Quality Practice

Meaningful Service

Service-learning actively engages participants in meaningful and personally relevant service activities.

Link to Curriculum

Service-learning is intentionally used as an instructional strategy to meet learning goals and/or content standards.

Reflection

Service-learning incorporates multiple challenging reflection activities that are ongoing and that prompt deep thinking and analysis about oneself and one's relationship to society.

Diversity

Service-learning promotes understanding of diversity and mutual respect among all participants.

Youth Voice

Service-learning provides youth with a strong voice in planning, implementing, and evaluating service-learning experiences with guidance from adults.

Partnerships

Service-learning partnerships are collaborative, mutually beneficial, and address community needs.

Progress Monitoring

Service-learning engages participants in an ongoing process to assess the quality of implementation and progress toward meeting specified goals and uses results for improvement and sustainability.

Duration and Intensity

Service-learning has sufficient duration and intensity to address community needs and meet specified outcomes.

Service-Learning Process

