

Community Connections Project



Curricular Learning Targets:

Connections with community

- ways to contribute to community and society that take cultural influences into consideration
- value of volunteerism for self and community
- inclusive practices, including taking different worldviews and diverse perspectives into consideration
- personal networking and employment marketing strategies
- factors that both inform career-life choices and are influenced by them, including personal, environmental, and land use factors

To begin, highlight the the main words in the above learning targets. What NOUNS did you identify? Based on these focus words and the QFocus/Prompt below, take the next 5-10 minutes in small groups with the materials provided and write down as many questions as you can think of. This task builds the skill of asking questions, an essential – yet often overlooked – lifelong learning skill that allows people to think critically, feel greater power and self-efficacy, and become more confident and ready to participate in civic life.

There are four essential rules for producing questions:

- Ask as many questions as you can.
- Do not stop to discuss, judge, or answer the questions.
- Write down every question exactly as it is stated.
- Change any statement into a question.

QFocus / Prompt	What might we learn through connecting with community?
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For this project, you can work alone or as part of a group, to come up with ways of supporting and giving back to the community. This project will take us until the first week of June, giving us the most possible time to accrue hours and experience you can use in job, awards, and school applications.

In your own words:

	What does being inclusive to others mean?	Networking: Ways that you benefit by volunteering?	Employment Opportunities: What might come out of volunteer work?
YOUR answer			
CLASS answer			

Potential Directions

If you, or your group, has an idea not listed below tell me about the idea you have in mind and I may approve if it fits with what we are doing. Note: other classes are doing these types of projects as well (other CLE classes as well as the Taking Action Projects) and it's ok to join forces. Remember, that the purpose of these projects is to LEARN and to gather evidence of your learning.

School Based Ideas

- Organize or get involved in a school food drive. Advertise, plan, and run, including accounting for distributing/delivering food.
- Collect cold-weather essentials for students/families. What items are most needed, range of sizes, a way to collect and store the clothing until it can be distributed.
- Donate your fashionable threads to students and their families.
- Donate/Recycle old phones and other tech to groups in need.
- Hygiene kits for students of CSS
- Develop a new club for students at CSS or host an activity to build community and culture

Community Based Ideas

- Research a local charity that interests you. Connect with and plan ways you can support their charity work. (Food bank, Better Beginnings, Chilliwack Community Services, Meadow Rose Society, Pride, StarFish, etc.)

- Connect with clubs, schools, YMCA, to find out who is need, what they are looking for.
- Collect goods and raise funds to help athletes in financial need.
- Spring forward with a tree-planting extravaganza or community garden project
- Spread joy through the power of books: donate to a classroom, library, or donate to local charity.
- Hygiene kits.
- Trash Pandas
- Support a refugee/immigrant family
- Support Animals in Need: BCSPCA
- Support our elders: Nursing home visits

One-Pager Initial Response

1. What is your guiding essential question that you hope to answer and why is it meaningful to you?
2. How does your project idea create inclusivity?
3. How will you gain diverse perspectives?
4. How will the community benefit from your choice?
5. Who will you need to network with throughout this process?
6. What do you need to plan, market, and organize to meet your goal?
7. How might this experience influence your future career and life choices?
8. How can you work on improving your personal core competency goal as well as keep your peers accountable for theirs?

Project Plan

Based on your project plan decision, begin by researching what needs to be done: who you have to connect with, what is needed from you to meet your goal, what strategies can you try to make it happen, what times/days will work best to spend time on it, etc. For the purposes of this class, Fridays will be set aside every week to work on this project. All members of the group will be expected to add information and evidence of learning to their group Space. In addition, each month you will be expected to complete a monthly progress report in your personal Space: EOL Portfolio.

Wrapping it up

As this project goes into June and assessment/feedback will be ongoing, you will wrap up your learning journey for this project as well as other projects in a final Reflective Learning Interview (RLI). This will be done in two parts if you worked with others (we will discuss the experience, how you feel it went, the challenges you faced, and how your work benefitted the community) as well as doing an individual RLI to discuss the entire semester.