

# Presentation Notes

## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 1



How do you serve others? We all serve in some capacity.

You may serve:

- by helping a grandparent with chores
- as part of an organization that raises funds for the local food bank
- as part of a group that in some ways serves local veterans

Sometimes we serve because:

- we are required to
- we have a passion for helping others
- it is our job

# Presentation Notes

## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 2

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# Presentation Notes

## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 3



Bring Learning to Life  
(click on link)

- Improves academic achievement
- Increases student engagement
- Improves social behavior
- Builds civic skills
- Strengthens community partnerships

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### Bring Learning to Life

This eight-minute video offers insights from teachers, principals, and students who have experienced the benefits of service-learning, and provides an introduction to service-learning as an effective strategy to improve academic achievement, increase student engagement, improve social behavior, build civic skills, and strengthen community partnerships.

[http://www.servicelearning.org/lsa/bring\\_learning/fullvideo.php](http://www.servicelearning.org/lsa/bring_learning/fullvideo.php)

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## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 4

### Family and Community Service

- Improves family life
- Meets needs
- Provides assistance to others
- Applies skills to help others



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Often, when we hear the word community service, we think that it is code for someone who has been in trouble and they have to do community service as punishment. Or, volunteers show up to community wide project sponsored by a city, group, or organization to provide services needed. But, family and community service has a whole other meaning.

# Presentation Notes

## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 5

How do we serve others?

- By identifying needs
- By forming and implementing plans to meet those needs
- By connecting recipients with those who can help
- By doing



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We can serve others in a variety of ways. Let's look at how we can do that.

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## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 6

### Who serves families?

- Churches
- Organizations
- Agencies
- Individuals



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There are many different people that provide service.

Churches – what services do you know they provide?

Organizations – Name some local organizations and how they serve others (Boys and Girls Club, Veterans VFW Auxiliaries, AmeriCorp).

Agencies – What are some agencies that you know about that serve others and what do they do? (Women, Infants, and Children – WIC, Child Protective Services - CPS)

Individuals - How can we serve someone? Give me some examples.

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## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 7

### Service as a Career



- Caseworker
- Childcare director
- Child protective service officer
- Clergy
- Counselor
- Daycare teacher
- Financial advisor
- Personal home care aide
- Probation officer
- Therapist

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There are even people who make a career out of serving others. The list of service careers is extensive but here are a few examples.

Can you think of more examples?

**Caseworker** - an individual who helps clients with issues such as abusive situations, disability, or financial crisis

**Childcare director** - manages programs and activities in a variety of care settings

**Child protective services officer** - law enforcement officer who provides protection to children in domestic situations

**Clergy** - leads worship services in churches and performs other functions including counseling

**Counselor** - provides advice to clients who are dealing with various issues and problems

**Daycare teacher** - delivers instruction and curriculum to children

**Financial advisor** - assists families with management of financial resources

**Personal home care aide** - provides assistance to individuals with activities such as meal preparation

**Probation officer** - assists individual law offenders in abiding to the conditions of their probation

**Therapist** - someone who diagnoses and treats clients dealing with personal issues

What do you consider the top three characteristics of an individual employed in a service related career?

What service related career is of interest to you? Why?

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## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 8

Questions?

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## We Serve – An Introduction to Service Learning

Slide 9

### Resources and References

Images:

- Microsoft Office Clip Art: Used with permission from Microsoft.

Video:

- Bring Learning to Life

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[http://www.servicelearning.org/lsa/bring\\_learning/fullvideo.php](http://www.servicelearning.org/lsa/bring_learning/fullvideo.php)

Websites:

- Achieve Texas

An education initiative designed to prepare students for a lifetime of success

<http://www.achievetexas.org>

- National Service-Learning Clearinghouse

America's Most Comprehensive Service-Learning Resource

<http://www.servicelearning.org/success-stories>

- The President's Volunteer Service Award

A premier volunteer awards program, encouraging United States citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of the United States through presidential recognition to live a life of service

<http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/tp/pvsainfo/dspOrderAwards.cfm>

- Youth Service America

25 Years of Youth Changing the World

<http://www.yusa.org>

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9