



# Gibbs Smith Education

## Lesson Plan

### Citizenship in Action

Explain to students that in addition to creating change in the community and focusing on issues, it is also important to take care of the current people and places by serving in the community. Giving up personal time to make the community a better place to live is being a good citizen. Even small community service acts can make a big difference.

Identify an organization or program in your community that is in need of a service project. Ideas include writing letters to soldiers or first responders, cleaning up trash at a local park, making supply packages, organizing a food drive, organizing a charity event or fundraising activity, visiting a care center, reading to younger children, etc.

Divide students into small groups. Have them organize a plan, divide up work, and determine a schedule for the project. Distribute the Community Service Planner worksheet for students to use a guide to plan their project.

After service projects have been completed, have groups take turns telling the rest of the class about their project. Consider having groups create a presentation using a slideshow program to share photos and information from the project. Then, have students write a reflection on how they think they impacted the community, and how it made them feel.

**Ask:** Why is it important for community members to volunteer their time? *Answers will vary.*



#### Success Criteria ✓

- Students will identify a need in the community and plan a service project to make a difference.

#### Approx. Time 🕒

- 95 minutes

#### Materials ✍️

- Community Service Planner (page 2)

# Community Service Planner

**Instructions:** Choose a program or organization in your community to complete a service project for. Plan what you are going to do, how you are going to do it, what you need to learn, and what materials you need. Complete your project with your group, then reflect on what you learned from serving your community.

**Project idea:**

**Materials:**

**Goal of project:**

**Steps to complete project:**

**What I need to learn to complete project:**

**What I learned:**