



Present Service-Learning to your School Using the Bring Learning to Life Materials

Source: National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, May 2008

For additional resources on this and other service-learning topics visit Learn and Serve America's National Service-Learning Clearinghouse at www.servicelearning.org.



GOAL:

With the *Bring Learning to Life* materials, introduce teachers and school administrators to the benefits of service-learning.

GETTING STARTED:

1. Get in touch with the principal of your local school to discuss setting a date for you to come and make a service-learning presentation. Consider inviting a youth experienced in service-learning to present with you.
2. Ask if interested parents can be invited as well. If so, you may want to contact your PTA President. PTA's often send home a flier with information about the next meeting. Ask to have the service-learning meeting highlighted on those fliers.
3. The annual Learn and Serve Challenge (October 6-12, 2008) can be an especially good time for scheduling an event. See www.learnandservechallenge.org for more information.
4. Contact Learn and Serve America's National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (NSLC) at 1-866-245-SERV(7378) or visit our website at www.servicelearning.org to order the free *Bring Learning to Life* campaign tools (8 minute DVD, brochure, posters, and getting started guides for parents and teachers). Remember to order enough materials for your audience.
5. If the school is unable to schedule a meeting, ask the administration if you can drop off some of the Bring Learning to Life materials for their teacher's lounge

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *Bring Learning to Life* video or DVD and brochures.
- DVD player or VCR to play service-learning promotional video(s).
- Flier for attendees that includes information on service-learning, state-specific statistics and impacts, short testimonials, etc., or you can simply use some of the *Bring Learning to Life* materials.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

Remember that you want to convey a message that will stick in the minds of your audience. Give them clear ideas to take away from the meeting.

- Review the *Bring Learning to Life* materials to get ideas for a service-learning project particularly appropriate for your school or community during the

Challenge or think about ways your school could use service-learning throughout the year. Make notes for discussing those ideas to make the meeting more personal and to help localize the idea of service-learning.

- You can make individual packets containing all the *Bring Learning to Life* information or you can set up a display area to show off the materials.
- If presenting with a youth speaker, encourage them to tell their own story of how service-learning has impacted them personally and academically.

DURING THE MEETING:

- Point out key information that you feel may really connect with your school. Make it personal – service-learning plus your community. Any time you can connect the two together it will help your audience visualize the advantages of a service-learning program at your school.
- Follow up at the end of the meeting by reminding attendees of the benefits a service-learning project can have for youth and communities.
- Answer questions attendees may have. If you're stumped, don't worry. Just send them to the NSLC website for more information or to ask reference questions (contact information is on all the *Bring Learning to Life* materials).

AFTER THE MEETING:

- Contact the principal to follow up on attendee questions, ideas, and feedback.
- Remember that everyone attending the meeting is there for the same reason, to help your youth and your school!

RESOURCES:

[What is Service-Learning?](http://www.servicelearning.org/what_is_service-learning/index.php)

www.servicelearning.org/what_is_service-learning/index.php

[Bring Learning to Life](http://www.servicelearning.org/lisa/bring_learning/) materials

www.servicelearning.org/lisa/bring_learning/

[Resources for Parents page](http://www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/parents/index.php)

www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/parents/index.php

[Learn and Serve America logo](http://www.cns.gov/about/media_kit/logos.asp)

www.cns.gov/about/media_kit/logos.asp

[Why Districts, Schools, and Classrooms Should Practice Service-Learning](http://www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/why/)

www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/why/

[Impacts of Service-Learning on Participating K-12 Students](http://www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/impacts/)

www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/impacts/

[Parent & Family Involvement in K-12 Service-Learning](http://www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/family_k-12/)

www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/family_k-12/

[Service-Learning with Disadvantaged Youth](http://www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/disadvantaged_youth/)

www.servicelearning.org/instant_info/fact_sheets/k-12_facts/disadvantaged_youth/