

The IPARD/C Service-Learning Student Cycle

Investigate

Select a meaningful school, local, national, or global community need or problem that you and your peers want to address. Learn as much as you can about the problem (*inquiry*); then brainstorm a plan of action with your team (*deliberation*). Identify the assets that you and your community have and reach out to possible partners.

Prepare and Plan

Together with your team, create a strategy for change, develop related service and learning goals, outline a common vision for what success will look like, and establish a way to measure your progress. Draft a timeline, a project plan of action, and assign specific roles and responsibilities.

Act

Carry out your project plan. Take pictures and record your activities “before” and “after”, to bring attention to the difference you are able to make in your community. Check back to be sure you are meeting your goals and completing your vision.

Reflect

Throughout your project, think, talk, and write about what you are learning, how you are making a difference, how you are changing your community, and how this project is changing you.

Demonstrate and Celebrate

Share your project’s outcomes and highlights, what you have done, and what you learned in the process. Advocate for sustainable impact by suggesting ways to expand your project or other ways to address your issue, and by teaching others how they, too, can become agents for change.

Investigate Your Issue

Investigate

Select a meaningful school, local, national, or global community need or problem that you and your peers want to address. Learn as much as you can about the problem (*inquiry*); then brainstorm a plan of action with your team (*deliberation*). Identify the assets that you and your community have and reach out to possible partners.

Which community need will you address?

Why is this especially meaningful to you and to others on your team?

What do you know about this issue now?

What do you think you will need to – or want to – learn about this issue to be most effective?

Where do you think you might find this information?

What assets do you, your team, and your community have to help you address and make a difference in this issue?

MY ASSETS	OUR ASSETS AS A TEAM	COMMUNITY ASSETS

Who might be good partner(s) or have resources in the community to help you?

Prepare and Plan Your Response

Prepare and Plan

Together with your team, create a strategy for change, develop related service and learning goals, outline a common vision for what success will look like, and establish a way to measure your progress. Draft a timeline, a project plan of action, and assign specific roles and responsibilities.

What will be your “strategy for change”?

What do you think you want to DO to make a difference in this issue?

What do you think you will LEARN about this issue in the process?

If you are successful, what will that look like?

How will you know – how will you measure your success, and track your progress?

Draft a timeline for your project. Start by asking these questions:

When will you be able to start your project?

When will you need to have your project finished?

How often will you be able to meet with your team to plan for your project?

For how long each time?

Assign responsibilities for your project. Start by asking these questions:

What tasks need to be done – and who is really good at that task?

WHAT IS THE TASK?	WHO WILL DO IT?	WHEN?
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		

Act to Make a Difference

Act

Carry out your project plan. Take pictures and record your activities “before” and “after”, to bring attention to the difference you are able to make in your community. Check back to be sure you are meeting your goals and completing your vision.

Where will your project take place?

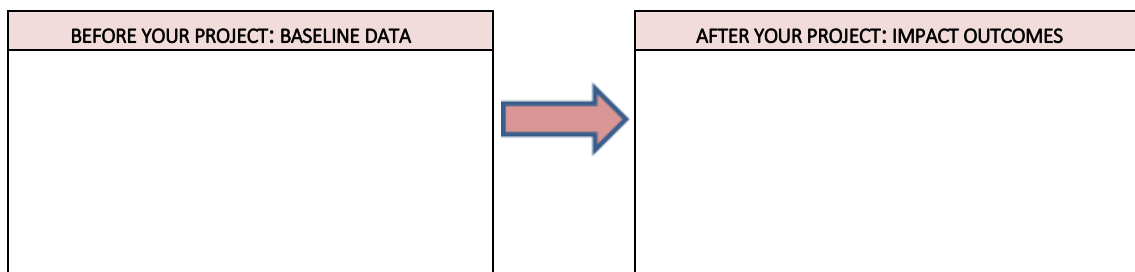
How will everyone get there?

What equipment, tools, materials, resources, and refreshments will you need?

Working with volunteers, what will you need to remember when you:

INTRODUCE YOUR PROJECT?	TRAIN VOLUNTEERS?	GIVE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS?	RECOGNIZE AND THANK EVERYONE?	TAKE PHOTOS AND SHARE STORIES?

What changed as a result of your project?



What went really well with your project?

What might you want to change the next time to make your project even better?

Demonstrate and Celebrate your Outcomes!

Demonstrate and Celebrate

Share your project's outcomes and highlights, what you have done, and what you learned in the process. Advocate for sustainable impact by suggesting ways to expand your project or other ways to address your issue, and by teaching others how they, too, can become agents for change.

As you plan to share the outcomes of your project, ask yourself:

- Who else in the community – individuals or groups – needs to know about what we accomplished?
- What is the best way to present information to those individuals or groups?

WHERE YOU COULD SHARE YOUR OUTCOMES	HOW YOU WILL PRESENT THE INFORMATION

Announce your results in the media. You could:

Write a media release for the newspaper about your project outcomes.

Write an op-ed or letter to the editor to increase awareness about the issue you addressed.

Write an article about your project for the newsletter of the community partner who helped you.

Prepare social media posts: a short Facebook post inviting new friends to "like" what you did, or a Twitter "tweet" to encourage people to follow the issue.

Prepare a short informational presentation for a local public access radio or television station.

What could you do to keep on making a difference in this issue now that this project is finished?

Think about:

What did you learn about *the issue*, from doing your project?

What did you learn about *yourself*, from doing your project?

What did you learn about *the community*, from doing your project?