

Spotlight on Service-Learning

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Around the World in 180 Days!



The world today is literally at our fingertips. At the press of a button on a Smartphone, we can access information that is of the moment. Turn on a computer and link with others around the globe in seconds. Yet with all of this knowledge and connectivity, the needs of people around the world – and in our backyards – are still great.

Service-learning that addresses the needs of others around the world is also known as *global service-learning*. Global service-learning prepares students to address 21st century global challenges. It prepares students for future professions and life in our global community. Global service-learning encompasses service-learning experiences both in the local community and abroad. Incorporating service-learning with a global perspective will allow students to go **Around the World in 180 Days** and develop civic and intercultural knowledge – outcomes that are essential in the 21st century.

Global service-learning helps students become **informed, open-minded, and responsible**. They become **attentive and understanding of diversity** and **learn how their acts of service can make a difference** in the local and global community while underscoring real-world challenges facing our nation and our world.

The Learning to Give [Global Issues Service-Learning Toolkit](#) has K-12 lesson suggestions, ideas for service-learning experiences, suggestions for community partners, and links for student research. Some of the project suggestions include:

- After researching the need, hold a donation drive in the community for clothing, hygiene kits, school supplies, and books for a needy community that students would like to serve.
- Students research global poverty and how people live in other countries. Students then compare and contrast this with their own lives.



Trick or Treat for UNICEF – Kids ask for small donations before or during Halloween. Proceeds go to support healthcare, clean water, and nutrition for children around the world. [Trick or Treat for UNICEF](#)

One great lesson for grades 6-8 is [Nonprofit Meets a Need for Refugees](#). In this lesson, students watch a brief video about the lifesaving need for soap in a refugee camp. Soap is such a valuable commodity that it is stolen and sold on the black market. Without soap, food becomes a contaminant for the refugees. Mr. Kayongo presents a simple, sustainable project that is saving lives of refugees daily. The lesson sets up great discussions about the importance of basic needs and asks students to find a way to address basic needs for recipients in their community or around the world. This lesson could easily be adapted to ANY grade level. It is a powerful way to get students thinking about resources that we take for granted and looking for ways to reach out and meet needs both here and around the globe.

Josie Weiler at Milan High School and her students in her child development class, through the LTG lesson [Global Issues](#), learned how poverty can impact families, especially young children. They focused on the importance of hygiene and proper diapering for keeping young children healthy. They then explored different examples of poverty, especially in Haiti, where many families do not have access to diapers. With the assistance of a generationOn Indiana mini grant, child development students started making reusable cloth diapers and diaper pads to send to Haiti. These were delivered to a local mission group that went on a summer mission trip to Gandou, which is a poverty stricken area of Haiti where they were given to those in need.



Students at Indian Creek Intermediate School in Jamie Rainwater's 4th grade class completed the lesson, [Everyone Can Be a Philanthropist](#), learning how they can give back in so many ways to their schools and community. Students were given basic first aid training. During the training, students learned that many schools in third-world countries lack basic necessities, especially when it comes to first aid care. With the help of a generationOn Indiana mini grant, they put together classroom first aid kits with supplies from a first aid kit drive: band aids, cotton rounds, Neosporin, alcohol wipes, chewable children's Tylenol and digital thermometers for classrooms in Haiti. There are no nurse's stations or offices for many of these schools in Haiti. If children are sick or need a band aid, teachers must supply them so many times students have to go without.



Students at Boonville Middle School in Cody Dupp's class learned details about a school in Uganda and became pen pals. After studying the LTG lesson, [Schools Around the Globe](#), the students gathered needed supplies to donate to their pen pals: shoes, socks, blankets, and school supplies. With the assistance of a genOn IN mini grant, students shipped the donated supplies to their pen pals' school.

Take students [Around the World in 180 Days](#) through global service-learning! Show students that they are an integral part of the community around the world, and they can make a difference.

We encourage all Indiana educators and schools to register on www.generationOn.org so you are connected to our Indiana program and create an account on [Learning to Give](#) where there are over 1700+ K-12 **FREE** Philanthropy lessons. For more information, contact Joan Belschwender, Director generationOn Indiana at generationOn@iasp.org. Contact Beth Smith, Educational Consultant, for free professional development at bethsmithgenonin@iasp.org. See our generationOn Indiana page on the IASP website: www.iasp.org/affiliates/genon/ and on the IMLEA website: www.imlea.org.