We do better in learning, relationships, and career when we have opportunities to be generous and connected in community.

Teaching Social Emotional Learning through Generosity in After-School Programs
Learning to Give helps educators and youth leaders prepare students to be generous and find their role in community.
Today we are talking about how social and emotional learning (SEL) is strengthened through students discovering their role in community.
Today’s Challenge

• Most youth think about their future based on the limited options they see around them.
• Research shows youth feel isolation and anxiety, esp. during COVID.
• Youth have little experience or opportunity with taking responsibility to address conflict and challenges.
• Youth often aren’t familiar with the diversity of their community’s assets or the nonprofit sector.
Our Solution

- Connect youth, classroom and community
- Needs-based service-learning
- Exploration of passions and unique gifts
- Sense of purpose
- Engage and connect remotely
Why Teach Generosity?

Your After-School Program can have a *Learning to Give* focus where a caring community is as important as academic success. We all have something to give, and we do better in learning, relationships, and career when we are generous and connected to others in community.
“My students don’t realize their voices are part of the community conversation. Learning to Give lessons and activities help them discover what they care about and show them ways they have a voice in their community. Only they can give their time away.

Being generous is a major self-awareness boost for my students when they understand the power they have to help others.”
– Amy Heilman, 7th-grade ELA teacher
SEL Competencies – Relation to Generosity

1. Self-Awareness – my role in community
2. Self-Management – how my words and actions impact others in community
3. Social Awareness – reflection on the needs of the community and how the community responds to needs
4. Relationship Skills – doing good makes me and others feel good and valued
5. Responsible Decision-Making – my ability to make decisions for the good of all
Experience in Community Empowers Youth

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9kUVfUI WhYs&list=PL0cYSdjkPk9 bVy9eVLOvOax6YLtHq cwTK&index=14
SEL - Self-Awareness – Develop Community Role

Activities:
1. Blue Sky Activity- [LINK]
2. Simple Safe Service Project
   Conversations with Grandparents - [LINK]
Blue Sky Activity

https://www.learningtogive.org/resources/blue-sky-envisioning-activity

This activity will help students define community, discuss what they like about their community, identify needs, and then explore first steps they can take to address community needs.
Self-Management – My Words and Actions
Impact Community

Activities:
1. Mindful Minute - Set a timer for 1 minute, close your eyes and focus on only this question, “What can I do for my community by using my time, treasure or talent?” After the minute is over, write down some of the ideas you came up with.

2. SMART Goal Activity - Pick one of the ideas you came up with from the mindful minute activity and write a SMART goal. Use the linked template from Scholastic.com - [LINK](#)

3. Simple Safe Service Project - Boosting Happiness Through Neighborhood Art - [LINK](#)
Social Awareness – reflecting on needs of the community

Activities:

▪ Video yourself with daily hellos and encourage students to connect by sharing messages and videos.

▪ Share high points and low points each day.

▪ Build community with each other and others through letter writing.

▪ Ask reflections questions each day.
Relationship Skills – what helps others feel valued

Activities:

One Plastic Bag Activity- Read the book, *One Plastic Bag*. There are YouTube options available. After reading the book, use a graphic organizer to determine what the conflict (problem) was that needed to be resolved and how the main character resolved it. - [LINK](#)

Simple Safe Service Project- Gratitude for Essential Workers - [LINK](#)

Simple Safe Service Project- Spread Peace, Say Something - [LINK](#)
Responsible Decision-Making for the Good of All

Activities to build empathy:

1. What would you do if you saw a friend being bullied?
2. What would you do if an elderly person in the community needed help?
3. What would you do if you saw trash on the ground?
4. What would you do if your family needed help with chores?

Simple Safe Service Project - Reduce Plastic - LINK
What Is Philanthropy?

Philanthropy education and service-learning align knowledge and skills with students' innate caring and generosity.

1. Students become aware of needs larger than their own (purpose);
2. Students are engaged in activities that apply and expand their learning (mastery); and
3. Students take a role in directing their own experience (autonomy).

https://youtu.be/Mlf-Em7dmvw
"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all."

-Aristotle
Addressing Stress

A group of 3rd graders from NYC planned and carried out a service-learning project called “Don't Stress the Test.” Ms. Andreolas used the Community Health and Safety Learning to Give Unit to lead into a service project where students conducted research about stress relief. They learned yoga and meditation, created stress balls, made an informational video, posters, and a song to perform in other schools. The students used a survey to determine the health issue that they wanted to focus on.

They shared the information they discovered and distributed the stress balls they made.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQ8jbu-vne0&feature=youtu.be
After-School Resources

Module One: Introduction to Giving and Making a Difference in Community

The learner will:

1. define philanthropy, community and what it means to take action for the common good.
2. identify and lead students through the stages of the service-learning process.
3. reflect on stories and motivations, values, talents, and giving passions.

https://www.learningtogive.org/teach/after-school
Website Tour

Read more about Learning to Give here.

Get Started – 10 ways
- Build Community – identifying interests and team building
- Develop Skills and Knowledge – tips and tools
- Take Action – service-learning process

Issue Area Toolkits – great for guiding instruction or youth action

Professional Development – 45-minute self-paced online courses with a quiz and certificate – Try Student Activism or Infuse Learning to Give into Your Teaching before we meet again.

Lesson Search – type in a content-area term, service area, or community theme (also search by content standards)

Simple Safe Service – guides to share with families this summer
"I have skills and talents to make a better world."