

Career Preparation Service-Learning Projects



Elementary

- Students studied graphing techniques and came up with a school-wide survey to determine favorite hobbies and activities. Based on the results, they invited appropriate community experts to participate in an end-of-year field day.
- Students spent time with senior citizens. Students wrote and shared creative stories featuring their senior buddy as the main character. The stories were historically accurate and showed the character's career development and career options during that time. The stories were published and donated to the local library.
- Disturbed by the lack of recycling in their town, students worked with town officials and the regional waste management director to teach the community about waste management and resource conservation.
- Students worried about heavy traffic near their school. They collected data and presented findings to the local police department and town council. Students were responsible for the installation of a much-needed traffic light.

Middle School

- Students held a career fair for younger students to help them understand career options and the world of work.
- With a local consultant, students learned about multiple intelligences and learning style preferences, and then organized and held a community fair to inform others.
- Students worked with a conservation group to design and produce an educational video and CD Rom about the city's trail system. They also administered a long-range needs assessment and brainstormed future projects to meet the needs.
- Working with the local library, students developed ethical and legal standards for using the new computer lab.
- Students partnered with a bank and stockbroker to learn about budgeting, savings options, and the stock market. They decided to hold a Financial Information Night to teach the community about the benefits and drawbacks of each option.
- A class collected data from students and worked with the guidance counselor to organize monthly guest speakers for the school focusing on various professions.

High School

- Working with a local career center, a sociology (or family and consumer science, or vocational) students developed informational materials for displaced workers. They distributed their information materials to local town offices, libraries, community centers and businesses.
- An alternative education program teaches all subjects within the context of its bakery. Students sell their all-natural breads and pastries locally, routinely mentor interested younger students, as well as, decide upon the local institutions that will receive donated baked goods.
- Hospitality students didn't like the guide to local sites and attractions. They decided to work with the Visitors Bureau and Historical Society to develop a new one for teens. Their work included digital photography, power point presentations, and videography.
- Students worked with the state agency on ageing to learn about the problems and needs of the elderly. They learned that many senior citizens are not aware of the services that exist. They decided to develop a resource packet to place around town. Their website included more information and links to other helpful sites.
- Concerned about the digital gender gap, students held a Technology Career Fair for 7th graders.
- Students organized seminars to teach younger students job seeking skills - such as resume writing, interviewing, etc.
- Concerned by studies on student stress level, family and consumer science students taught middle school students how to reduce stress and balance multiple and conflicting responsibilities.