CSL Project Ideas

This document is a listing of CSL project ideas. The summaries are brief outlines of CSL projects that may be developed in the future.

**McCarthy Towne**
Jean Oviatt, Grade 4 “Planting Trees”
- Plant a tree in a public place
- Who benefits: Skate park
- Community Experts: Tom Tidman, town conservation department
- Students help to identify where, types of trees, keep journals
- Curriculum: plants unit, literature
- Assessed through journal keeping

**Blanchard**
Faith Hulbert, Grade 3 “Quilts for Babies”
- Issue: poverty/homelessness, illness
- Who benefits: babies born with the HIV virus
- Community experts: Quilting Club
- Students help identify need: through literature, “The Family Under the Bridge”
- Curriculum: Literature unit on quilts, intergenerational, math components
- Health Curriculum tie ins – illness, nutrition
- Reflection: group share-drawing, journal writing

Lorraine Apgar, Parent “Introduction to Boxborough Library"
- Need: Introducing, teaching library features
- Time period: Jan-April, 2005
- Who benefits: Library/Elderly Citizens
- Experts: Council on Aging, Library Building Committee, Friends of Boxborough Library

Other ideas:
- Recycle Paper
- Awareness of water use, publicity
- Pen Pals

**Douglas**
Liz Fitzpatrick, All-day K “Birdhouse Project”
- Time period-March-April
- Who benefits: birds, students, community, high school students making houses
- Experts: Tom Tidman, (At high school, contact Jack Dempsey, woodworking teacher) Acton Bluebird Recovery program
• Students: where to put birdhouse, discuss habitat
• Curriculum: Bird unit “A House is a House for Me”
• Reflection: Journal writing, discussion
• Other: letter writing, pictures, thank you note, brainstorm, nature walks

Stephanie Dow, Grade 1 “Boxing Day”
• Need: hunger, need for warm clothes
• Learn a tradition from other countries plus tie in math with tallying and graphing how much is collected
• Collect clothing and canned goods Monday through Friday, count and “box” on Friday
• Partners: Salvation Army, Community Supper
• Experts: Community Supper Liaisons
• Student Ownership: where is it donated, what do we collect, conversations
• Curriculum: Math, tallying and graphing; Social Studies

Cheryl Breslin, Grade 4 “Douglas Recycles” (With buddies at all grade levels)
• Time line: All year, currently in place

Conant
Aurora Winters, Grade 4 “Where’s the Water”
• Awareness/Conservation of water in school
• Time line: Sept-Dec.
• Who benefits: students/town/school
• Experts: Water Dept.
• Student ownership: Keep track of water usage at home; Article in Crier or Beacon
• Curriculum: Water meter, land and water science unit; water cycle

Valerie Farley, Grade 3 “Pen Pals”
• Need: Involving elderly in the classroom environment
• Time line: throughout the school year, one letter a month
• Who benefits: Both the 3rd graders and elderly
• Experts: Acton Council on Aging
• Student Ownership: through literature, decide on topics of letter

Jennifer Bergh, Grade 6 “Birthday Greetings”
• Need: Isolation of Elderly
• Partners: Acton Council on Aging
• Curriculum: Language Arts, Art

Nancy May, Grade 4 “Food Pantry: Thoughtful Donations”
• Need and Service: Collect donations for food pantry
• Curriculum: Students analyze their donations, do nutritional study of ingredients, protein, etc. Design “balanced meal donations” Tie in to nutritional studies.
Merriam
Leah Jordan, Grade 2 “Fresh Produce for Soup Kitchens/Shelters”
  • Need: Fresh produce
  • Spring through June
  • Who benefits: Gaining Ground
  • Experts: Gaining Ground
  • Curriculum: Plant unit
  • Reflection/Assessment: Journal writing, group discussion

Leah Richardson Grade 3 “Recycling: A Home for Your Scraps”
  • Need: Less waste, environmentally friendly
  • Who benefits: The school, the environment
  • Specifics: advertise, find volunteers, ask waste management co. for donation of bins, pickup, schedule for pick-up; fundraiser for disposal, town grant for waste issues? use recycled paper, use high school students for pick up; PTO, junior high and high school
  • Curriculum: Letter writing, advertising-writing for an audience

Karen Sonner, Grade 1 “Toys/Activities for Playground for Disabled Students”
  • Need: Students with special needs
  • Time line- Spring
  • Who benefits: Disabled students
  • Curriculum: Unit on disabilities
  • Other: Contact local sports company

Karen Sonner, Grade 1 “Letters to Elderly”
  • Need: Elderly Isolation Curriculum: Acton Long Ago