

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/Assesment: 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