



Engaging Your Class in Social Action

All across Canada classrooms, youth organizations and community groups are involved in social action. We want to help educators create and run successful projects, ensuring that everyone in the group is part of the process from beginning to end. Here are 10 tips to help you plan an inclusive community action project from start to finish.

- 1. Choose a project**
There are so many good causes out there that as an educator, it is best for you to have an idea of the path you would like to direct your group toward before getting started.
- 2. Brainstorm**
Gather your students together and create a list of organizations you would like to help, or create a list of projects you could achieve while helping one specific organization.
- 3. Make a timeline**
Have the group create a clear outline for their social action project with realistic dates for completion of tasks. Use the calendar and have them create a plan.
- 4. Involve the whole group**
Find a project that meets the needs of everyone in your group, to the best of your ability. Make sure everyone in the group has a specific task so that they feel involved in the project.
- 5. Contact the organization**
Having the students in your group do the leg work and contact the organization is a great idea. It gives them ownership of the project. Depending on the age of your group it may be a good idea for you to contact the organization as well to make sure everything is on track.
- 6. Get Informed**
Have your students compile important educational information and statistics so they can become experts and use the information collected to promote their event and spread the word.
- 7. Collect Supplies**
- 8. Reflect & Debrief**
It is important to have some sort of round table discussion with everyone involved. Reflecting and debriefing throughout the project gives everyone a chance to describe what is happening and connect their personal experiences with one another. Ask leading questions to help facilitate your debrief.
- 9. Share**
Have you group share their success with the organization and community at large.
- 10. Start planning your next event!**