

Personal Development: 7th - 9th Grade Series

Lesson 2: Service to Others

Estimated Lesson Length:	Approximately 1, 50 minute class period
Recommended Grades:	7-9th
Related LifeKnowledge Lesson:	LifeKnowledge MS.58: Defining Service
Objective(s): The student will be able to:	
✓ Identify the importance of service to others ✓ Appreciate what people do to help us.	
Materials, Supplies, Equipment, References and Other Resources:	
Newspapers, magazines, one large sheet of poster board, scissors, glue, cardstock cut into fourths (for thank you cards), markers, activity page (One per student) (AS 4.2)  	

Lesson Plan:		
STEPS (What to Do)	Procedures (How to Perform the Step)	Time*
1. Interest approach  	After completing attendance and announcements to begin the class, have students take out a pencil and paper. Pass out "Activity Page for Service." (AS 4.2) Then have students write down all of the people that they have come in contact with throughout their day, excluding other students. Give them 3-4 minutes to complete this. Then in the middle column, students should list the service that these people provided to the students (even if the service may not be obvious). For example, on the left side might be 'Older Brother' and the service that they provided was to 'drove me to school.' For each person that they came in contact with, they should be able to identify a service that they performed. Give them 5-8 minutes to complete the rest of the activity.	10-15 minutes
2. Define service.	At the bottom of this paper, have each student write a definition for service, in their own words. Have them share with the person next to them, and then with one more person. Have students respond out loud to summarize their definitions. Capture the key portions of the definitions on the board.	15 minutes
3. Research service opportunities	Provide students with current print periodicals (magazines, newspapers, advertisements). Have each student look through the materials and look for pictures or articles that represent some facet of service. Have them cut out the picture, label the service with a Sharpie marker and paste it onto the poster board. The poster board should become a collage of different service opportunities that exist or that are demonstrated on a daily basis. Students should continue to add to the collage until all of the poster board is filled and each student has added to it.	10- 15 minutes

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Lesson Plan cont.:		
STEPS (What to Do)	Procedures (How to Perform the Step)	Time*
4. Brainstorm service	Each student has an opportunity to serve people. In the school, in their homes, in their communities. Have them return to their first lists. On this page on the far right column, have students label it "My Service" and then list services that they could provide to the people listed on the left side of the page. What can students do to make these people feel appreciated for their service? What can they do in return?	5-8 minutes
5. Write thank you cards	To close the class today, the students can leave only after they turn in a thank you card. Pass out pieces of cardstock, cut into fourths. On this cardstock, they need to pick a person who was on the left side of their original paper. They need to write a letter to one of these people. They should start this thank you card by stating, "I realized today that you helped me by ____." If they finish early, they can decorate their cards.	10 minutes
6. Closure	Collect activity pages and thank you notes. Tell students that after their agriculture teacher returns and looks at their activities, the thank you notes will be returned to them to give out. Debrief with students that one way we grow as individuals is to appreciate those things that others do for us. When we realize the nice things that people do we are more likely to "pay it forward" and to do nice activities for others. Writing thank you cards is a quick and easy way to show others we appreciate them. When finished, thank the students for their work today! If teacher is gone more than one day, tomorrow the students may continue to work on service in another way in Lesson 3. Please then assign daily grades (as suggested on the Information Page) and write this on the attendance sheet. Submit attendance sheet to the office.	2 minutes

Example thank you note (on cardstock):

Thank You for Your Service

Dear Sarah,

I just realized today that you drive me to school on a daily basis. Although I never tell you, I really like the fact that I don't have to ride the yellow school bus. I hope you know how much I appreciate it!

Thanks again,
Julie

Activity Page for Service

Person	Service	“My Service”

Service is:
