

# Lesson Title: Get Involved

**Grade Level: Middle School** (could be adapted for grade 9)

**SEL Competency: Social Awareness**



## **Lesson Purpose:**

Introduce students to opportunities for service learning and to encourage students to make friends within their new school.

## **Essential Question:**

What ways can I be generous with others at my new school?

## **Materials and Preparation**

Paper and writing utensils

## **Procedures**

### **Activity 1**

Watch video: Service-Learning Garden [several students planting a garden]  
[3:30 minutes]

### **Activity 2**

Using your knowledge of students place in groups of 2, 3 or 4. Students will brainstorm and develop an idea for a service-learning projects that could be conducted at your school.

## **Ask students to answer the following questions:**

What do you think would be a good service-learning project for our school?

What need could it fulfill? Or, who would this project help?

How many people would it require?

What roles would need to be filled in order to complete the project?

Have each group share out about the activity they developed.

[15-20 minutes]

### **Extended Activity 1**

Have student groups refine their ideas for a service-learning project and have students present ideas to the school administration or leadership team to attempt to implement projects.

## Extended Activity 2

Either individually or in groups, have students research the problem of food deserts that some communities and neighborhoods experience. Students could also research various solutions that have been proposed and/or implemented to respond to the problem of food deserts.

## Conclusion

### Discussion questions:

Why is it important to get involved with a service-learning project?

Who benefits from service-learning?

[3-5 minutes]