What is Service Learning?

- Service-Learning is a method of teaching and learning:
  - changes lives by engaging students
  - provides relevant hands-on service for schools and communities
  - gives students the opportunity to gain and apply valuable knowledge and skills related to classroom studies

After students read this definition, ask them to individually write the definition in their own words. Next, have them work with a partner to write a definition. Keep revising until the class has created a definition they all understand.
This is a simple plan that will help you put a service learning project into action. Look at them step by step on the next slide.
The first step of Service Learning is to identify a concern by looking and listening. There are many ways to identify meaningful community needs. (Give students opportunities to do some of these activities and list the needs they see or hear about. They can work independently or in small groups. After they have had opportunities to look and listen, use one of their concerns or discuss the example provided throughout this presentation.)

An example is students might observe bullying at the high school and among younger students where they work with primary students.
Service learning projects can involve direct action in which students respond to a community need by interacting with and impacting the service recipient or site (for example, by sewing fleece blankets for the homeless). Indirect service builds an infrastructure or capacity to respond to the community need (for example, conduct a canned food drive and pack Thanksgiving baskets for people in need). Research and Advocacy service is when students find, gather and report on information to raise awareness of a problem and/or advocate for change in the condition of the underlying community need (for example, breast cancer awareness). Teens in our community are special.

What type of needs do they have? What are some things they might not want to openly discuss, but are real needs in their lives?
Service learning projects can be fun and beneficial to the community. There are specific steps in accomplishing the service learning project. Investigation: What we know already and what we will need to learn to meet the community needs. Preparation/Planning: Our learning goals and what we will study to reach them. Action: How I applied new knowledge and skills. Reflection: How I changed because of what I learned. Reflection is important because students will tie the service with learning. Demonstration/Celebration: How we showed and shared what we learned.

The elderly have different needs all together. What sort of needs do they have that we as a class might be able to reach? Please discuss in your groups and we will share your ideas with the class.
What needs does our school have? What opportunities for service learning can make a difference right in our high school? Brainstorm in groups of three and determine what types of service learning you can start working on. You can make a difference!!
Remember ...regardless of the need you choose to address, you must be able to directly connect it to one of the TEKS for our class...this is why it is called service learning instead of community service.
It is important to examine the issues. Discuss the needs you discovered and choose one to examine with the techniques on this slide.

Give students time to try some of these research techniques on their problem or the example of bullying.
Now it is time to agree to take action. Use these skills to agree on a specific issue. It is important to focus on the issue and narrow the scope of the problem to specific needs.
The first step of the FCCLA Planning Process is to look and listen. There are many ways to identify meaningful community needs. (Give students opportunities to do some of these activities and list the needs they see or hear about. They can work independently or in small groups. After they have had opportunities to look and listen, use one of their concerns or discuss the example provided throughout this presentation.)

Example: students might observe bullying at the high school campus and among younger students at an elementary or middle school.
It is always important to set goals. They need to be specific and include ways to measure the results. The goal will guide the project and let you know if you accomplished what you wanted to improve or change.
The next step is to form a plan. Discuss the issue in small groups and devise a plan. Give each group one of the questions to consider. List and record their responses as groups report to the class. Ask students to reflect about the answers. Are their other questions we should consider?
The next part of the process is the Act step. If we decide to complete the project, this is where we go into action. We would complete these things as we work on the project.

Step 4. Act - Execute the Plan

- Document activities
- Work with partners
- Keep a journal
- Take pictures and videos
- Analyze data

REFLECT
We are almost finished with the process. Now we review the outcomes...how did it go? Was the plan effective? Why or why not? What could be done differently? Did you meet your goal?
This is also the time to assess how well the high school students met their educational objectives. Do they have the skill or knowledge that was identified at the beginning of the plan?

Let’s get started...
How wonderful is it that no one need wait a single moment
Before starting to change the world.
Anne Frank
### Resource and References

#### Books


#### Websites

- **Cathryn Berger Kaye**
  - Web page of international service learning consultant and author.
  - Includes free curriculum materials and information about her books.
  - [http://www.abcdbooks.org/curriculum/quotes.html](http://www.abcdbooks.org/curriculum/quotes.html)

- **FCCLA**
  - [http://texasfccla.org/Service_Learning.html](http://texasfccla.org/Service_Learning.html)
  - Information about Service Learning activities and opportunities in Texas FCCLA

- **National Service Learning Clearinghouse**
  - A webpage with lesson plans, success stories, and information about other resources for service learning.
  - [http://servicelearning.org](http://servicelearning.org)

- **National Service Learning Partnership**
  - A nationwide network for teachers and students to share their stories and resources.
  - [http://www.service-learningpartnership.org](http://www.service-learningpartnership.org)
**Resource and References**

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<td>Good Character</td>
<td>Character Education Resources</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.goodcharacter.com/SERVICE/service.html">http://www.goodcharacter.com/SERVICE/service.html</a></td>
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<td>GoToServiceLearning</td>
<td>A site that includes lesson plans organized by topics, grade levels, and areas of study.</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.gotoservicelearning.org">http://www.gotoservicelearning.org</a></td>
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<td>Do Something Good</td>
<td>DoSomething.org harnesses teen energy and unleashes it on causes teens care about.</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.dosomething.org/">http://www.dosomething.org/</a></td>
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<td>Volunteer Match</td>
<td>Find a Great Place to Volunteer</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.volunteermatch.org/">http://www.volunteermatch.org/</a></td>
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<td>Youth Service America</td>
<td>Provides resources and funding for service learning. Students can register their projects.</td>
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