Service learning is an instructional approach to give children opportunities to make positive contributions to the world. Because young people make a difference by meeting real community needs, service learning gives them more motivation to learn, a greater understanding of how to put their learning to good use, and a sense of democracy in action.

Rationale	★ Promote academic, social, and civic development in children ★ Empower young people to make a difference ★ Provide opportunities for diverse groups to come together to make meaningful change ★ Diverse groups can gain a better understanding and appreciation of one another
Examples	Materials – Activity plan development, debrief and reflection time Activities ★ A youth program focused on youth leadership might design its whole program around engaging young people in leading children's activities in an after-school program. The youth participants design the curriculum, lead the activities, debrief and problem-solve together, and reflect on the leadership principles and practices that they are utilizing through the service project. Interactions ★ Provide learning processes that will prompt and guide participants to: ○ Deepen understanding of the content areas you seek to address. ○ Internalize skills, information, and perspectives from the service experiences. ○ Be challenged to think at a higher level about themselves, other people, the world, and the issues of the day ★ Keeping a journal (print, online, audio) throughout the service-learning project. ★ Giving oral presentations or demonstrations. ★ Writing essays or blogs, or creating a video about the experience. ★ Developing products to be used for the project. ★ Creating diagrams, work plans, maps, and other tools used during the project. ★ Writing research papers on background information.
	★ Notes for Next Time: (time used, reactions to activity, staff/children interactions)
Resources	★ [Service-Learning in Community-Based Organizations: A Practical Guide to Starting and Sustaining High-Quality Programs](#)