

# Definitions

## Service Learning:

Active citizenship demonstrated by identifying and studying a real community need, carrying out a planned project of action, and evaluating the importance of these activities.

### 3 COMPONENTS:

#### **1. Preparation:**

First step of service learning in which students cooperate with teachers and community members to:

- Identify issues affecting the community (homelessness, environment, senior citizens)
- Select project site and type of action
- Explore the concept of citizenship

#### **2. Action:**

Second step in which students carry out their service through one of the following:

- *Direct Service:* helps to alleviate specific community needs through face to face contact with those being served, (teaching someone to read, tutoring, serving meals in a soup kitchen)
- *Indirect Service:* Channels resources to the problem, (collecting food, raising money, walk-a-thons, clean-up)
- *Advocacy:* Works to eliminate the causes of a problem and to inform the public about the issue. (letter writing, performing plays, presentations)

#### **3. Reflection:**

The final step in which students look back upon the project and review what they have learned. May be done individually (journals, scrapbooks) or as a group (class evaluation, discussions, videos).

#### **What is not Service Learning?**

- Office/Guidance/Nurse's Aide
- Babysitting a neighbor for free
- Earning money/points/credit for the service
- Participating in fundraisers