

Service Learning Investigation Activities

INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY	EXAMPLE(S) OF HOW I CAN USE THIS ACTIVITY...
NEEDS/ASSETS LIST	
WALKABOUT	
MEDIA SEARCH	
SITE VISIT	
MAP	
SURVEY	
INTERVIEW	
WEB QUEST	

Needs/Assets List - Create a list of the needs in the community and a list of the positive things to celebrate in the community. Needs include things that need to improve, need to change, need be made better, or need to be developed.

Walkabout – Take a walk around the community recording observations of what is seen, heard, etc. This can be focused on a specific topic (i.e. accessibility, safety, environment) or the community in general.

Media Search – Scan newspapers, or listen to radio or TV reports, for information about the community.

Site Visit – Visit important sites in the community; soup kitchens, thrift stores, nursing homes, and any agencies where people get help.

Map – Make a map of the community including points of interest and concern, also indicate the locations of important resources. Highlight potential sites for service.

Survey – Create, conduct, and share the results of a survey that will help others gain a better understanding of the community. A survey can address a wide range of community issues or assess knowledge and experience of a specific issue (i.e. water conservation, disaster preparedness, bullying, etc.).

Interview – Interview various members of the community or experts in a specific topic area to determine their ideas for service projects as well as the role they could play in a project.

Web Quest – Search websites for information about the community (i.e. census data, historical info, social services available) or specific issues of interest (i.e. hunger, cancer, literacy, childhood obesity).