

COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING:

A hands-on approach that enhances the curriculum by using community people and places as resources for learning

Teacher utilizes the environment of a local river to teach unit on ecology

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

An activity that engages young people in addressing needs that benefit their schools and communities

Students pick up trash, bottles and cans along the banks of a local river.

SERVICE-LEARNING:

Method of teaching / learning that challenges students to identify, research, propose, implement solutions to real needs in their school or community as part of math, science, social studies, etc.

Students discover that water quality in a local river is degraded and decide to conduct water quality tests and research possible contamination sources.

Students and teachers connect the project to science, math, social studies, and language arts curriculum and relevant state standards. They work with a local environmental group to design the project and ensure that testing meets professional standards. Students analyze and prepare written and oral presentations of their findings. Local group then uses data for their monitoring and watershed restoration programs.