Service-learning
Objectives

1. Differentiate between service-learning and community service.

2. Follow the steps to implement a service-learning project.
Service-learning is Different from:

• **Volunteerism** — people who decide to perform service for others without pay

• **Community Service** — community volunteering, perhaps as a result of a court order or probation sentence

• **Youth Service** — an overarching term for all approaches that involve community youth as resources

• **Experiential Education** — a term describing educational approaches that emphasize learn by doing
Service-learning:

- Is a method for individuals to learn and develop through active participation
- Is organized to meet community needs
- Promotes civic responsibility
- Builds the educational component of the program
- Encourages participants to reflect on the service experience
- Helps volunteers learn about their personal strengths and interests
Types of Service-learning

- **Direct Service**: provides assistance directly to members of the community

- **Indirect Service**: involves a “behind the scenes” approach to provide service

- **Advocacy**: seeks to resolve an issue facing the community
Elements of Effective Service-learning

• Engages youth
• Involves meaningful service
• Develops problem solving skills
• Applies skills learned
• Requires cooperation
• Includes reflection
Steps of Service-learning

- Select a project
- Set objectives to accomplish
- Prepare for the project
- Perform service activity
- Reflect on the experience
- Evaluate the project
- Celebrate the group’s accomplishments
Reflecting on Service-learning

• Reflection distinguishes service-learning from other service projects.

• During reflection, ask questions such as:
  – What did the volunteers learn?
  – Why did their project matter?
  – What will they do now?
Time to Share

Share creative reflection ideas that would allow a group to reflect upon their service-learning project.
Benefits of Service-learning

- Self-esteem
- Empowerment
- Critical thinking
- Civic responsibility
- Leadership
- Communication
- Team building
Conclusion & Quiz
Sources


