

Thank you for taking part in the AP® with WE Service program! Use this guide as you think about service learning and your approach to your project.

## WHAT IS SERVICE LEARNING?

Service learning is an approach that combines what you're learning in the classroom with performing service outside of it, solving problems in your local communities and beyond. Through the AP with WE Service program, you can make a positive impact in the world around you with what you've learned.

## WHY PARTICIPATE IN AP WITH WE SERVICE COURSES?

AP with WE Service students say that it helps them:

- ▶ Apply what they're learning in the classroom to real-life settings and situations
- ▶ Enhance skills necessary for college such as: leadership skills, critical-thinking abilities and communication skills
- ▶ Demonstrate their commitment to civic engagement by adding the AP with WE Service recognition on their transcript
- ▶ Work with classmates to make a positive impact on local, national and global communities

## BENEFITS OF SERVICE LEARNING:

- ▶ Learn about your community
- ▶ Practice skills that you'll use in college and beyond
- ▶ See how your voice can make an impact today
- ▶ Connect with others while designing your project
- ▶ Understand how what you're learning in class links to your community and the world
- ▶ Spend time at school doing good while you learn

**"I'm grateful for this opportunity because it gives me a chance to work toward something so much greater than myself."**

– Mission Viejo High School student, California

**"In school we are used to learning about issues in class, but with WE, I was able to actually apply what I learn to my community. I had always had an interest in humanitarian work, and this program cemented my aspirations to work in International Development."**

– Marisa, Student, AP® Environmental Science



# Student Project Ideas

Need some inspiration for your local and global service projects? Check out what other AP® with WE Students have done to make the world a better place!



## AP® European History

- ▶ Study barriers to education and ways that people have overcome them throughout history. Help others overcome barriers to education by setting up a drop-in reading buddy program at a local elementary school or community center and motivating others to get involved.
- ▶ Learn about the causes and effects of poverty over time and how responses to poverty have shaped people's actions. Think of ways you can tackle poverty in your own community by doing a Needs Assessment and connecting with local organizations already embedded in this work.



## AP® Environmental Science

- ▶ Define the criteria for clean water and reasonable access, assess your own access to clean water, and learn about purification, conservation, and sustainability. Increase awareness by hosting a water walk, where students emulate the experience of families who must travel to access water. Tie this event to a fundraiser to increase access to water in other communities.
- ▶ Extend what you are learning about the environment to help businesses reduce their ecological impact. Research and create business plans for local restaurants to increase their organics recycling, or create posters to encourage students to compost their food waste during lunch. Consult with an expert to learn how to compost effectively and safely.



## AP® Human Geography

- ▶ How has the development of agriculture altered the natural environment? Research the positive and negative impacts of agriculture and present your findings to raise awareness, or educate others about different types of farms, the farm-to-table movement, and sustainability.
- ▶ Learn how access to health care affects population and demographic issues. Help others increase access to health care by organizing a donation drive of personal care and hygiene items.



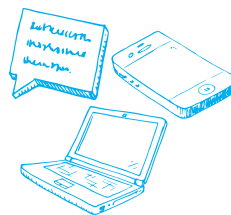
## AP® Spanish Language and Culture

- ▶ Learn how changes in the environment affect local and global communities. Research projects include comparing environmental topics (carbon footprint, recycling, water quality, etc.) in Spanish-speaking communities and presenting your findings, then finding ways to spread awareness about the positive ways those communities are already addressing environmental issues.
- ▶ Learn how poverty affects education in your community and communities in the Spanish-speaking world. You can address poverty in your own community by raising awareness about the issue and providing resources for tackling it. Partner with global organizations already addressing the problem.



## AP® 2-D Art and Design

- ▶ Learn how artists address their interests in and concerns about the natural environment. You could present a photographic investigation of how the natural environment changes with increased development, or collect recyclable materials to create sculptures.
- ▶ To help displaced persons in your community, host a film screening or student art exhibition to raise awareness about the topic. Instead of tickets, have attendees bring a donation item, such as art supplies or hygiene essentials. Donate the items to those in need at home or abroad. You could also teach art to those who might be displaced.



## AP® Computer Science A

- ▶ Practice app development while investigating causes and effects associated with access to health care or education.
- ▶ Partner with another school or community organization that works with children/youth and set up a program where AP® students teach younger students about coding or other computer skills.

Some of these service project ideas came from our very own AP® with WE Service students! Reach out to your teacher if you have questions about specific service projects, and join the conversation or share your experience using [#APWEServe](#).