

Linking Social Media Tools to Take Action

Elements of Quality S/L	Web Ideas	What have you done? (post ideas, your name, & org)	What resources should others know about?
Investigate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find potential project ideas and curriculum on the SLICE curriculum idea database on the National Learning Clearinghouse Website (http://servicelearning.org/slice/index.php?ep_action=share). Then contribute your own examples so others can use them. Have youth gather data from the Web on local issues and to identify potential partners and interviewees for their investigation project. They can also access extensive information on various methods for investigating community priorities and needs. Use Wikis or other collaborative creation tools to create your investigation tools, allowing youth to design the questions, methods, and strategies even when they are not physically able to gather for planning. Demonstrate the results from your investigation by having young people post video blogs or other user-generated content on the Web, then encourage local organizations to link to the postings as a way to share learning about the community. 		
Prepare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize an online project-planning site to work through the logistics of the project, inviting youth leaders and partners to have access to the site for real-time updates. Check with youth and community partners about the online tools they're using so that you do not have to introduce a new platform. Try the "my!TeamPlanner" tool on Facebook that allows you to share documents, create to-do lists, schedule, make announcements, and facilitate discussions in a way that is integrated with young people's Facebook use. 		

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Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have young people video document the service-learning project (or create their own video diaries) for posting on video-sharing and other social networking sites. • Encourage selected youth to Twitter about their experiences during the service activities. • Invite youth to blog about their service-learning experience. (If the service is being provided far from home, this becomes an important way to keep others up to date on how the project is going.) 		
Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a private group on Facebook or another social media site, and have all youth join it. Then pose questions (and have youth pose questions) for reflection. Have them find and upload links to online resources, videos, and other material that helps with reflection. • Encourage young people to share their reflections through their own social media sites, then link to your program site. • Identify online communities that are addressing the underlying issues or concerns of your service-learning project. Encourage young people to share their experiences, perspectives, and questions with the advocates and experts who are part of that online community (keeping in mind, of course, appropriate precautions to ensure young people's safety). 		
Demonstrate & Celebrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have youth create e-portfolios in which they purposefully collect and showcase their learning and impact. An e-portfolio may include a variety of digital artifacts, including self-reflections, video clips, comments from adult leaders, peers, parents, and community partners. These can then be evaluated in light of learning and growth objectives, and they can contribute to the larger program evaluation and story-telling. These e-portfolios can be interactive and dynamic 		

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	<p>through using Wikis, blogs, and other online tools. More information is available at http://electronicportfolios.org/.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have youth participate (with appropriate supervision) in online communities where people are dealing with the issues they addressed through their service experience. Have them contribute their stories, ask questions, and share their perspectives. • Submit your project idea, story, or photos to the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse (www.servicelearning.org/library/share/index.php), which will often share the information nationally through their Website, electronic newsletters, and other venues. 		
Sustain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep information on your service-learning current on your service-learning current on your organization's Website, and encourage youth to share their stories and testimonials through posting blogs, videos, or other information. This can help stakeholders recognize the value of the program to their vision. • Ask youth to create videos of examples of how your program implements the quality standards for service-learning. Post these on the Web and use them to orient new staff and volunteers. • Use social networking sites (such as Facebook) to connect with other service-learning professionals to get new ideas to renew your programs and your commitment to service-learning. 		