

8th Grade Service Learning

How it ties into 8th grade curriculum: **Lessons on Natural Selection & Environmental Effect on Genetics** (MS-LS3-1, MS-LS4-4)

Possible School Service

To complete service day(s), students will first research how to control mosquito populations and with that knowledge, students will survey the school property and look for areas that mosquitoes can breed in standing water. We will eliminate the sources of those breeding grounds by removing or repositioning empty pots and containers that hold standing water.

Students can video record their findings and show people at home how to find standing water sources and how they can eliminate or modify the position to prevent breeding grounds.

Students can also research how to create or improve the environment to encourage natural predators of the mosquito like bats, birds, dragonflies and other animals. Students can build these environments at home and set them up at home in their own backyards or on school property depending on feasibility and permission. Students will scout out the environment to see where these environmental components can be placed on school grounds, if acceptable.

Project based Services:

Community Issue: **Students will choose between one of these issues to research, create a presentation on how they can help with this issue in Milltown, and then make a pamphlet to be posted.**

Project Name:	Description
Mosquito Pathogens	Investigate the diseases and viruses mosquitoes carry. Determine the most prevalent pathogens as well as their effects on humans and other organisms. Using the internet, library, and other resources, students can create a PowerPoint or brochure to share with the community.
Mosquito Population Control	Learn about the breeding grounds of mosquitoes and how to reduce their population. Using the internet, library, and other resources, students can create a PowerPoint or brochure to share with the community.
Natural Predators	Use the internet and other resources to gather information about mosquito predators and the predator's ideal environments. Students will research the cost, the materials needed, and the placement of these objects in the environment. The information can be shared with the public.
Natural Pest Control	Learn alternative methods of pest control and the different impacts that these methods have on the environment. Create a brochure to demonstrate how everyone in town can do this and not use harmful pesticides.

Pre-Reflection

- Students in their groups, will look over the list of types of projects they can do their project on.
 - They will talk about what they already know about mosquitos, their breeding seasons, and what they can do to share their information with the community in the most effective way. Using their previous knowledge, they will choose the best project for their group.

Research

- Students will research their topic. They will brainstorm and come up with a concept map of how they want to create their presentation Google Slides and their pamphlet in Google Docs.

Presentation & Pamphlet

- Students will take all of their research on their chosen topic and create a presentation in Google Slides. This presentation will be presented to the class.
- Students will also come up with a pamphlet summarizing their presentations that can be shared on Parent Square to help bring awareness to the Milltown Community.

Reflection

- Students will then reflect (in a Google Doc) on how they think their project went, and how they will use the suggestions they provided to help the environment.

Topic Resource Site:

<https://people.wou.edu/~girodm/670/MiddleSchoolProjects.pdf>