

# Issue stage: Seeds of service family project

Telling youth what project to do and what cause to support won't make as big of an impact as encouraging them to research the issue and the cause on their own. This process will allow them to develop their own passion for the issue.

## OBJECTIVES

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Involving youth in the investigation and planning stages of a service project allows them to discover their heart to serve. They begin to see their own ability to make a difference, explore their passions and convictions, and develop their empathy with people in need. After completing the inspiration stage of the investigation process—identifying what cause or issue each member will address—the club will move into the **issue stage**. Now, the students will research and discover more about the cause that they have chosen. Research will help them identify the greatest needs of the cause and decide how they can help their cause through a service project.

At the end of this activity, each K-Kids member will:

1. Understand the process of researching and educating themselves on an issue or cause to best identify a service project.
2. Be able to articulate why the cause is important and what type of service project is needed to most effectively benefit the cause.
3. Will be self motivated to carry out their service project, will gain confidence and will ignite their heart to serve for the cause.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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In the inspiration stage of the **investigation process**, each K-Kids member brainstormed about their personal interests and experiences. Through this process, each member should have come to a conclusion about what kinds of causes or issues interests them most. In the second stage, the **issue stage**, K-Kids members will now research and educate themselves more fully on the cause they selected.



## GUIDING THE ACTIVITY

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1. Make a copy of worksheet. One for each club member.
2. Ask club members to reflect upon the inspiration stage that they completed for their service project. Have each member identify what cause they have chosen and why they are passionate about helping this cause.
3. Lead a discussion with your club members. Ask questions to help members think about and understand how they can make the most impact with their service project.
  - What do I already know about the cause that I have chosen to help?
  - What are some things that I still need to find out about my cause?
  - How can I research and learn more about this cause so that I can ensure that I create the best plan for me to help this cause?
4. The worksheet can be a tool in this process of personal investigation. Depending on the available time and students' abilities, this worksheet can be completed independently or through discussion. At the end of the process, each student should have a plan on how they will research the cause to answer some of the following questions: why there is a need for a service project for this cause; what is currently being done for this cause, and what is the best way for them to get involved with this cause.
5. Using future meetings and time outside of the club, encourage members to continue researching and planning how they will make an impact on their cause. Ask them to talk to their family members about how they can help with the service project as well.



# Seeds of service family project worksheet

## Issue stage worksheet

As a member of K-Kids, I have participated in service projects with my club. Now I am excited to continue service outside of the club. Through the **inspiration stage**, I identified a cause that I am passionate about helping. By answering the questions below, I can come up with a plan that will help me learn more and figure out the best way to do a service project that will greatly benefit this cause.

1. What cause or issue have I chosen to help with my service project? Why do I want to help this cause?

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2. What do I already know about this cause?

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3. What else do I need to know or learn about this cause to select my service project?

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4. How can I research and learn more about this cause?

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5. Who could I interview about this cause?

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6. Where could I learn more about this cause?

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Make a plan. On the back, identify 5 questions I need to answer to determine what service project will best help this cause.

