**Service Learning Projects**

Volunteering and Service Learning

There are many ways service learning can be incorporated into Pre-ETS instruction. As a provider, you may initiate and provide service learning opportunities, but it is also possible that students may already be involved in a service learning activity. Service learning activities involve a structured, reflection component that should be highlighted during your instruction. You can use your instructional time to connect what they learn during their service to exploring job options and providing work-based learning experiences.

1. **Developing work skills.**

Guide students to reflect on the types of tasks they do at their service learning site and what work skills they have or are developing through service learning.

* What skills do they have that they bring to service learning?
* How do they communicate with others during service learning? Who do they primarily work with while on site?
* What types of work-related tasks did they develop during their experience?

1. **Reflect with students on their PINS and how they used them during service learning.**

Guide students to reflect on their preferences, interests, needs and strengths as they relate to their service learning experience.

* How does the service learning project match their goals and interests?
* Do they prefer working with adults, children, the elderly, animals, or nature?
* How did they show their strengths during their Service Learning project?

1. **Create artifacts that demonstrate the long-term commitment to service learning projects.**

If students are engaged in service learning projects in our outside school, support students in creating artifacts that will demonstrate their ongoing learning and enhanced community responsibility. Sample artifacts could include:

* Photographs from service learning sites
* Written or video reflection
* Notes or feedback from a supervisor, colleague, or customer

**Example: Weekly Babysitting Event**

If students’ service learning project is to host a weekly babysitting event, you will want to make sure you support it through activities related to Pre-ETS.

**Develop a plan for the event**

* + For example, students decide on a date and time for the babysitting event and email flyers

**Identify soft skills and technical skills needed for the event**

* Soft skill example: Communication with parents
* Technical skills example: Students supervising children will need to be CPR certified

**Reflect on the event – Successes and Challenges**

* Example of challenge identified: Students did not have enough activities for the children they were babysitting so the children became bored

**Problem-solve challenges and make improvements**

* Example of improvement plan: Students plan more activities and design a more structured schedule for future events

**Review and reflect on what students learned about work by participating in service learning**

* Example: Students learned that time management, organization, and communication are important factors when working with others