MLK Day of Service
Project Ideas

**Martin Luther King Jr**

**Steps for a Successful Service Project**

Directions: Below are possible ideas for projects. Review the MLK Day project guidelines below and see what fits your/teams capacity:

1. **Identify a community need, and organize an event or donation drive**. For example, you can collect donations of books and supplies for your school or service site, blankets for a homeless shelter or food for a food bank; or you can organize a volunteer event doing environmental cleanup or serving meals at your local shelter etc. Your project can also include both collecting donations and providing a service, such as collecting food donations and then volunteering at your local shelter to cook meals for the homeless.
2. **Identify a suitable book** (if you serve at a school) that fits with the themes of MLK Day (civil rights, building community, engaged citizenship, etc.) and organize school activities around it (read it at an assembly, have each class read it, older kids read to younger, etc.).

**Steps to Decide What Project to Do**

 Directions: Discuss with your supervisor(s) the design of the event or donation drive and write the answers to each question

1. Talk to your site supervisor about possible project ideas. Ask your supervisor for feedback about the needs at your school or community. Write possible project ideas below.
2. What resources can your service site obtain/provide to support the project ideas discussed? For example, can you recruit volunteers at family engagement events? Can you make an announcement at an upcoming board or Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting? Does your service site have connections with other organizations that can provide volunteers or donate goods?
3. Share your suggestions for books that fit the MLK theme with your supervisor and ask them if they have a preference or suggestion. Get a copy of the suggested book(s) from the local library. Write the titles of the books you selected below.

**For Event or Donation Drive Projects:**

1. Describe the project you selected and what community need the project will be addressing. How will your community participate in this project?

**For MLK Book Projects:**

Select a book and literacy activities. Please answer the questions below.

1. Describe the project you selected and what community need the project will be addressing. How will your community participate in this project?
2. What book(s) did your team selected? How is this book related to the MLK theme?
3. What activities will your group implement to engage students in MLK Week/Day?

**Checklist for Organizing MLK Day Project**

Directions: Use the checklist below to help you determine what you need to do to organize this project. There are blank rows at the bottom in case you need to add items.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Description  | Yes | No  | Comments  |
| Do you need to contact external organizations to organize and implement this project? For example, do you need to contact your local shelter/food bank/ community volunteer organization?  |  |  |  |
| Do you need additional materials than those provided by your school or service site? If so comment on how you plan to get them.  |  |  |  |
| Will you advertise this event to engage your local community of recruit volunteers? If so, how?  |  |  |  |
| Can you get prior approval from you school/parents/volunteers to take pictures of the event?  |  |  |  |
| Will your school be closed during MKL Day? If so, what will you do that day? Remember that you can use that day to drop off donations to get service hours (but you do not necessarily have to serve that day).  |  |  |  |
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