Vision stage: Seeds of service family project

“Making an impact on a cause can be daunting for a young person. They want to change the world, but can be skeptical that one person can make a difference. Adults MUST tell them and show them that they can make a difference. Adults can inspire students to make a difference.”

OBJECTIVES

Congratulations! We have reached the final stage of the service project’s investigation process. Back when members completed the inspiration stage, they developed a passion for the cause they have chosen to serve. In the issue stage, they researched and conducted interviews to determine how to best serve that cause. In this final stage, members will use their passion and research to develop a final plan for their service project. This is the vision stage.

During this activity, each Builders Club member will:
1. Develop a detailed plan for a service project based on their research.
2. Understand the investigation process and how to plan a successful service project.
3. Gain confidence and discover their heart to serve for the cause and be self-motivated to carry out their service project.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During the vision stage, members develop a plan to make the most significant impact. They will outline steps they need to take, resources they will need and people they will contact to carry out their service project successfully.
GUIDING THE ACTIVITY

1. Make a copy of the Vision Stage worksheet. One for each club member.

2. Lead a discussion with your club members.
   **Reflect:** Ask club members to reflect upon the inspiration and issue stages that they completed for their service project. Have each member identify what cause they have chosen, why they are passionate about it and what they have found most interesting about the cause through their research.
   
   **Plan:** Have the students begin to think about developing steps to accomplish a goal. Discuss a hypothetical project such as doing a park clean-up. You may lead the discussion by asking:
   
   - What supplies do you need to get started? (e.g., trash bags, gloves, rakes, etc.)
   - When will you do it? (e.g., after school, during the weekend)
   - Who can help you? (e.g., family, friends)
   - Do I need to get permission from anyone to do this? (e.g., city or town official, land owner)
   - In what order should you do these steps? (Help students understand that certain activities should be accomplished in a particular order—such as asking friends when they can help *before* setting a date)

3. The Vision Stage worksheet can be a tool in this process of personal investigation. This worksheet can be completed independently or through discussion, depending on the available time and students’ abilities. After answering the questions, members should have the information they need to create the steps for their project. At the end of the process, each student should have a plan on how they will execute their service project.

4. Using future meetings and time outside of the club, follow up with club members on how their service project plan is going and where they are in the process of executing it.
As a member of Builders Club, 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. In the issue stage, I researched this cause and gathered facts and information about what is currently being done for this cause. By answering the questions below, I can come up with a plan that will help me make a difference through a service project.

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

2. What important information did I learn about this cause through my research?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

3. What organizations currently exist to help this cause?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

4. What is my vision for a service project? Or is there already a service project that I can join?
   __________________________________________________________________________

5. What materials will I need for my service project?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

6. Who should I contact about helping with my service project?
   __________________________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

Make a plan. On the back, identify the steps that will need to be taken and in what order they should be done to execute a service project that will help this cause.