

How to Use This Guide

This book guides you through the KIDS Framework, helping you plan and facilitate a successful service-learning process. The information and tools included are for use at elementary, middle and high school levels. While you may choose to focus on those chapters most relevant to your situation, we recommend that you read Chapters 2 and 3—at a minimum—as they provide essential background for subsequent activities and tools.

- ▶ **Chapter 2** suggests *planning to do before introducing service-learning to students* (the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment “cloud”).
- ▶ **Chapter 3** outlines ways to *engage students in the initial phase of service-learning* (Step 1 of the KIDS Framework, and the Collaborative Environment and Reflection “clouds”).
- ▶ **Chapter 4** covers the steps involved in *discovering and investigating problems* (Steps 2-3 of the Framework).
- ▶ **Chapter 5** guides the *selection of appropriate solutions* (Steps 4-5 of the Framework and the Public Relations and Celebration “clouds”).
- ▶ **Chapter 6** describes how to *plan, implement and evaluate a solution* (Steps 6-8 of the Framework).
- ▶ **Chapter 7** recommends ways to *make service-learning part of your future teaching practice and environment*.



Throughout the guide, there are numerous tools to help you plan and carry out your project. Many of these interactive exercises engage students, encouraging their ownership of the project. Clean copies of tool worksheets are available in the Appendix to photocopy for classroom use. You may find these tools helpful for activities beyond your service-learning project; we encourage you to adapt them as needed.



Sidebars throughout the book entitled “Election Project” help illustrate how steps of the KIDS Framework play out in practice through a service-learning project designed to increase voter turnout.

“The national quality standards for service-learning have significantly helped with our training of teachers, administrators and community partners. Using those standards in conjunction with the KIDS Framework has generated a much deeper and more engaged understanding of both the what (national standards) and the how (KIDS Framework) of service-learning. It’s critical to understand the relationship between the two.”

— Matt McLane, Service-Learning Coordinator, Montpelier, VT Public Schools