

service



learning

What is service learning?

A service learning project educates students on problems found throughout their community while empowering them to take action. By participating in service learning projects, students learn firsthand how they can make a difference.

Who can participate?

Any school, after-school group, organization, club, troop, faith-based organization or adult service providers can complete service learning projects.

How does it help?

The SPCA is a non-profit organization that is supported by our community through donations. These projects will benefit your group by promoting citizenship, encouraging responsibility, increasing attitudes of respect and enabling youth to actively make a positive difference in our society.

Where can I learn more?

To learn more, contact the Humane Education Department at (716) 799-8651.

You can also visit the SPCA or check us out at YourSPCA.org.

Take it up a notch!

Collaborate with the SPCA for any of the following programs or services:

Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest

Community Presentations

Shelter Tours

PACK Manual

Volunteering or
Wish List Collections

Fundraising or
Change Drives

Wildlife Presentations

To learn more about these services,
contact a humane educator at 799-8651.

Let's DO This!

Complete Your Service Learning Project By...

1. Identify your group's educational and personal objectives.

2. Get the participants excited! Start brainstorming and make a timeline.

3. Contact the SPCA to discuss your ideas.

4. Begin planning and preparing with your group.

5. Get to work! Empower your group and talk about your efforts.

6. Reflect along the way.

Take pictures, make announcements and share your progress with others.

7. If you need help, contact the SPCA.

Make arrangements for tours or presentations six weeks in advance.

8. Celebrate your hard work!

Share the good news with others to inspire them to start their own project!

Service Learning Projects for:

Cats and Kittens

No Sew Fleece Blankets

What do you need?

- Two pieces of fleece (20" x 14" or 18" x 24" with 3" fringe)
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Scissors

1. Place the two pieces of fleece on top of each other.
2. Cut a 3" x 3" square out of each corner of you blanket.
3. Then cut 3" into both pieces of fleece 1" apart on all of the sides.
4. Tie the two pieces of fleece together using basic overhand knots.



Ring-a-ding

What do you need?

- Milk jug rings
- Felt
- Scissors



1. Cut 1" x 4" strips of felt.
2. Tie a tight overhand knot with a strip of felt around the milk jug ring.
3. Tie felt strips onto the ring until there is no plastic left showing.

Feather Cat Toy

What do you need?

- Cat toy template
- Scissors
- Wool Felt
- An iron
- Jingle bells
- Satin cord



Full instructions for this Martha Stewart toy are at:
<http://www.marthastewart.com/264923/feather-cat-toy>

Service Learning Projects for: Dogs and Puppies

Fleece Braided Tug Toy

What do you need?

- Fleece
- Scissors

1. Cut three strips of fleece 3" x 3' or 4'
2. Knot the strips together about 3" from one end.
3. Have someone hold the knotted end and tightly braid the fleece strips together.
4. Tie a tight knot at the end of the braid.

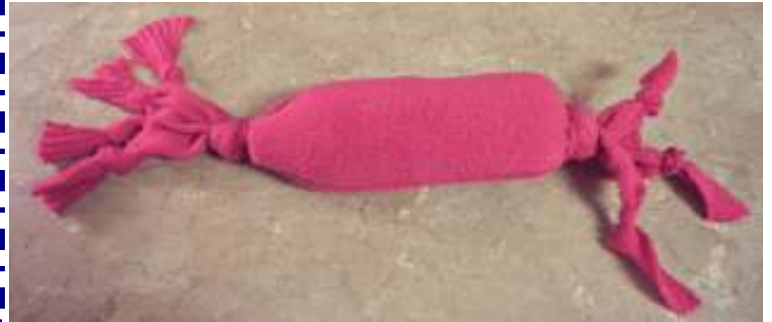


Sock and Water Bottle Toy!

What do you need?

- Long socks
- Empty clean water bottles (remove plastic rings)
- Scissors

1. Position the water bottle in the middle of the sock.
2. Tie knots in both ends of the sock.



Ball Dog Toy

What do you need?

- Ball (tennis ball or squeaky ball)
- ½ yard of fabric (an old shirt works too!)
- Small fabric strips
- Scissors

1. Cut the fabric into two strips about 6" x 14"
2. Fold fabric strips in half and wrap around the ball.
3. Wrap a small fabric strip several times close to the ball.
4. Cut the tail of the fabric into strips about 2" wide then braid three strands at a time tightly.
5. Tie knots at the end of the braids.



Service Learning Projects for: Small Animals

Timothy Hay Filled Toilet Paper Roll

What do you need?

- Empty toilet paper rolls
- Timothy hay

1. Purchase timothy hay from an area pet store.
2. Get toilet paper rolls.
3. Stuff timothy hay in toilet paper rolls.



Treat Ball

What do you need?

- Empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls
- Scissors

1. Flatten the roll.
2. Cut off small strips of the roll so that you have small circles.
3. Take four or five circles and fit them together into a ball.



Grass Braids or Mats

What do you need?

- Long strands of timothy hay
- Scissors

For the braids:

1. Take long strands of timothy hay and braid them together.
2. Tie off the ends with a few pieces of hay.

For the mats

1. Take long strands of timothy hay. Weave them together to form a small mat.

http://www.squidoo.com/homemade_rabbit_toys

Firework

What do you need?

- Empty paper towel or toilet paper rolls
- Scissors

1. Cut the tube into 2-3inch smaller tubes.
2. Cut slits into the tube.
3. Gently bend the cardboard pieces backwards.



Service Learning Projects for:

Wild Animals

Simple Bird House

What do you need?

- Safety glasses
- Jig saw or circular saw
- Hammer
- Drill and drill bit
- 1" thick wooden board
- Finishing nails/screws
- Wood glue
- Paint



When finished, hang the bird house in a tree!

Assistance and supervision from a parent or adult is the only way to complete this project. For complete instructions on how to build this bird house visit:

<http://www.howtospecialist.com/outdoor/simple-birdhouse-plans/>.

Pine Cone Bird Feeder

What do you need?

- Pine cones
- Butter knife
- Crisco
- Birdseed
- Ribbon or yarn
- Scissors



1. Cut a long length of yarn or ribbon to hang the bird feeder. Tie the ribbon around the pine cone about 3 inches from the top and then tie a knot at the end.
2. Use the knife to spread Crisco inside the pine cone and around the edges.
3. Sprinkle the birdseed over the pine cone or roll the pine cone in birdseed.
4. Hang the bird feeder in a tree.

Squirrel Nesting Box

What do you need?

- 1/2 sheet of 4' X 8" plywood will make 1 squirrel box
- 1 pair of 1 1/2" utility hinges
- 1 hook and eye closure (1")
- 1 1/4 " or 1 1/2" wire nails, 17 or 18 gauge
- Non-toxic stain and Shellac
- 2 heavy duty nails for nailing box to tree

For detailed directions on how to cut the plywood and the specific dimensions that you will need, visit

<http://www.squirrel-rehab.org/misc/greysquirrelnestbox.html>.