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Service learning is cool… for the right people

Throughout the entire time I was going through this reading I found myself nodding my head in agreement with all the things being said through out the passages. Service learning is an important thing that should be utilized more than it currently is

The stance that the reading takes on how service learning teaches people about major issues in the world by requiring them to volunteer at organizations that help to combat some of the horrible things happening today, is something that I can personally attest to as I have felt this in the short time that I have spent volunteering already. For example, an organization like Convoy of Hope that will send food to people who need it can help people really understand how many people are having to rely on these organizations for food along with giving them a taste of what it is like to contribute to making other people’s lives better. Do things like provide food for those who are affected by disasters and the homeless, plant trees to help combat deforestation, or to provide care for children.

The prospect of kids being exposed to learning the real world through this kind of service is a very positive thing for any community that it would be introduced into as it would prepare kids for the world when they grow up and eventually have to fend for themselves instead of relying on others to do things for them. They would learn how to do things for themselves, think for themselves in things such as world politics and societal changes.

The other claims that the reading makes about how service learning helps to improve things in school like grades, attendance, and overall mood as kids who have engaged in these programs have shown to be sent to the office or get into trouble less than they did before being in the program.

As for the section of the reading that mentions careers and how service learning can both prepare people for having an actual job and instill some urgency to help with some of the issues that the organization they volunteered with are already tackling.

The part of it that I didn’t quite get was who the reading was making its point to when it got to the subject of careers that can form as a result of these service learning opportunities. This part of the reading doesn’t really make that much sense to me because while . If service learning was really as big of a proponent in someone’s interest in careers, then would there be more workers in fields that relate to “biology and environmental safety” than we did before programs like this were being implemented? While it is true that we have seen more general awareness of things like environmental safety in recent years, that is largely due to general awareness of these issues being raised through media and politics than something as small as service learning programs in middle school.