

Place-Based Education

IDEA ESTABLISHED 2017 | FOR K-12 GRADE STUDENTS

Students learn to take care of their world by understanding where they live and taking action on issues related to their own communities.

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Try This Idea

1. Before you begin, do your homework. Identify interesting issues that are sufficiently narrow and relate to the local community.
2. Have students surface their interests, passions, and prior knowledge about their community, and these local issues.
3. Get outside! Take your students to visit local businesses, civic organizations, and neighborhoods to identify opportunities to problem solve.
4. Give students time to gather information, prototype solutions, and present their work to their teachers and relevant community members.

Intended Outcome

Increase student collaboration with classmates, desire for learning experiences outside of the classroom, and connection with their communities.

Measurement Methods

Think about interviews and surveys to capture first-hand accounts from students. An observation protocol would help you record their behavior outside the classroom. Also, if students are engaging with community members, ask these people how the interactions went!

“We don’t always need a teacher, because we know our goal and we learn from each other.”

VICTORIA, 2ND GRADE STUDENT