

# *Reflection on S-L and class curriculum through quotes*

EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY - EDUC 1111

*Spring 2021*



# *Students Reflection*

## **Best highlight of their Service**

"The best part was definitely seeing the kids' excitement about gardening and learning about food/gardening/environmental sciences. While they were all initially shy with me, I loved seeing them come out of their bubble when we introduced topics and activities that interested them."

"Watching kids improve their understanding on a topic and helping them get there."

"Being able to interact with my tutees regularly, getting to know both the students and the other volunteers."

"I really enjoyed getting to know my students. Whether it was laughing about a story they told or discussing which anime shows I should watch next, it was a joy to learn about their lives and work with them."

"I got the chance to lead an activity that many of the students actually participated."

"I really liked interacting with the kids and watching them grow."

## **Most surprising/difficult part of doing service-learning online and tips to share**

"Students with poor internet and students who don't want to turn on their cameras. I would advise to be patient, understand that students have reasons to not have their cameras on, and use the chat function. It's also helpful to include games or other interactive activities to keep the kids engaged."

"Overcoming technical difficulties and lost communication due to different factors, like distractions, unstable internet, loud settings. My advice would be to be patient and to continue trying. When necessary talk to the coordinators or the partners."

"The most difficult part was the fact that it was online and it was a bit difficult to interact with the students."

"Cameras, I now never shut off my camera unless I'm doing something really embarrassing, teachers wanna see our faces and see our reactions. It helps them a lot during these stressful school years."

"It was very difficult to monitor and engage with students when they could have their cameras and microphones off. If you run into this problem, you may need to persistently and politely ask the students to turn both on."

"I think everyone would agree that the pandemic has radically changed service learning, and introduced many issues. It can make it hard to connect with students, but trying to open every session with a bit of chit-chat about their day, and encouraging them to turn on their cameras helps bridge the gap."

# *Class Curriculum and Service Connection Reflection*

"I connected the ideas of the "inner city" and urban school narratives with the service-learning, as all of the students go to Boston Public Schools. I also tied the "Holler if You Hear Me" memoir to this service-learning, as I related a lot to what the author wrote about. The book constantly reminded me to be patient and to see the students as a person with many aspects of their lives that we might not know."

"Much of the values taught by the educational equality movement came into play. The students were very similar to students I have met in my own, more sheltered community."

"Acknowledging students' cultures, the things that they actually have to deal with, in order to connect what they are learning to what they live."

"I felt like I was connected to the students because I have been learning more about the culture of the community."

"We learned about alternative teaching styles in class, such as letting the students guide the teacher and having learning be more open-ended. So instead of rigidly mandating my students to get specific work done on a strict schedule, I tried to let them go at their own pace, and encouraged them down whatever learning path seemed intrinsically motivating to them."

I really look at the history of education in Boston and it all added up to the current state of education, which was the students I was working with. They were all so smart and creative, but it was obvious that the schools they were going to didn't give them the resources and supplies to truly thrive.

