



Students find out unique local “NEEDS” by checking the news, internet, and other sources.



Local newspapers, enough copies for groups of 4-5; Internet access and devices for each group; Other local resources like ads on grocery store bulletins (photos or copies of them, optional); Scissors; Highlighters.

Total Prep Time: 15 mins.



As this is the first Monday of the month, please consider sharing or re-sharing highlights from the Monthly Kick-Off, and if appropriate, monthly video.

4 C's	SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING	SERVICE LEARNING
• Critical thinking	• Self-awareness	Integrated learning
• Communication	• Self-management	High quality service
• Collaboration	• Social-awareness	Collaboration
• Creativity	• Relationship skills	Student voice
	• Responsible decision-making	Civic responsibility
		Reflection
		Evaluation

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Discover underlying “NEEDS” within our local infrastructure—such as schools, neighborhoods, and communities—through curiosity, openness, and active listening
- Identify how labeling and stereotypes create barriers to serving others, and find ways to challenge those stereotypes
- Prepare to serve our school and community by recognizing and prioritizing “NEEDS” of others
- Understand how “KNOW THE NEED” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS ENGAGED”



STUDENT ACTIVITY: **“NEEDS IN THE NEWS”**

1) SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: “NEEDS IN THE NEWS”

2) ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY’S FOCUS:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **Do you think your community has any “NEEDS”?**
 - Do you know what they are specifically?
 - How did you find out what those “NEEDS” are, or how might you find them out?
- **How might the “NEEDS” of your community differ from month to month and from year to year?**
- **Have you ever pitched in to help with a “NEED” in your community?**
 - If so, what was the “NEED”?
 - How did you and others work together to meet that “NEED”?
 - Do you think your efforts were successful?
 - What was the experience like for you?
 - Would you do it again?
- **What are some ways we can find out what the “NEEDS” are in our area?**
- **Once we know the “NEEDS” of our community, what comes next?**
- **Have you ever noticed a “NEED” in your area by reading an article online or in a “NEWSPAPER”, or by watching the local “NEWS”?**
 - How might reading daily information about your community help you to “KNOW” how “NEEDS” change around you?
- **What kinds of “NEEDS” do you think your community has?**
- **What skills, talents, or personality traits do you have that could help with these unique “NEEDS”?**
- **How would learning about your city’s specific “NEEDS” help you to “GET ENGAGED” with your community?**
 - How could it help you prepare to volunteer within your community?
- **In what ways can learning about local “NEEDS” help you to know that WE MATTER as community members?**

3) SET UP THE “NEEDS IN THE NEWS” ACTIVITY:

- **Explain:**
 - Whether we are actively paying attention to it or not, our community always has “NEEDS”
 - At times, we may have helped with some of these “NEEDS” by supporting local businesses, volunteering at a nearby event, or doing a fundraiser for a worthy cause
 - The “NEEDS” of our community can change over time, just like our own individual “NEEDS” do
 - Some “NEEDS” are temporary, like helping a family whose house just had a fire or cleaning up after a natural disaster
 - Others are long-term and can use people to help almost constantly
 - When get to know what those “NEEDS” are, we’ll always have new ways to help our community
 - We can best “KNOW” the “NEEDS” of our city by actively looking for them
 - Some sources we can use are “NEWSPAPERS”, local “NEWS” or radio stations, and current articles online
 - When we find articles online, we should check for accuracy and to make sure the “NEED” listed still applies
 - Sometimes even signs hung up in a grocery store can alert us to “NEEDS” in our area
 - At times, we’ll need to dig a bit to find the underlying “NEED” in our neighborhoods
 - Today we’ll be looking for “NEEDS” in our area by scouring the “NEWS”, in all its forms
- **Ask:**
 - How can we “KNOW” when we have identified a real “NEED”?

4) START THE “NEEDS IN THE NEWS” ACTIVITY:

- **Note:** Before beginning this activity, take photos or make copies of some signs that have been hung in local businesses, such as classes in the area, missing animal posters, etc. (optional); or, you may only use newspapers and online sources for the activity
- Separate students into groups of 4-6 students each
- Give each group a small workspace to use, preferably at or near a computer or other device connected to the internet
- Hand out a local “NEWSPAPER” to each group, any signs you copied or photographed, a pair of scissors, and one highlighter per group
- Have them each take a section of the “NEWSPAPER” and look over it for “NEEDS” that they may see in the community
 - Have them pay particular attention to the Letters to the Editor section, and decide whether the “NEED” mentioned may be a widespread “NEED”, or just the opinion of one person
 - They may also look online for local “NEWS” and the “NEEDS” of their city
 - Be ready to give suggestions if teams are having a difficult time identifying “NEEDS”
- **Once they have read their articles and found some “NEEDS”, they may cut out the article or highlight it**
- Allow students up to 8 minutes to read through and find the “NEEDS IN THE NEWS”
- Then, give them the remaining time to discuss in their groups the different “NEEDS” that they found, and if time allows, with the whole class

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY’VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- What are some “NEEDS” you were able to identify with your team today?
- Were there any “NEEDS” that caught your interest or that you might want to help out with?
- What about this activity was the most challenging?
- Did you find more or less “NEEDS” than you expected?
- How do you think your desire to “KNOW THE NEEDS” of your community can create change?
- How might you prioritize the “NEEDS” you found so that you can help with them effectively?
- In what ways could you use today’s activity to plan a volunteer project?
- How could you raise awareness about the specific “NEEDS” of your community?
- How did your team “ENGAGE” with each other to be successful at this activity?
- In what ways did you see that, as a community, WE MATTER?

6) THANK STUDENTS FOR DISCOVERING THE “NEEDS IN THE NEWS” THROUGH THIS ACTIVITY. REMIND THEM THAT THERE ARE “NEEDS” ALL AROUND THEM, AND IF THEY WILL ONLY LOOK, THEY CAN FIND NUMEROUS WAYS TO HELP THEIR COMMUNITY.

7) CHALLENGE STUDENTS TO FIND AND HELP WITH AS MANY “NEEDS” AS THEY CAN THIS MONTH IN THEIR CITY, AND WHILE DOING SO, TRULY “ENGAGE” WITH OTHERS. REMIND THEM THAT THEIR EFFORTS TO “KNOW THE NEEDS” OF THEIR COMMUNITY WILL HELP LEAVE IT BETTER FOR EVERYONE WHO LIVES THERE.

8) CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO “KNOW THE NEED” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) Student Presentations:** Have students present their “NEEDS IN THE NEWS” findings to others. Make a video and present it at a community gathering.
- 2) Get Inspired:** Watch the following clip to see how one community came up with a successful way to meet two of their area’s “NEEDS”. <https://twitter.com/eriksolheim/status/1094588017698717705>. Discuss the video and why the people were successful in taking care of their “NEEDS”. Determine whether your area has “NEEDS” that students could meet, and imagine ways together to meet those “NEEDS”.
- 3) Health Care Needs:** Meet with lead staff at local hospitals by having them either visit your campus or call in on a video chat. Ask them what people with long-term hospital visits “NEED” the most based on staff observations and experience. Remember, this is about “KNOWING” actual “NEEDS”, so be specific!
- 4) Ask Local Leaders:** Invite local leaders to visit your school to discuss “NEEDS” they have seen within the community that students can get involved in. These leaders can include city council members, police officers, superintendents, or leaders from the parks and recreation division in your city.
- 5) Community Scavenger Hunt:** Have students do a scavenger hunt to discover more “NEEDS” in your area. For example, they could look up different organizations in your city for saving animals, protecting local resources or becoming greener, helping people in poverty, etc. Have them do interviews with those who run these organizations in order to know the specific “NEEDS” of these organizations.

“ALONE, WE CAN DO SO LITTLE. TOGETHER, WE CAN DO SO MUCH.”

- HELEN KELLER