



*2009 MSDE Annual Convening of  
Service-Learning Leaders*

## **Service-Learning Unit**

**Camp Todd: Discover, Connect,  
Take Action, Caroline County**

**Primary Subject:** Ecological Studies

**Grade Level:** 9

**Additional Subject Area Connections:** English

**Unit Title:** Camp Todd: Discover, Connect,  
Take Action

**Type(s) of Service:** Direct

**Unit Description:** All 9th grade students worked on site at Camp Todd, a subsidiary of the Chesapeake Bay Girl Scout Coalition. Students worked in groups to help prepare the camp for the upcoming season. Students contributed by painting, scrubbing the facilities, as well as removing debris. The class also conducted water samples and tested for nitrates in the local waterways.

### **Potential Service-Learning Action**

**Experiences:** Many girls were given the opportunity to sign up and volunteer as a camp counselor throughout the summer season.



# Alignment with Maryland's Best Practices of Service-Learning: *Camp Todd: Discover, Connect, Take Action*

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**1. Meet a recognized community need**

The Girl Scout organization requested the students work at the camp for the 2008- 2009 season.

**2. Achieve curricular objectives through service-learning**

In addition to the manual labor students worked with the gifted and talented grade science teacher. Water samples were taken at various locations and students were asked to create a hypothesis explaining why the amount of nitrogen differed at various parts of the lake.

**3. Reflect throughout the service-learning experience**

Students met with Girl Scout reps at the end of each day to reflect on their work as well as the purpose. Students were also asked to put their reflections in writing once they returned to their English classes.

**4. Develop student responsibility (Students have opportunities to make decisions about the service-learning project.)**

Students were asked to work independently as well as in small groups in order to complete the assigned tasks.

**5. Establish community partnerships**

This was an excellent opportunity to meet with a community resource. This local organization had never been utilized by our school system before and now we have been invited to take our classes there for lessons as well as field trips.

**6. Plan ahead for service-learning**

Students were prepped for their project by a representative from the organization. Not only did she share what was to be done but also had them participate in team building activities.

**7. Equip students with knowledge and skills needed for service**

Students realized the need for people to work together for the purpose of a greater good. For many, this was the first time they were asked to do something that did not benefit themselves.



Caroline County



*\*This material is based upon a template for service-learning experiences created by the Maryland State Department of Education. Opinions or points of view expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Maryland State Department of Education or constitute an endorsement.*