



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP PROJECT SELECTION



What is environmental service-learning?

Service-learning is a hands-on approach to education that integrates meaningful environmentally based community service with curriculum and reflection. Projects enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. To learn more about service-learning visit http://denverzoo.org/downloads/CLP_Billig_article.pdf.



Why should I have my students choose a project?

In order to keep within the philosophy of service-learning, there should be a balance between student leadership and teacher guidance. Projects should be primarily led by students, and students should be involved in as much of the decision making and action steps as possible.

How do I facilitate this process?

Use the project selection rubric below, along with the background information provided, in order for your students to be able to choose which CLP best suits them. Your role will be to give students as much freedom as you feel appropriate while keeping in mind your own requirements. We currently offer 3 Community Leadership Projects; *Water Warriors*, *Beneficial Bats*, and *For the Birds*.

Begin by reviewing our projects online and relaying this information to your students. Briefly describe to them what service learning entails. Next, print copies of the rubric for your students. Review the rubric with the students, and explain to them the importance of taking ownership in their own project. Take them on a community walk on and near school grounds. On the rubric, have students put check marks under the project that they think applies to each statement. Once back in the classroom, add the students' totals up for each project. This will determine which project your students feel is the most appropriate.



How long will this take?

Choosing a project with your students including the community walk should take approximately one hour.

What do I do once we have chosen a project?

Visit <https://programs.denverzoo.org> and create an online account to register for your teacher meeting, lesson day and project day. Please direct any inquiries to outreach@denverzoo.org or call 303.376.6734.



CLP Project Selection Rubric

Selection Criteria	PROJECT IDEAS		
	WATER WARRIORS	BENEFICIAL BATS	For The Birds
There is a water source near my school (river, pond, stream, etc.).			
There are storm drains near my school.			
There are bats around my school.			
There are birds around my school.			
There is food, water, shelter and space for bats near my school.			
There is food, water, shelter, and space for birds near my school.			
I am most interested in this project...			
I will learn the most from this project...			
This project will be most beneficial to the environment.			
This project will help the community the most.			

Background Information

WATER WARRIORS

To determine if your school has storm drains nearby, look for something that looks similar to the picture on the right.



BENEFICIAL BATS

The habitat requirements for a bat in Colorado include:

Food All Colorado bats eat insects.	Water Colorado bats prefer a lake or stream within a ¼ mile of their roost.
Shelter Bats need a warm place to roost that is high above the ground so they are safe from predators. It must be easy to fly in and out of quickly. Colorado bats will roost under rocks, cliffs, the bark of a tree, the eaves of a house, or in caves.	Space Bats need enough space to fly at night and rest during the day.

For more information on bats follow this link:

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/Profiles/Mammals/BatsofColorado/>

For the Birds

The bird houses that are built in this program are specifically designed for mountain and western bluebirds. For more information on each of these birds and the Colorado Bluebird Project where you can donate your birdhouses, visit the websites below.



Western Bluebird: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/Profiles/Birds/WesternBluebird.htm>



Mountain Bluebird: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/Profiles/Birds/MountainBluebird.htm>

Bluebird Trail: <http://www.denveraudubon.org/bluebird.htm>

