

# Community Project & Service Learning Explained

**Thomas Jefferson Middle School**



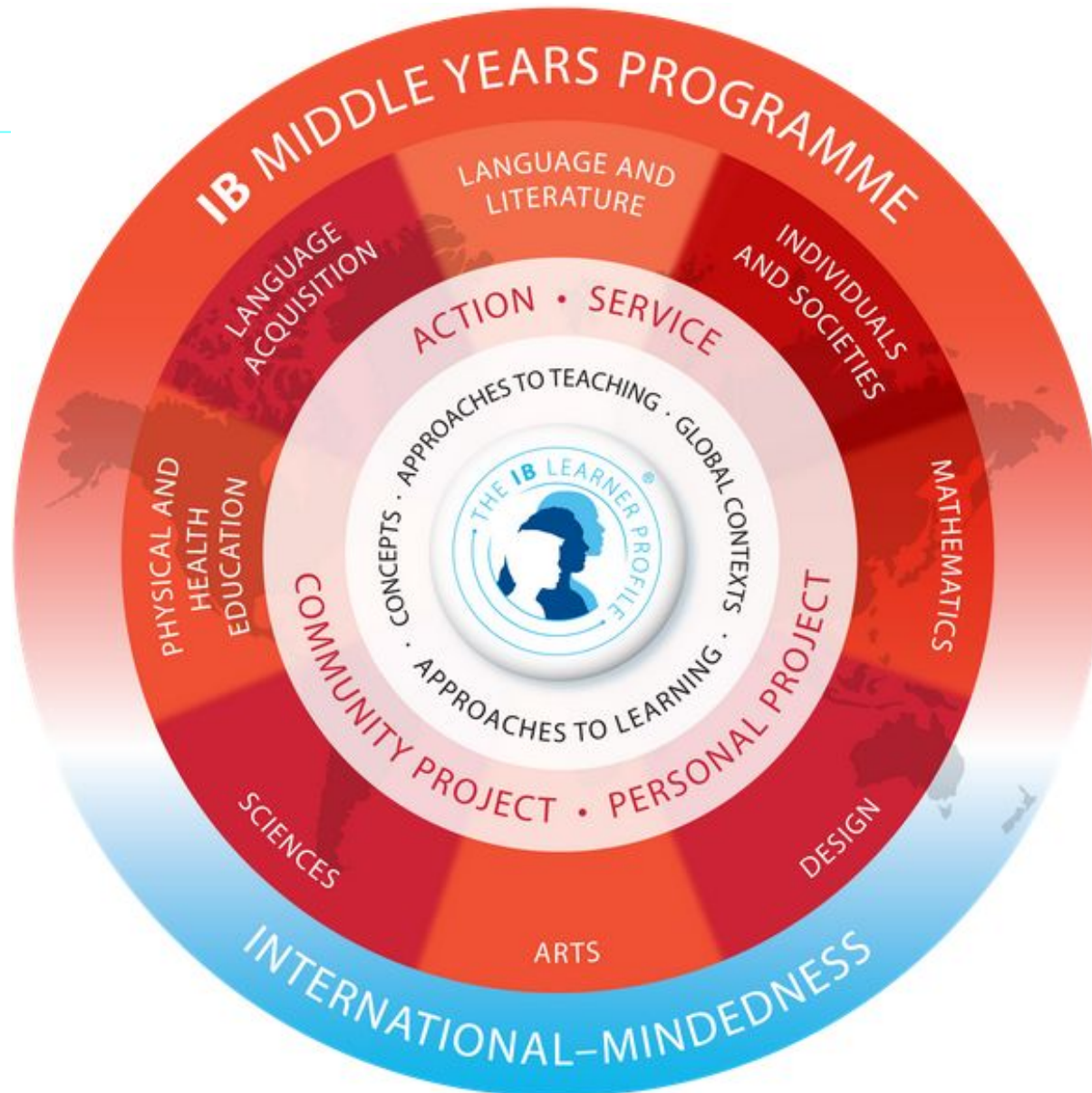
# Agenda

1. Why service learning/Community Project?
2. Service learning
3. Community Project
  - i. Goal
  - ii. Need
  - iii. Community
  - iv. Global context
  - v. Connection to subjects

# Why?



# Why service & the Community Project?





# We want to be inquirers -

- We nurture our **curiosity**, developing skills for inquiry and **research**.
- We know how to learn **independently** and **with others**.
- We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our **love of learning throughout life**.



# 6th & 7th Grade Service Learning Expectations Explained



# Thomas Jefferson Middle School

# Service Learning: meaningful community service with instruction & reflection.



Source: <https://twitter.com/RachelPayne0129/status/1000127909590429697>



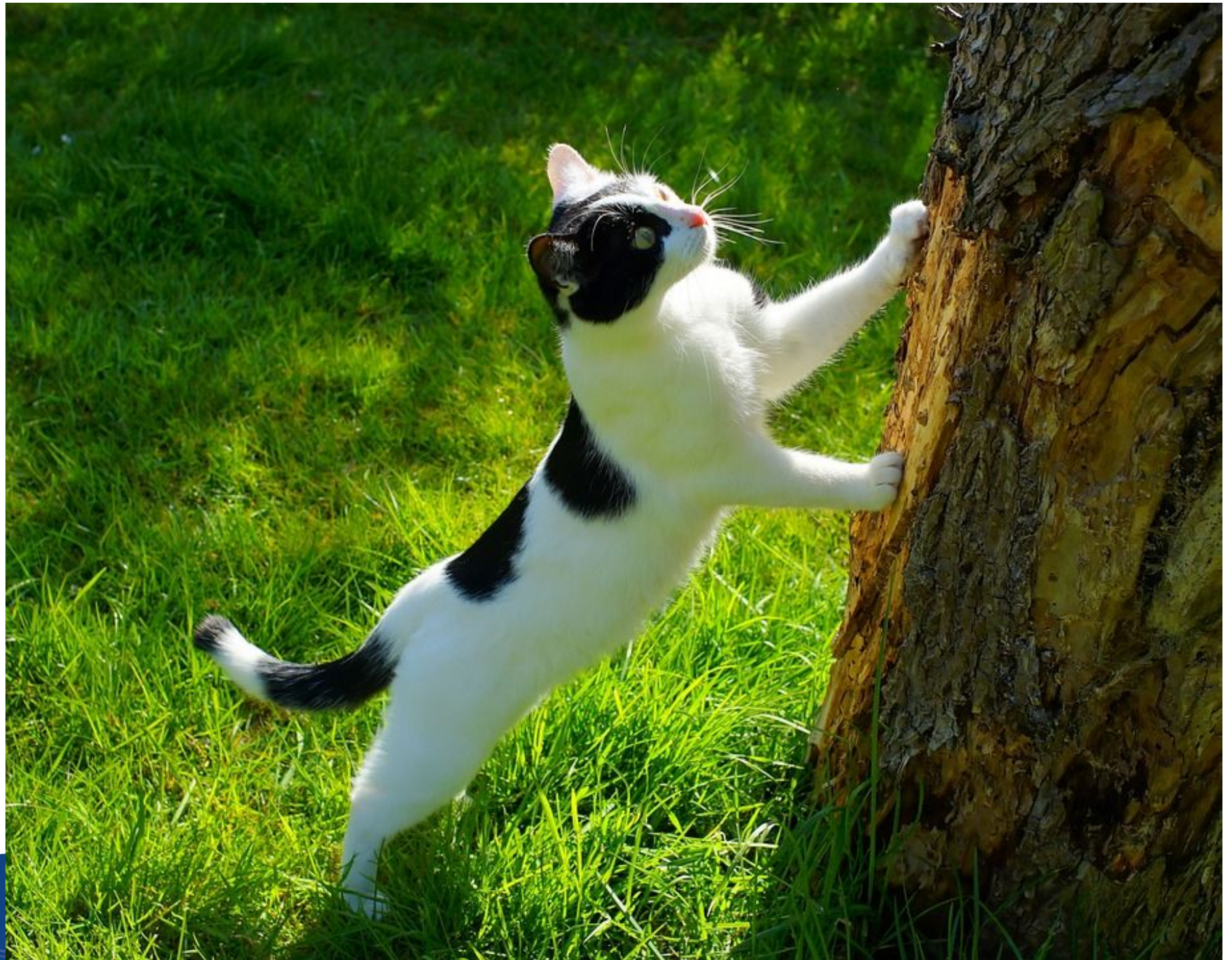
# Service Learning

- **work by an individual or group**
- **without pay**
- **to help people in a community**
- **connected to academic subjects**
- **includes reflection**



**It's about helping people &  
learning.**





# What might we be interested in?



# Providing food & companionship for those in need





# Promoting healthy eating living/gardening





# Caring for animals





# Beautifying the environment through Art





# Promoting peace through resolving conflict - stopping bullying





# Promoting literacy through reading



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# Fighting global illness/promoting wellness



# Fighting homelessness/Helping victims of violence





# Helping communities impacted by natural disasters



# Improving education for all





# Students should choose 2 areas

**Providing food for those in need**

**Protecting the environment/going green**

**Promoting healthy eating/living/gardening**

**Caring for animals**

**Beautifying the environment through Art**

**Promoting peace and resolving conflict**

**Promoting reading/literacy**

**Fighting global illness/promoting wellness**

**Improving educational opportunities for all**

# Service learning expectations

## 6th Grade

- Choose two areas of interest
- Reflect on service

## 7th Grade

- Choose two areas of interest & do one activity outside of school
- Reflect on service



# The Community Project

It is a project – To address needs in the community through service learning (individual or of group up to three).





# Choose a goal to address a need



# Raise awareness (examples below)

Flyers

Ribbons

Posters

Videos





**To participate actively  
(examples below)**

**Caring for animals**

**Collecting food**

**Tutoring younger students**

**Cleaning a stream**



**To research  
(examples below)**

**Lead in water**

*Health of soda*

**Social media & mental health**





# To inform (examples below)

Reduce paper waste

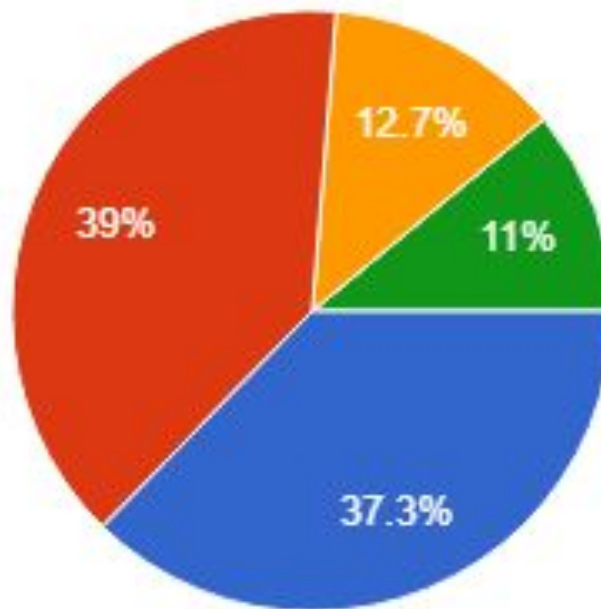
Stop bullying of LGBT students

Planting more trees

# The goals students have chosen:

What goal did you choose?

118 responses



- To Raise awareness
- To Participate actively
- To Research
- To Inform



# Students choose a need:

Healthy food

Social acceptance

Healthy animals

Safety

Clean water

Medicine

Clean air

# Addressing needs

## Top needs TJMS wants to address:

- 1) Clean water
- 2) Healthy animals
- 3) Healthy food
- 4) Social acceptance
- 5) Safety



# Communities students could choose:

Community	Examples	
A group of people living in the same place	Arlington's Nauck Neighborhood	Salvadoran citizens
A group of people sharing particular characteristics, beliefs and/or values	Online forum for people suffering depression	Vegetarians
A body of nations or states unified by common interests	European Union	United States of America
A group of interdependent plants or animals growing or living together in a habitat	Madagascar's indigenous bird population	Plants of the Middle East in Western Asia

# Investigating Communities

## Top communities TJMS wants to investigate:

**1) Arlington**

**2) Global**

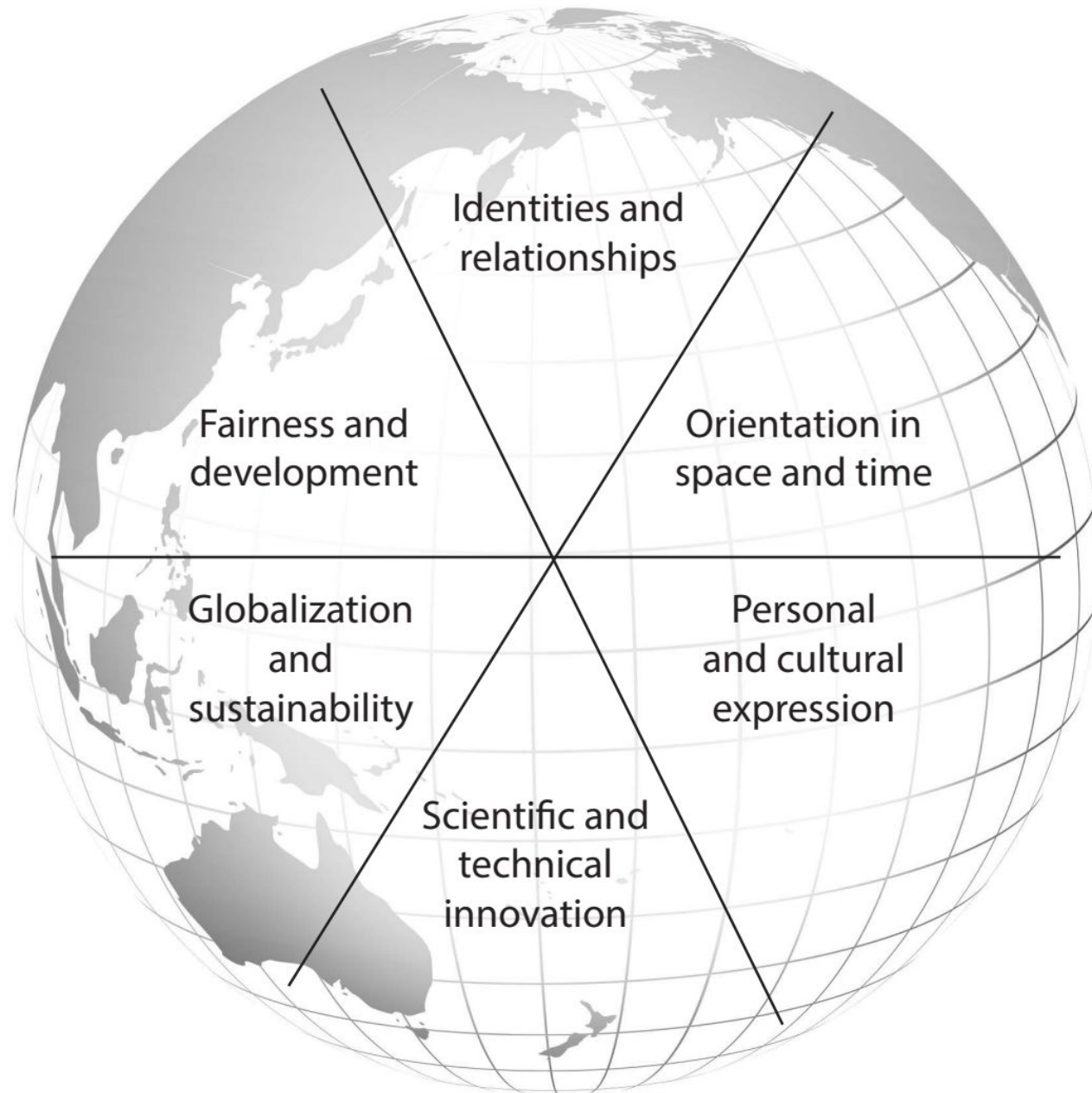
**3) TJMS**

**4) Animals**

**5) LGBT**



# Understand subjects in “Global contexts”



# Identities & relationships

Who am I? Who are we?



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# Examples of projects in Identities & Relations are:

# Tutoring/special instruction to primary school students





# Researching the effects of soft drinks on digestion and promoting healthy choices



# Orientation in time and space



What is the meaning of  
“where” and “when”?



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# Examples of projects in Orientation in time & space are:

# Making a plan for wheelchair accessibility





# Joining a museum to recover local history

## **THE BLACK HERITAGE** **MUSEUM** *of Arlington Virginia*





# Personal and cultural expression

What is the nature and purpose of creative expression?



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# **Examples of projects in Personal & cultural expression are:**

# Painting pictures or other art to hang in a local hospital





# Create a play to raise awareness about bullying



# Scientific & technical innovation



How do we understand the world in which we live?



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# **Examples of projects in Scientific & technical innovation are:**



# Helping increase the use of low cost renewable energy



# Studying lead levels in drinking water





# Raise awareness about reducing opioid overdoses





# Globalization and sustainability

How is everything connected?



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# **Examples of projects in Globalization & sustainability are:**

# Campaigning to raise awareness about reducing use of plastic straws





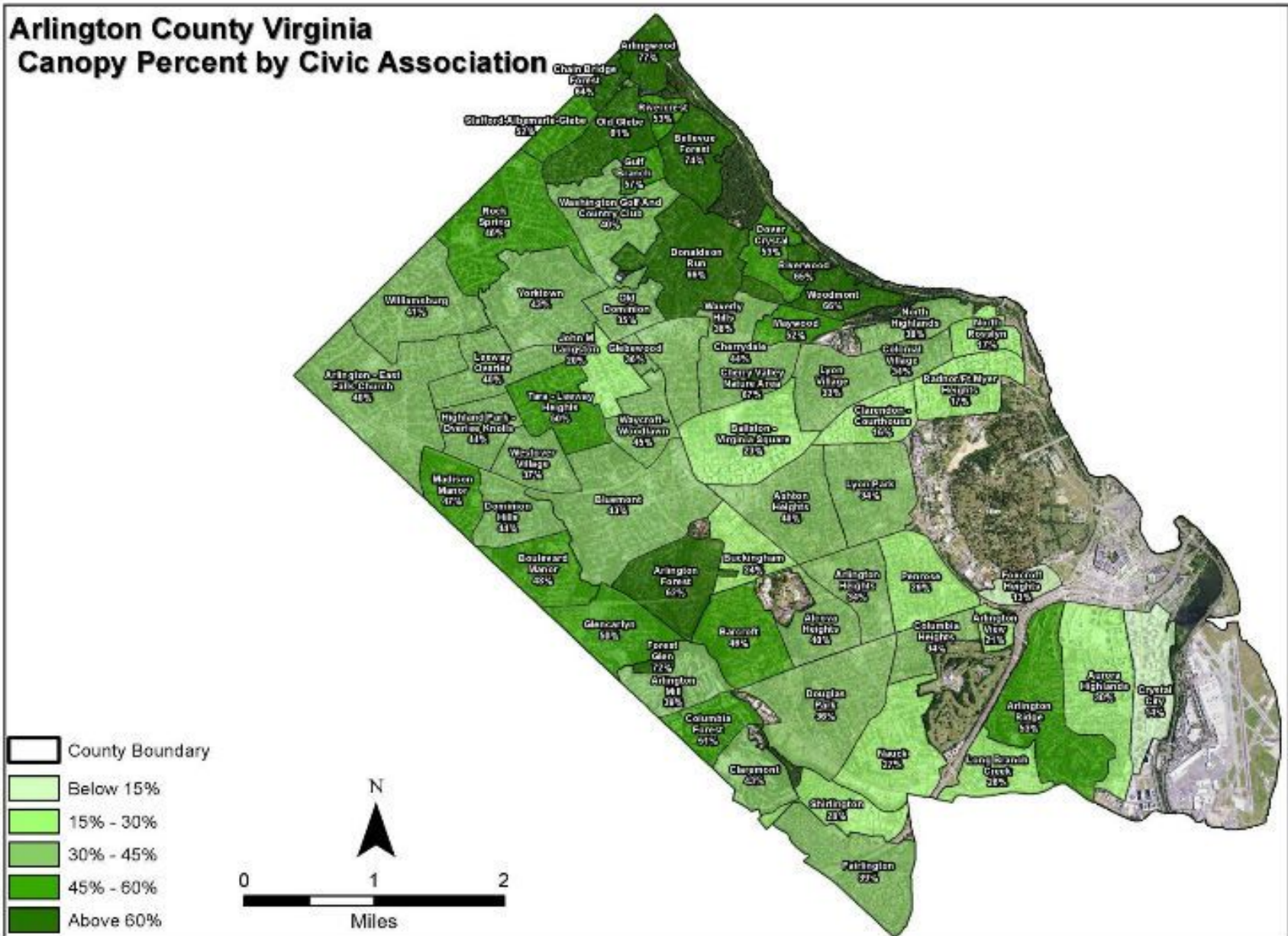
# Creating/expanding a community garden





# Planting more trees in your neighborhood

**Arlington County Virginia  
Canopy Percent by Civic Association**



# Fairness and development



What are the  
consequences of our  
common humanity?



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# Examples of projects in Fairness and development are:

## Raising awareness about a local blood drive

**BLOOD  
DRIVE  
TODAY**



# Addressing the concerns of immigrant populations



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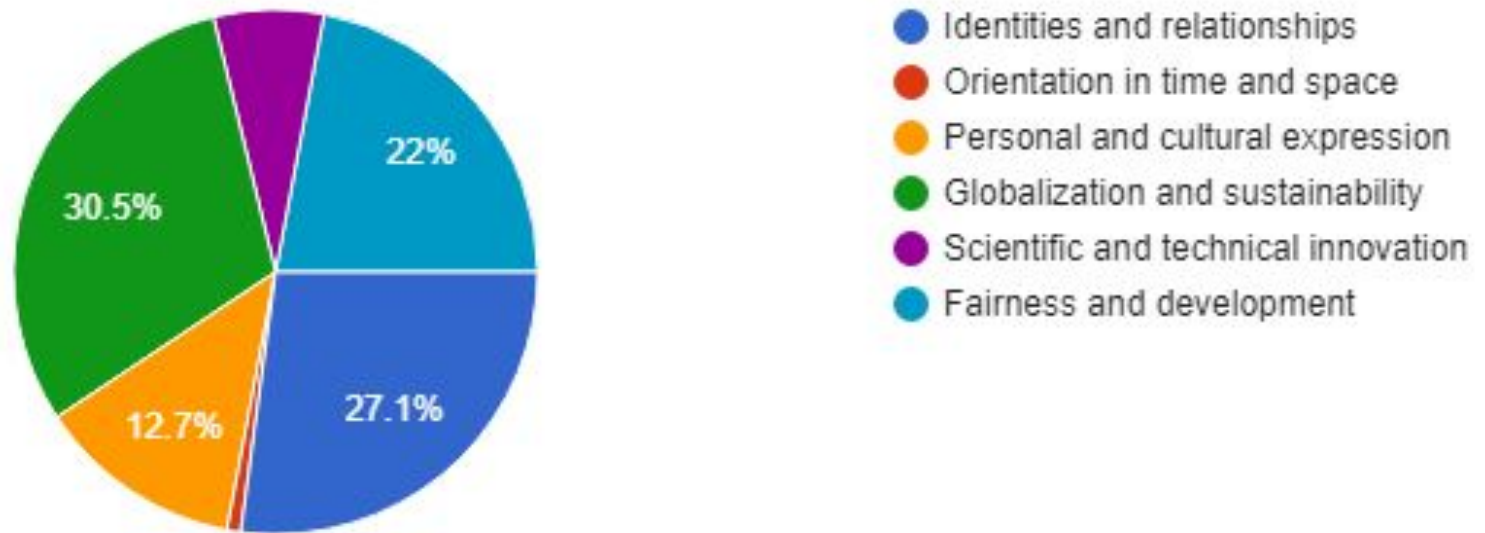
# Creating a campaign about fair trade



# What Global Contexts are students choosing?

Which Global Context did you choose?

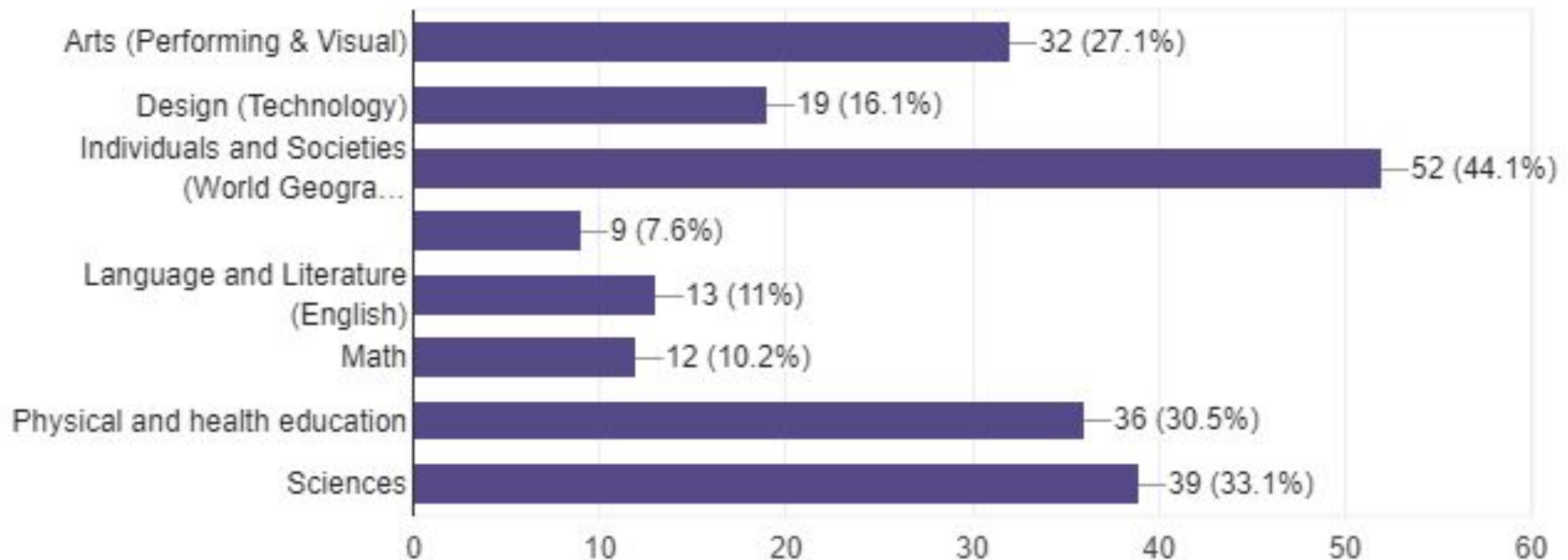
118 responses



# What subjects do the projects match with?

What subject(s) might your Community Project connect with?

118 responses





# Community Project Phases

<b>Introduction</b>	<i>September</i>
<b>Investigating</b>	<i>October/November</i> <b><u>-Finalize goal by Oct 29</u></b>
<b>Planning</b>	<i>December/January</i> <b><u>-Finalize plan by Dec 12</u></b>
<b>Taking Action</b>	<i>February/March</i> <b><u>-Finalize plan by March 15</u></b>
<b>Presenting/Reflecting</b>	<i>April</i> <b><u>-Present project on April 9</u></b>



**We begin a journey as we help the community**

