



## Trees for the 21st Century Service-Learning Program

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Trees for the 21st Century is a unique educational and tree-planting program for children ages 6 to 18, involving a science-based service-learning curriculum, tree planting, and ongoing stewardship activities.

The program provides a fun, outdoor project that helps youth and teachers to provide meaningful service by planting trees in the community. The activity guide allows teachers to connect the tree planting activity to their classroom curricula in science, math and English. Regular reflection is promoted through the activities, helping youth to understand environmental issues and their role in protecting the environment. The planning and communication involved in the tree planting project helps students develop interpersonal skills and promotes mutual respect. Youth take a leadership role in the tree planting, as they are required to find a site, get permission for planting and prepare the site for planting. Partnerships among school, community, and students are important to the success of the project. The activities and tree planting will engage students over a period of weeks and end with an important achievement – the planting of trees in their community, which they will monitor and care for on an on-going basis.

Semester of Service Model - Starting at or shortly after MLK Day of Service, teachers, mentors, or students order ERTHNXT's Tree Planting Kit and activity guide. The activity guide includes group activities in five age levels, an inspirational DVD about Wangari Maathai, who planted 30 million trees in Kenya, and tree planting instructions. It also includes seedlings, which will be shipped in spring at an appropriate planting date. Teachers, mentors or students can order guides for their grade level, or lead younger children through a set of age-appropriate activities over the course of two to three months. The activities can lead up to Global Youth Service Day for the tree planting and culmination of the project. Order kits here:

<http://www.erthnxt.org/programs/order.html>

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