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# LOCAL HUNGER

## SECONDARY LEVEL

### Hunger In Your Community Activity

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- **Purpose:** the purpose of this activity is for students to research hunger issues in their community. With this knowledge, students will create a visual display that will be hung in the school to inform their peers.
- **Instructional method(s):** independent project.
- **Differentiated Instruction:**
  - Students will write a research paper rather than creating a visual poster.
- **Estimated time:** 30 minutes of class time leading into an independent continuous project
- **Steps:**
  1. Explain to students they will be participating in an independent research project about hunger in their community.
  2. Allow students to choose one of the following topics and associated questions:
    - Topic 1: Assessing hunger
      - What are the causes of hunger?
      - Who is vulnerable to hunger?
      - What are the health effects of going hungry?
      - What are the effects of hunger on the ability of children to learn?
      - What is a well-balanced diet? And why is it important to eat a well-balanced diet?
      - What are the connections between poverty and hunger? Wages and hunger?
      - What social welfare programs exist to alleviate hunger and how effective/ineffective are they?
    - Topic 2: Assessing need in my school district
      - How many schools are in your district?
      - What services do the schools in your district offer for hunger related problems? Describe these services, explaining why they exist, what resources are necessary to keep them running, and what the benefits of them are.
    - Topic 3: Assessing need in my community
      - Where does hunger and poverty exist in your community?
      - What factors contribute to the increase of hunger and poverty in your community? (e.g.: wealth gaps, job availability, access to child care, access to affordable living, etc.)
      - What policies exist in your community that allow for and perpetuate hunger? (e.g.: welfare policies, healthcare, wages, etc.)
      - Is there a proactive approach your community can take to eliminate hunger?
      - List some reactive hunger responses your community is taking in order to fight hunger (e.g.: food banks, soup kitchens, etc.)
  3. Independently, students must begin by researching their topic, using the associated questions to guide their research.



4. Once they have completed their research, students must transform their information into a visual awareness poster that will be used to inform the student body about hunger issues. Allow students the remainder of the class period to begin their research, asking them to take the remainder of their work home to complete on their own time.
5. Once the posters are complete, display the finished products around the school to raise awareness to local hunger issues and inspire the rest of the student body to participate in Halloween for Hunger.

**Encourage students to take action to end local hunger. Participate in Free The Children's Halloween for Hunger campaign. Learn more at [www.weday.com/takeaction](http://www.weday.com/takeaction).**