

REFLECTION EXAMPLE

In the Miami-Dade district, the Bureau of Community Services hosts forums each spring for students and community members on issues of importance to the city. Forum topics from recent years have included proposed changes to Social Security law, the Miami Mayoral Election, health care, bullying, and fire safety. In the early part of the school year, students hear presentations by guest speakers from partner organizations associated with the issue, for example, the Gray Panthers. Throughout the year, they carry out an advocacy activity to address the forum topic, such as circulating petitions to preserve the Social Security system. At the forum, a team of students from each school presents their project. These presentations are followed by small group dialogues between students, community partners, and community members attending the forum. Finally, all participants write reflections in which they describe the highlight of the forum, what they learned, what they heard that made them think or surprised them, and what steps they could take next to inform government leaders and policy makers about their issue. *Miami, FL*

(from RMC Research Corporation. K-12 Service-Learning Project Planning Toolkit. Scotts Valley, CA: National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, 2006.

http://www.servicelearning.org/filemanager/download/K-12_Service-Learning_Project_Planning_Toolkit.pdf)