

Living2Learn Overview

Living2Learn enhances K-12 education by introducing an integrative approach to authentic, place-based learning. We engage the energy, creativity, and desire of youth to be active, contributing members of their community.

Kids are the future. They are the bridge, albeit, to an increasingly uncertain future. Yet, as an energetic, creative resource they remain underutilized. Sequestered in schools, for the most part physically and socially separated from their communities, hundreds and even thousands of minds remain underutilized and unengaged at a time when doing more with less is a necessity. The aim of Living2Learn is to engage this, in a sense, community-wide think tank in authentic, service-learning experiences that builds stronger communities.



The Living2Learn staff work on the premise that primary, secondary, and post-secondary educational experiences be a balance of classroom learning that occurs in the community. We engage students in collaborative environments with people from across their communities. *Our classroom is the community.*



Living2Learn's pedagogy solves a number of critical, yet seemingly unrelated, problems. In collaborative teams, students interpret, apply, and test formally acquired knowledge alongside adults with diverse backgrounds and passions. In this way the kids' learning gains in social, historical, and political content. Valued as contributing members of their communities, the kids' experiences foster self-worth and self-efficacy. Youth transition from consumers of education to contributors, from an underutilized human resource to contributing participants in the health and wellbeing of their community. They arrive at graduation as valued members of a collaborative problem-solving team and a welcomed participant in their community.

The emergence of first-time ever global trends such as climate change, energy and water scarcity, obesity and poor public health, food insecurity, and an aging society call for first-time ever local solutions. Increasingly municipalities, businesses, families, and individuals are recognizing the need to do more with less. Now, more than ever, is the time for every community, urban or rural, to involve its youth's creative and innovative energies in giving form to their future.

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