Food and Nutrition Project
Primary Content Area: French I

Introduction
Food vocabulary is an important component of beginner and intermediate world language classes. The great thing about learning food vocabulary is we see, touch, and taste food every day. This project is meant to provide a service-learning supplement to a Food and Nutrition vocabulary unit in a beginner to intermediate French class and connect it to an important social issue. The service project involves three steps: (1) Teach the vocabulary related to Food and Nutrition as you normally would; (2) Supplement your lessons with activities with authentic resources (teen nutrition survey and French service agency web quest) provided below; and (3) Complete a service project at the Greater Chicago Food Depository or at a local food pantry. The Greater Chicago Food Depository provides a great first service experience for students. It is well-structured, students enjoy the experience, and they leave feeling an important sense of accomplishment. As a teacher/facilitator of the service experience, you can develop strategies to extend the experience.

Project Goals
- Students will be able to describe and use various words pertaining to food and nutrition.
- Students will be able to compare and contrast hunger relief agencies/issues in the United States and in French speaking countries.
- Students will have a better understanding of the problem of hunger in Chicago and around the world.
- Students will reflect upon their experience.

Procedure/Project Sequence
1. Introduce food and nutrition vocabulary and provide activities as you would normally do.
2. Have students complete a survey of their own dietary needs then compare to that of a target language country. Sample surveys can be found at the websites listed below.
3. Create a web quest using target language country or use your own version of Food Depository or similar hunger relief organization.
4. Complete service experience at the Food Depository. Be sure to go through welcome package before attending trip. The Food Depository can send a representative to your classroom. A service experience at the Food Depository typically lasts 3 hours.
5. Post Food Depository possible reflections:
   - Write a one-page reflection in English and list new and old vocabulary in target language; include what worked and didn’t work.
   - Draw a picture of what you did at the GCFD, and label in target language.
   - Discuss the service experience as a class. Ask the following questions about Francophone countries:
     - Why is hunger a problem in Africa?
     - Does all of the food donated to African nations actually get to where it’s supposed to go? Why or why not?
Community Partners/Resources
Chicago Food Depository
4100 West Anne Lurie Place
Chicago, Illinois
Phone: 773/247-3663
Web site: http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/

Additional Websites and other Resources:
www.feedingminds.org – Hunger-related curriculum in 5 languages
www.restoducoeur.org – Service agency addressing hunger and homelessness
www.actioncontrelafaim.org – Service agency addressing hunger worldwide
www.dhs.ca.gov/cdic/cpns/research/download/Survey%20instrument%20final%202000%20-%203-15-00%20revised.doc – Teen nutrition survey in English
Clips from Gleaners and I (documentary by Agnes Varda)
Hungry Planet by Peter Menzel – a showcase of what the world eats.

Addendum
Duration
Students should spend 5-7 hours on this project depending on how much time they spend at the Food Depository or local food pantry and their participation in preparation and reflection activities. Hours can be broken down into the following categories:
Preparation: Completion of survey and web quest – 2 hours
Action: Participation in service experience – 4 hours
Reflection: Discussion/Writing/Art – 1 hour

Cross-Curricular Connections
This lesson can also include interdisciplinary ties with Health and P.E. classes that provide activities related to health, diet, and nutrition.