



**2009 Annual Convening
of Service-Learning Leaders
Maryland State Department of Education
Service-Learning Unit**

Primary Subject: Science
Grade Level: 5

Additional Subject Area Connections: Math,
Reading, Social Studies

Unit Title: Oyster Gardening Project

Type(s) of Service: *Direct and indirect action
components

Unit Description: Students learn about the role
of the oyster in the Chesapeake Bay and how the
oyster populations have drastically decreased
overtime. Students work on the monitoring and
the maintenance of a local oyster gardening
project during a field experience at a site on the
Chesapeake Bay.

**Potential Service-Learning Action
Experiences:**

Students perform direct action experiences when
they are participating in the field program and
monitoring and maintaining the oyster gardens.

Students perform indirect service learning action
when they use the data and information
gathered during the field experience to create
promotional flyers about oyster gardening to
recruit local citizens for participation in the
program. A workshop is presented in the spring
each year for the local community. Participants
receive the training, the equipment and oyster
spat needed to keep an oyster garden for one
year. The oysters that are produced in the
program are placed on reefs within the
Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River.

**Local School System: Calvert County Public
Schools**

LSS Coordinator: Ms. Leanne Meisinger

LSS Contact Information: meisingerl@calvertnet.k12.md.us

**Maryland State Curriculum
Indicators Met**

Content Title:

List Indicators Here

3.4.A.1.c

State reasons why certain animals could not
survive in the Chesapeake Bay

3.4.F.1.a

Explain ways that individuals and groups of
organisms interact with each other and their
environment

Roles within food chains and webs: scavengers,
decomposers, producers, and consumers

Competition for space, food, and water

3.5.A.1.d

Explain the idea that in any particular
environment, some kinds of plants and animals
survive well, some less well, and some cannot
survive at all

6.4.A.2.a

Recognize and describe that consequences may
occur when Earth's natural resources are used

6.5.A.1.a

Explain how human activity may have a
positive consequence on the natural
environment

6.5.A.2.c

Identify and describe that an environmental
issue affects different individuals and groups