We began this project by asking our driving question:

How can we change as engaged citizens?

The process was launched by identifying problems that they recognized in their school, community, nation, and world. They discovered that there were many issues that they felt passionate and the teachers used the students’ passion to ignite their ambition to bring awareness and make change.

Once the students identified problems, they were grouped by interest and were encouraged to research to better understand the identified problems. Students had the opportunity to interview experts and reach out to organizations that are currently helping address those issues.

Fifth graders identified a place within the issue where they could make a change after becoming experts on their problem. They brainstormed ways to engage in an effective and appropriate social action. These actions ranged from public service announcements, visits to local hospitals, creation of websites, collecting cards, and making toys for animals.
Social Action Research

5th Grade

The Bronxville School

Spring

Week 1
- Introduce Driving Question: Come up with "need to know" questions
- Generate a list of problems
- Identify problems they are most passionate about
- Generate "need to know" questions about their specific topic

Week 2
- Begin researching problem
- Reflective journal entry on what else was discovered about the issue through the research process
- Introduce, "What is a social action?"

Week 3
- Groups draft proposals for social action
- Groups begin engaging in social action
- Students receive feedback from peers and teachers
- Revise proposals and ideas based on feedback

Week 4
- Students organize research and build projects
- Students continued engagement in their social action
- Bring all work together to plan presentations
- Plan and practice presentations for an authentic audience
- Present at Inquiry Fair

Scan the QR Code for more videos and photos.