



Planning engaging and supportive gatherings

4-H Volunteer Learning Guide

This learning guide is designed for you to reflect on the information in the video.

Youth Sparks

Discovering what interests young people, and designing programs based on their interests, goals and aspirations will create a more engaged membership.

1. How can you discover youth sparks in your program or gathering?
2. How can you connect young people to further develop their sparks (Examples: guest speakers, mentors, educational activities)

To think about: Providing opportunities for all youth to pursue their sparks takes a team. Consider ways to broaden your volunteer team to include more adults and youth leaders in supporting experiences for youth to develop their sparks..

Safety and Support

Group agreements, making adaptations for youth needs and ensuring safety procedures are in place are essential for youth programs.

1. What unspoken or spoken group agreements currently exist with your group? Do these still reflect the needs of youth in the group?
2. What adaptations can you make to make youth feel more comfortable?

Belonging

Belonging is the epitome of feeling like one's true self within a setting or community. This includes feeling secure, valued, affirmed, connected, and in alignment with others.

1. How do you see belonging playing a role in your program or group?

- 
2. What new strategies can you use to create belonging in your group?

Voice and Choice

In 4-H we like to say, adults guide and youth decide.

1. List the decisions your group makes that are currently being made by adults? List the decisions that are being made by youth. What do you notice?
2. What is important to youth in your program? Are the decisions that are being made reflective of those needs and interests?
3. What new strategy might you try to get more youth voices in your group?

Education

1. How much time does your group provide for youth learning and education?
2. What do youth in your program want to learn? What life and career skills can you help develop?

To explore: Visit the YD Curriculum library and browse through it. Are there any materials that you think would be useful for your group?

Reflection

1. What did you notice or learn today?
2. What will you apply to your group or program?