



Growing Communities: Leadership Seeds of Success

Leadership SOS

Curriculum Area: Leadership

Life Skills: Teamwork, Contributions to Group Effort, Cooperation, Accepting Differences, Nurturing Relationships, and Leadership

Description of Activity: Youth and adults will consider the benefits and challenges of working in partnership with each other.

Time Involved: 36 minutes

Supplies: Larger sticky notes for writing on, pencils/pens/markers, four large pieces of paper, each large piece of paper has written on it one of the following:

- 1) Benefits of working with adults
- 2) Benefits of working with youth
- 3) Challenges of working with adults
- 4) Challenges of working with youth

Instructions: Divide youth and adults into two separate groups. If you have a large group of adults and youth, then within the youth and adult groups divide participants into groups of five. Give each group sticky notes and pencils/pens/markers. Ask the youth, “What are the benefits of working with adults?” Ask the adults, “What are the benefits of working with youth?” They are to write their responses on the sticky notes. Give the groups 3 minutes to complete the activity and then ask them to share their responses within their small groups (5 minutes). Have each group come up with a top ten list of their benefits. Next have them stick their completed sticky notes up on the wall in the top ten order on the appropriate large piece of paper (see supplies) that has already been adhered to the wall.

Repeat the process with this question for the youth, “What are the challenges of working with adults?” Ask the adults, “What are the challenges of working with youth?” Give the groups 3 minutes to complete the activity and then ask them to share their responses within their small groups (5 minutes). Have each group come up with a top ten list of their challenges. Next have them stick their completed sticky notes up on the wall in the top ten order on the appropriate large piece of paper (see supplies) that has already been adhered to the wall.

Bring the youth and adults together to discuss the benefits and challenges. Have the youth present their list of benefits first, then have the adults share (5 minutes total).

Allow for 5 minutes of group discussion.

Next share the challenges of working together. Again have the youth go first, then the adults (5 minutes total). Allow for 5 minutes of group discussion.

Reflecting using the Experiential Learning Model

1. Share: How easy was it to come up with benefits? Challenges? Are there items/benefits listed that are particularly unique to being young? Are there items/benefits listed that you have to be an adult to have?
2. Process: What is there about the benefits that can help overcome the challenges?
3. Generalize: What have you learned from this activity? What did you learn that surprised you? Why?
4. Apply: How might we use this information within our 4-H Council? How would you use this information within your 4-H club? With others groups you work with?

Source: Creating Youth-Adult Partnerships: Training Curricula for Youth, Adults, and Youth-Adult Teams, The Innovation Center, 1996.

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