



My Club ✓ Lists

For your use, to review your success in incorporating the 8 Key Elements of Positive Youth Development in your club activities.

Is our club an emotionally and physically safe place for all of our members?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Does the club have clear and consistent rules and expectations for positive behavior?			
2.	Are the rules communicated annually?			
3.	Do advisors and members watch for hazards and eliminate them as they surface?			
4.	Are there reasonable methods for dealing with misbehavior?			
5.	Do we allow offensive language and gestures at club meetings and functions?			
6.	Do we encourage members to reflect upon what is to happen when we are at club functions?			
7.	Are all of the adults working with our club familiar with the youth protection policy?			
8.	Do adults and youth periodically discuss ways to improve the group environment?			
9.	Are members closely supervised so that they feel physically and emotionally "safe" at all times?			
10.	Are conflicts handled as they arise?			

Does our club allow members the opportunity for self-determination?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do members set the club goals and determine the direction the club takes?			
2.	Is our club environment flexible as unexpected things arise?			
3.	Are members given the opportunity to plan, implement and evaluate programs and projects?			
4.	Do we encourage the club and members to do new things?			
5.	Are the members involved in making rules and setting policies?			
6.	Are members recognized for trying new things that challenge their abilities?			
7.	Do one or two people control the direction of the club?			
8.	Are members free to choose their level of involvement?			
9.	Do youth believe that they have influence over the important decisions of the group?			
10.	Are members allowed to solve problems for themselves and the club with minimal advice?			

Members in our club want to learn, therefore, we seek ways to do so.				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do youth feel ownership of the club?			
2.	Is the club program planned with a challenge in mind?			
3.	Do members experience challenges, fantasy, curiosity, and control as part of our club program?			
4.	Can youth participate in our club and pursue their own interests?			
5.	Do we take the time to relate what is learned to real life experiences wherever possible?			
6.	Do we work at connecting our club program with youth issues and concerns?			
7.	Do we allow youth to experience control of our activities?			
8.	Do club expectations allow youth to make choices in level of involvement?			
9.	Do the members design and participate in real projects that make a difference in the lives of others?			
10.	Does our club program appeal to the needs and interests of the youth involved?			

Do our members feel that they are an active participant in their future?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do members feel qualified to take an active role in future events?			
2.	Do members know how to set a goal and develop a plan to carry it out?			
3.	Do adults give the members the power to set future goals for the club?			
4.	Would our members someday consider taking a leadership role in an adult club?			
5.	Do members have opportunities to hear from former members who have experienced success?			
6.	Is positive thinking both practiced and encouraged in our club?			
7.	Does our club offer members a chance to become active citizens by understanding the democratic process?			
8.	Do we provide both inspiration and motivation for youth to strive towards their goals?			
9.	Do members have a strong sense of the value of education and training in self-determination?			
10.	Are our members growing in their understanding of personal, marriage and family roles in our society?			

How am I doing as the caring adult?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do I praise all of our members?			
2.	Do I treat each member as a worthwhile human being and member of the club?			
3.	Do I expect members to treat each other with respect?			
4.	Do I know each member's name they prefer to go by and how to pronounce it or spell it correctly?			
5.	Do I give members my full attention when they talk to me?			
6.	Are all members treated equally and fairly?			
7.	Do we set reasonable guidelines and insist that members follow them?			
8.	Do members have a say in the things we do?			
9.	Do I think positive thoughts of every member and encourage achievement from each of them?			
10.	Do I share club, county and state contests, camp, workshop and award opportunity information with all the 4-H members?			

Does our club have a "welcoming" environment?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do we use "ice breakers" at the beginning of activities or meetings to get everyone involved?			
2.	Do we recognize members for a variety of things or just competition?			
3.	Do we encourage group identity with club hats, t-shirts, jackets, etc.?			
4.	Do we have a plan to include new faces right away so they feel involved? (Perhaps asking them to lead pledges, pass out papers, etc.)			
5.	Do we seek diversity in our club?			
6.	Do we encourage creative thinking from our members and show appreciation for their great ideas?			
7.	Do members get positive feedback from advisors and members regularly?			
8.	Do we make time for adults and youth to become better acquainted?			
9.	Does each of our members feel that their opinions are valued?			
10.	Do we discourage new ideas with comments like, "that will never work", "we tried that once", etc.			

How are we doing providing opportunities for mastery of skills?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do we encourage everyone to do a demonstration or talk?			
2.	Do we encourage members to set realistic yet lofty goals?			
3.	Do we encourage members to help each other with project work and share their expertise?			
4.	Do we make step-by-step plans so members can see successes?			
5.	Do we celebrate successes along the way?			
6.	Do we encourage members to reflect upon the successes?			
7.	Do we periodically evaluate the plan, reviewing the setbacks and adjusting for success to be possible?			
8.	Do we provide training/support for members when we expect them to do something, thereby increasing the odds of success?			
9.	Do we provide opportunities for members to teach what they have learned?			
10.	Are there hands-on learning opportunities and opportunities to practice new skills?			

Do we value and practice service to others?				
	Club Check List	Almost Always	Some-times	Hardly Ever
1.	Do members help select the service project themselves?			
2.	Are members involved in the planning of service projects?			
3.	Does our club do a variety of types of service?			
4.	Do members understand the relationship between community need and service?			
5.	Do members seek creative ideas to address community needs?			
6.	Do members demonstrate respect and concern for the needs of others?			
7.	Do adults in the club demonstrate respect, concern and sensitivity to the needs of members and other adults?			
8.	Are the service projects we do appropriate for the age of the group?			
9.	Do members get genuinely involved in the service projects?			
10.	Does the club look for ways to help the community?			

Checklist created Brenda Young, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development, OSU Extension - Wyandot County. Adapted from Kirk Astroth's "Critical Elements and Practices for 4-H". Peer reviewed by Ohio V-8 Task Force.