

Volunteer Research, Knowledge, Competency (VRKC)

Taxonomy for 4-H Youth Development

4-H National Headquarters
Volunteers for the Next Generation



Organizational Skills:

Parent Recruitment & Involvement

Elements Parents Look For

1. A safe place where youth learn while having fun
2. Relationships with and support from other adults who care about youth
3. A youth group which has organization, structure, and communication
4. Being able to do things together as a family



1. A Safe, Fun Learning Environment

- Screening, orientation, and training process for volunteers
- Risk management education
- Balance of hands-on, fun, experiential learning
- Youth voice in the program



2. Relationships and Support from Other Adults

- Get parents involved quickly
- Ask how they would like to help
- Support parents in their volunteer role
- Invite parents to trainings, meetings, recognition events
- Recognize their efforts



3. Organization, Structure & Communication

- Keep parents informed
- Consider an annual calendar of activities that includes what, when, where, and who
- Be clear in expectations
- Have a volunteer role description, handbook, and policy manual
- Mentor new volunteers



4. Family Involvement

- Include family activities and events in the 4-H calendar
- Include opportunities for parents to volunteer with their children
- Include families in the planning of events



Organizational Skills: Parent Recruitment and Involvement



Thank You

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VRKC:
Volunteer Research Knowledge Competency Taxonomy



Volunteers for the Next Generation

