

Volunteer Research, Knowledge, Competency (VRKC)

Taxonomy for 4-H Youth Development

4-H National Headquarters
Volunteers for the Next Generation



Positive Youth Development:
Ability to Motivate & Encourage Youth

How Do 4-H Volunteers Motivate Youth?

- ✓ Recognize that motivating others is an unpredictable role
 - Never know when you will need to motivate
 - Not all youth need the same amount of support
- ✓ Successful motivators know their members
- ✓ Create the environment so youth want to succeed



The 4-H Club...the Place Where Everyone is Welcome!

- ✓ Learn names
 - Circle name game
 - Name-ball game
- ✓ Provide fun opportunities to interact
 - Paper roll introductions
 - Shoe pile



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Keep Members Invited & Involved

- Communicate often to families & members
- Club calendar or schedule
- Club e-newsletters of accomplishments and upcoming events
- Email meeting notice reminders
- Develop calling tree for club
- Send text message reminders



Make the Club a Safe Place

- Meet in physically safe places
- Develop club rules that promote positive behavior
- IALAC: I Am Loving And Capable



Catch Members Being Successful

- Call them by name
- “Good job on your...”
- Recognize success in the club meeting
- Chart of achievements



Teach Members Positive Self-Talk

- ✓ Something I'm good at
 - I am a good soccer player, I am good at training my animal
- ✓ Something I like about my looks
 - I like my curly hair, I like my height
- ✓ Something I like about my personality
 - I like how I can make friends easily, I like how I can solve problems
- ✓ Other things I like about myself
 - I am a good reader, I am a good with my baby sister



4-H Clubs Should Be Fun!

- ✓ Everyone there belongs
- ✓ 4-H volunteers recognize the successes of members
- ✓ 4-H volunteers help members recognize their own successes



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Thank You

Developed by
Vicki J. Schwartz, Associate State Leader,
4-H Youth Development, Ohio State University Extension

VRKC:
Volunteer Research Knowledge Competency Taxonomy



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