



4-H ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

Belonging Evaluation

*Is the Essential Element of **BELONGING** part of your 4-H club, project group, or event? Use the checklist below to assess the work you are doing as part of the Wyoming 4-H program.*

Positive relationship with a caring adult

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Youth and adults participate equally to plan, implement, and evaluate club program | | | | |
| Call each member by his/her first name | | | | |
| Introductions and get-acquainted activities | | | | |
| Recruit parents and other caring adults to serve as volunteer | | | | |
| Adults listen to what youth are saying rather than promote their own ideas | | | | |
| Adults interact with youth (mingling with youth vs. sitting in the back) | | | | |
| Celebrate and have fun together beyond club meetings | | | | |

1: Most of the time. 2: Some of the time. 3: Rarely. 4: Not observed.

A safe environment

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Club does not tolerate bullying, cliques or put-downs | | | | |
| Volunteers are screened and trained | | | | |
| Members feel comfortable sharing idea | | | | |
| Members, parents, and volunteers treat all members equally | | | | |
| Financial audit form submitted annually | | | | |
| Meetings start and end on time | | | | |

1: Most of the time. 2: Some of the time. 3: Rarely. 4: Not observed.

An inclusive environment

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Youth feel included rather than excluded | | | | |
| Club members encourage each other during activities and events | | | | |
| Youth feel a sense of belonging | | | | |
| Club signs, banners, t-shirts, etc identifying their club with 4-H clover emblem | | | | |
| Members invite and welcome new members | | | | |
| Activities and events include all grades of members | | | | |
| Club meeting site meets ADA requirements | | | | |
| Opportunities for family participation, shared youth and adult leadership | | | | |
| Ceremonies and traditions develop group cohesion | | | | |

1: Most of the time. 2: Some of the time. 3: Rarely. 4: Not observed.

Looking at the checklist above, in what areas do you struggle to create an environment of belonging (items where you entered 3 or 4). Use the Belonging handout or talk to your 4-H Educator about ways you can improve the environment at your 4-H club, meeting, or event. Write your ideas below.