



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.