

# CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHY IT IS  
IMPORTANT TO CREATE AND MAINTAIN A WELCOMING  
ENVIRONMENT IN THE 4-H PROGRAM.

WHILE WE WAIT FOR EVERYONE TO ARRIVE PLEASE WRITE YOUR  
NAME AND COUNTY IN THE CHAT BOX.

WELCOME AND THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!





# CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT



**WHY IS THIS TOPIC SO  
IMPORTANT?**

# WHAT IS FOUND IN A WELCOMING CLUB / PROJECT?



- INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT
  - YOUTH (FAMILIES) NEED FEEL LIKE THEY ARE WELCOME
- CARING ADULT
  - YOUTH FEEL CARED ABOUT AND ACCEPTED BY OTHERS.
  - DEVELOP SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS THAT LAST A LIFETIME.
- SAFE EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT
  - YOUTH WILL NOT ENGAGE UNLESS THEY ARE COMFORTABLE IN THEIR SURROUNDINGS
  - ADULT MAY NOT VOLUNTEER IF THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE SITUATION




The background of the slide is a light gray gradient. It is decorated with numerous realistic water droplets of various sizes. Some droplets are large and prominent, while others are small and subtle. They are scattered across the frame, with a higher concentration in the top-left and bottom-right corners, leaving the center area relatively clear for the text.

# **INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT**



# WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE

- YOUTH MEMBERS ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER DURING FAIR JUDGING, SPORTING EVENTS, AND ACADEMIC CHALLENGES.
  - MEMBERS FEEL THEY BELONGING TO A SPECIFIC CLUB OR GROUP, WHILE ALSO KNOWING THEY BELONGING TO A LARGER STATE AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATION.
  - SIGNS, BANNERS, SHIRTS, AND RECOGNITION BEARING THE 4-H EMBLEM
  - ALL MEMBERS FEEL FREE TO INVITE FRIENDS AND WELCOME NEW MEMBER TO EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM YEAR.
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# TRADITIONS

- ORDER OF YOUR MEETING
  - MEETING LOCATION
  - MEETING DECORATIONS
  - WHERE PEOPLE SIT
  - WHERE PEOPLE ENTER
  - LANGUAGE USED AT MEETINGS
- A Seven Year Old
  - A Junior in High School
  - A youth with a physical disability
  - Someone from a different culture or ethnic group
  - Single mom with a baby
  - A youth with a severe behavioral disability
  - A family that just got done choring and is in barn clothes
  - Grandparents raising grandchildren

# HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN?

- ENCOURAGE TIES WITH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
- ENCOURAGE COLLABORATIVE AND COOPERATIVE LEARNING
- HAVE ICEBREAKERS AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY MEETING
  - [HTTP://WWW.UWYO.EDU/4-H/VOLUNTEERS/](http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/volunteers/)



NAVIGATION

**A-Z DIRECTORY**

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[Process to Make/Communicate Changes](#)

## Training Opportunities

- [New Leader Orientation](#)
- [Master 4-H Volunteers](#)
- [Teaching Outlines/Activities](#)
- [4-H Shooting Sports Certification](#)
- [4-H Chaperone Training](#)
- [Creating a Welcoming Environment Training](#)
  - [Welcome Poster](#)
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  - [4-H Recognition Model](#)

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- PROVIDE MANY FORMS OF RECOGNITION, NOT JUST THOSE WHO EXCEL COMPETITIVELY
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# Recognition Model

Oklahoma 4-H Volunteer Development Series



## National 4-H Recognition Model

### Inside this issue:

Progress Toward Self- 2

Achieving Standards of 2

Peer Competition 3

Cooperation 3

Recognition is one way to help young people become self-directed, productive and contributing citizens. 4-H

uses five types of recognition. Each supports, motivates and encourages young people in a unique way. This

model presents a balanced approach to effectively using recognition as a way of motivating 4-H'ers.



1. Participation in educational experiences.
2. Making progress toward self-set goals.
3. Achieving standards of excellence.
4. Excelling in peer competition.
5. Demonstrating excellence in cooperation.

"Recognition is one way to help young people become self-directed, productive and contributing citizens."

## Participation

Participation is a type of recognition that emphasizes the importance of commending young people who have been involved in 4-H educational experiences. For some young people,

especially beginners, low resource, and those with disabilities, taking part in a 4-H learning experience is a significant



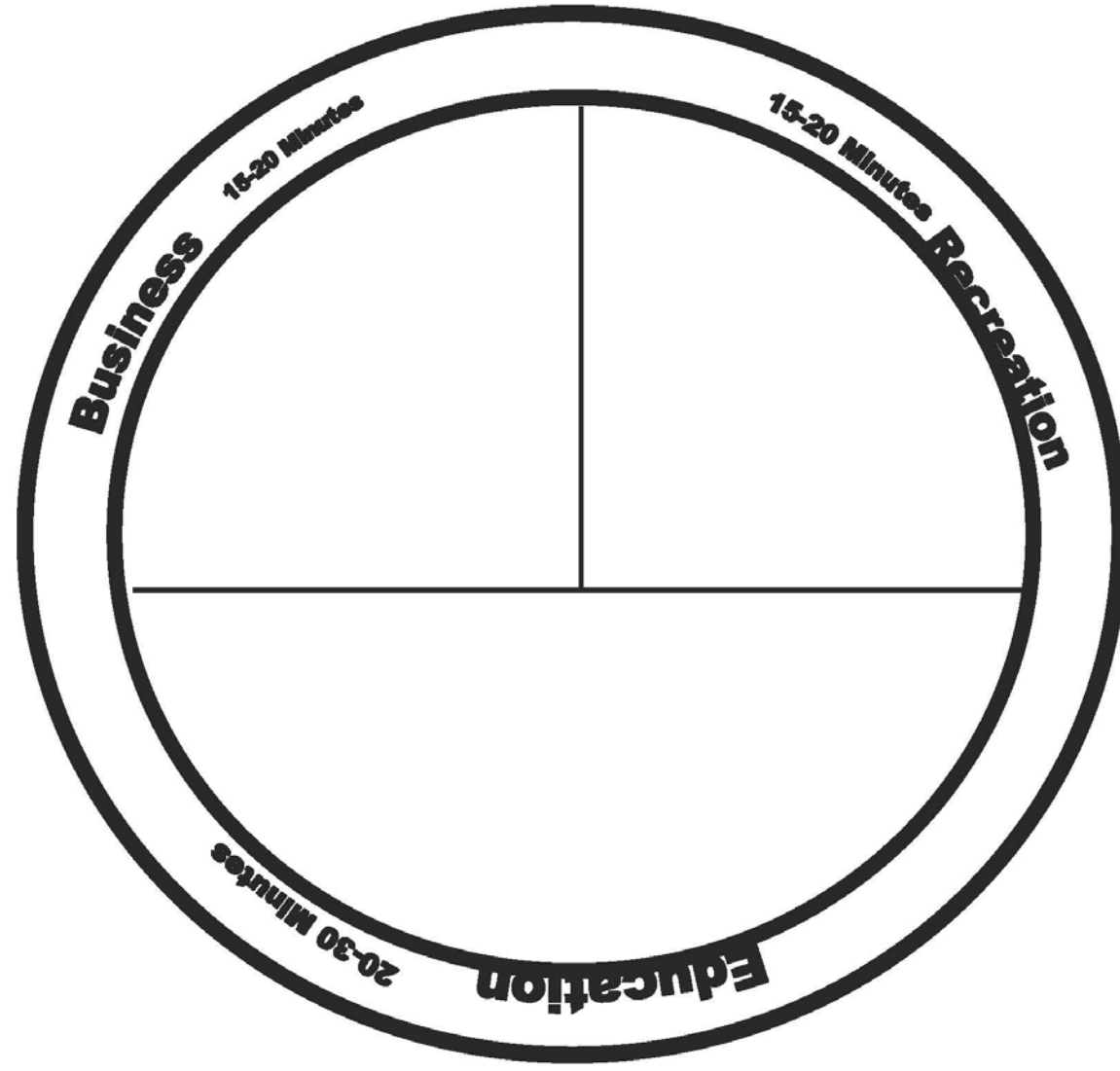
accomplishment. All youth find this recognition meaningful. This is the first step in building positive self-esteem. (Examples: stickers, pins, certificates, participation cards, news articles, t-shirts, caps.)

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- SHOW RESPECT FOR THE VALUE OF DIVERSE CULTURES
- ENCOURAGE SUPPORTIVE PEER RELATIONSHIPS




# WHERE DOES IT HAPPEN?





# WHERE DOES IT HAPPEN?

- PHONE CALLS TO LEADERS
  - ENTERING THE MEETING
  - FEELING WELCOMED
  - EDUCATION / PROJECT TALKS AT MEETING
  - RECREATION AT MEETING OR OUTSIDE OF MEETING TIME
- 





W e l c o m e

**PLEDGE:**

I Pledge-  
My HEAD to clearer thinking,  
My HEART to greater loyalty,  
My HANDS to larger service, and  
My HEALTH to better living  
For my club, my community,  
my country, my world

**MOTTO:**

"To make the Best Better"





## MORE IDEAS

- CLOTHING
- SIGNAGE



# WELCOME





## MORE IDEAS

- CLOTHING
  - SIGNAGE
  - PLEDGE CARDS
- 



## THE 4-H PLEDGE

I pledge...



my **HEAD** to  
clearer thinking.



my **HEART** to  
greater loyalty.



my **HANDS** to  
larger service.



my **HEALTH** to  
better living.

For my **club**, my **community**,  
my **country** and my **world**.

**MICHIGAN STATE  
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The background of the slide is a light gray gradient. It is decorated with several realistic water droplets of various sizes. Some droplets are clustered in the top left corner, while others are scattered across the bottom right. Each droplet has a soft shadow and a highlight, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.


**WHAT IS A CARING ADULT?**

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient. It is decorated with numerous realistic water droplets of various sizes. Some droplets are large and prominent, while others are small and subtle. They are scattered across the frame, with a higher concentration in the top-left and bottom-right corners, leaving the center area where the text is located relatively clear.

**THINK BACK TO AN ADULT THAT  
HAD A POSITIVE INFLUENCE  
ON YOU...**




# WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE

- ADULTS CALL YOUTH BY THEIR FIRST NAMES.
  - ADULTS IN THE CLUB KNOW THE INTERESTS OF YOUTH MEMBERS.
  - ADULTS KNOW WHAT KIDS ARE DOING BOTH IN AND OUTSIDE OF THE 4-H PROGRAM.
- 



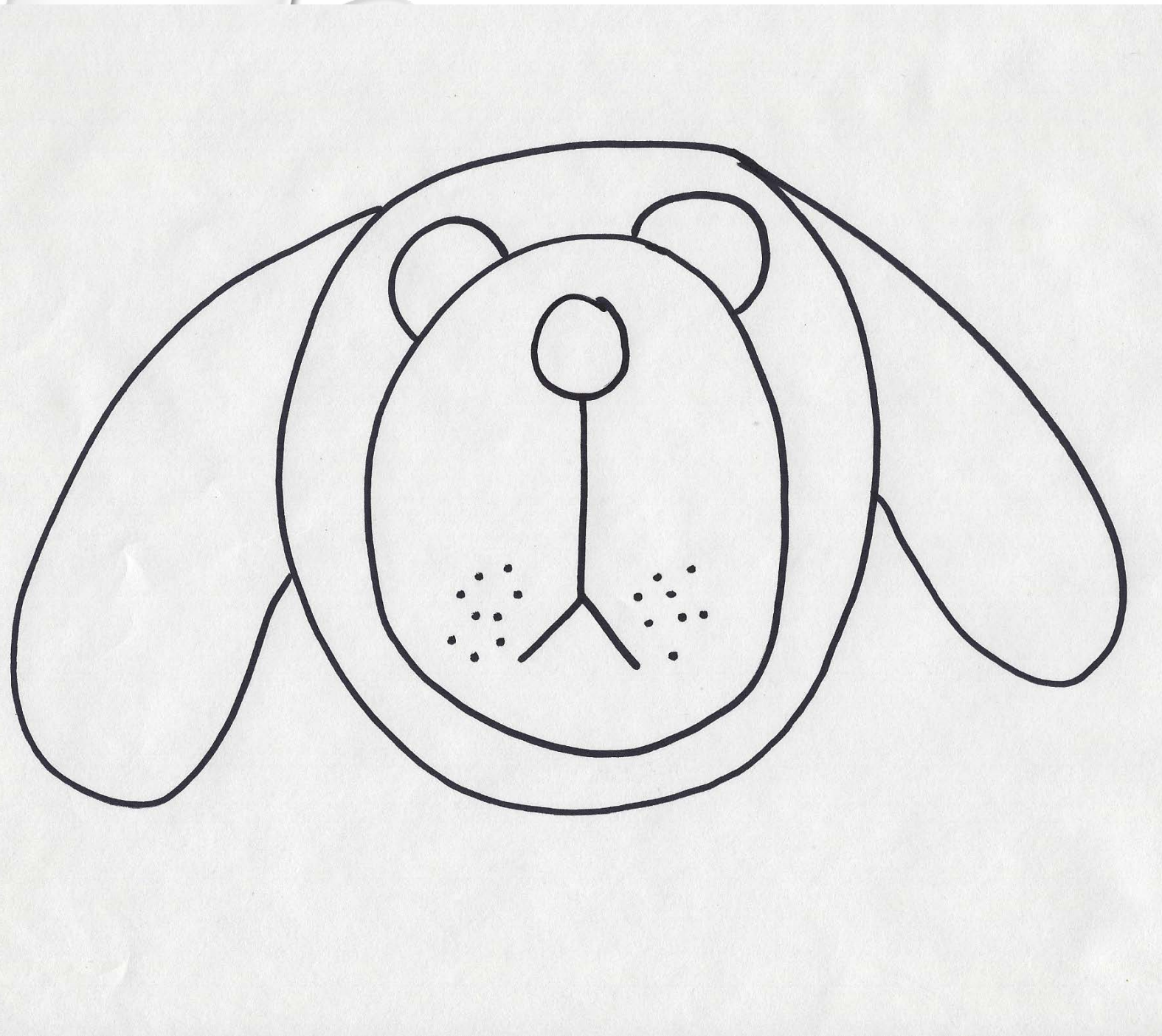
# HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN?

- MAKE SMALL-GROUP TIME AVAILABLE TO ALLOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN CLUB
  - PROVIDE MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH ADULTS
  - CREATE A PHOTO MEMBER LIBRARY
  - ALL ABOUT ME NOTEBOOK
- 



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- PROVIDE MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH ADULTS
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- ALL ABOUT ME NOTEBOOK
- USE NAMETAGS
- ADULTS NEED TO LISTEN




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# A SAFE ENVIRONMENT





# WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

- A CLUB THAT ENCOURAGES AND SUPPORTS MEMBERS.
  - A PHYSICALLY SAFE LOCATION
  - A PLACE WHERE MEMBERS KNOW THAT NO ONE WILL MAKE FUN OF THEM, INSULT THEM, OR THREATEN THEM.
- 

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient. It is decorated with several realistic water droplets of various sizes. Some droplets are at the top left, some at the bottom right, and others are scattered in the lower half. Each droplet has a highlight and a shadow, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.

# DAVEY'S STORY



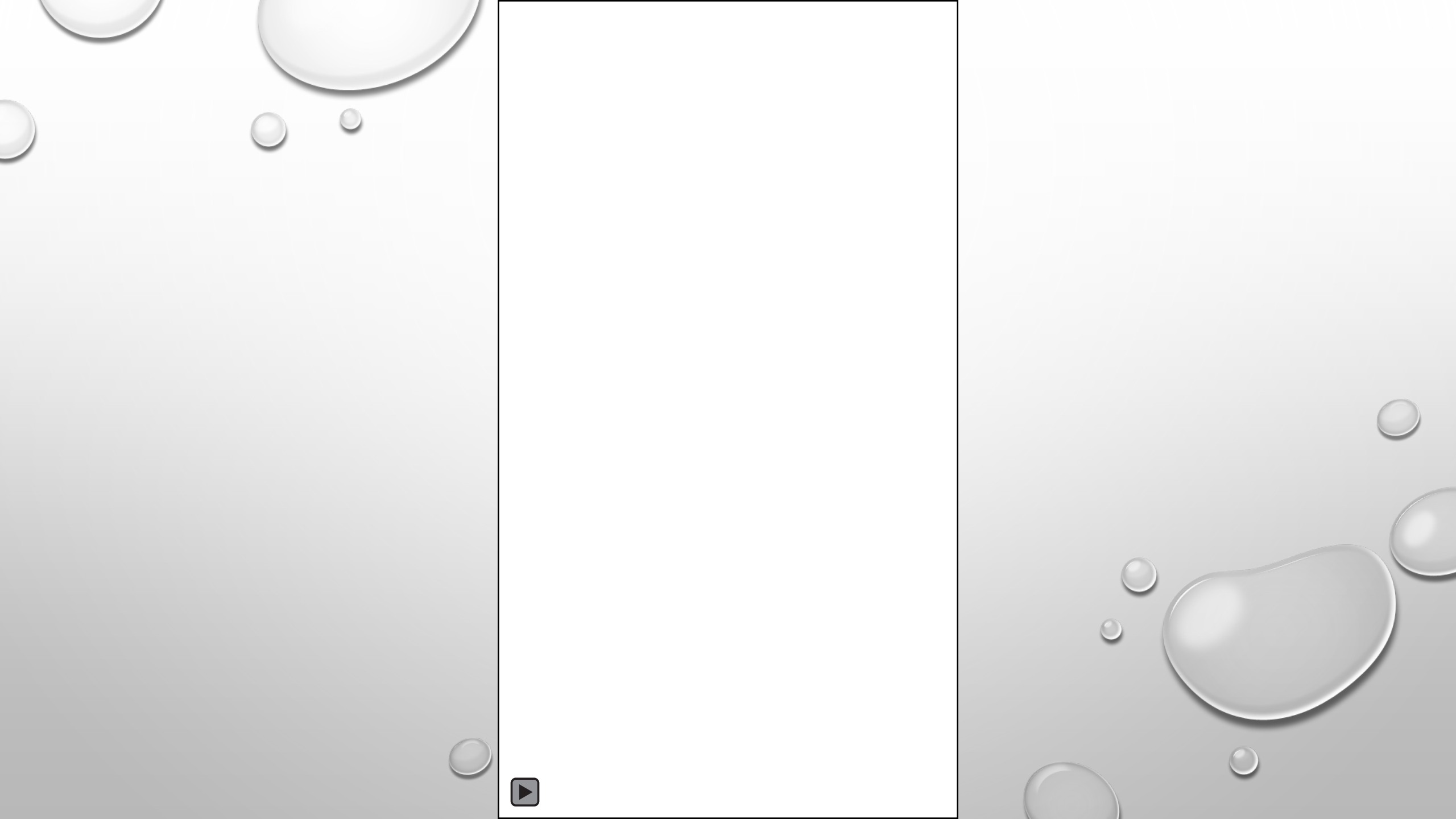








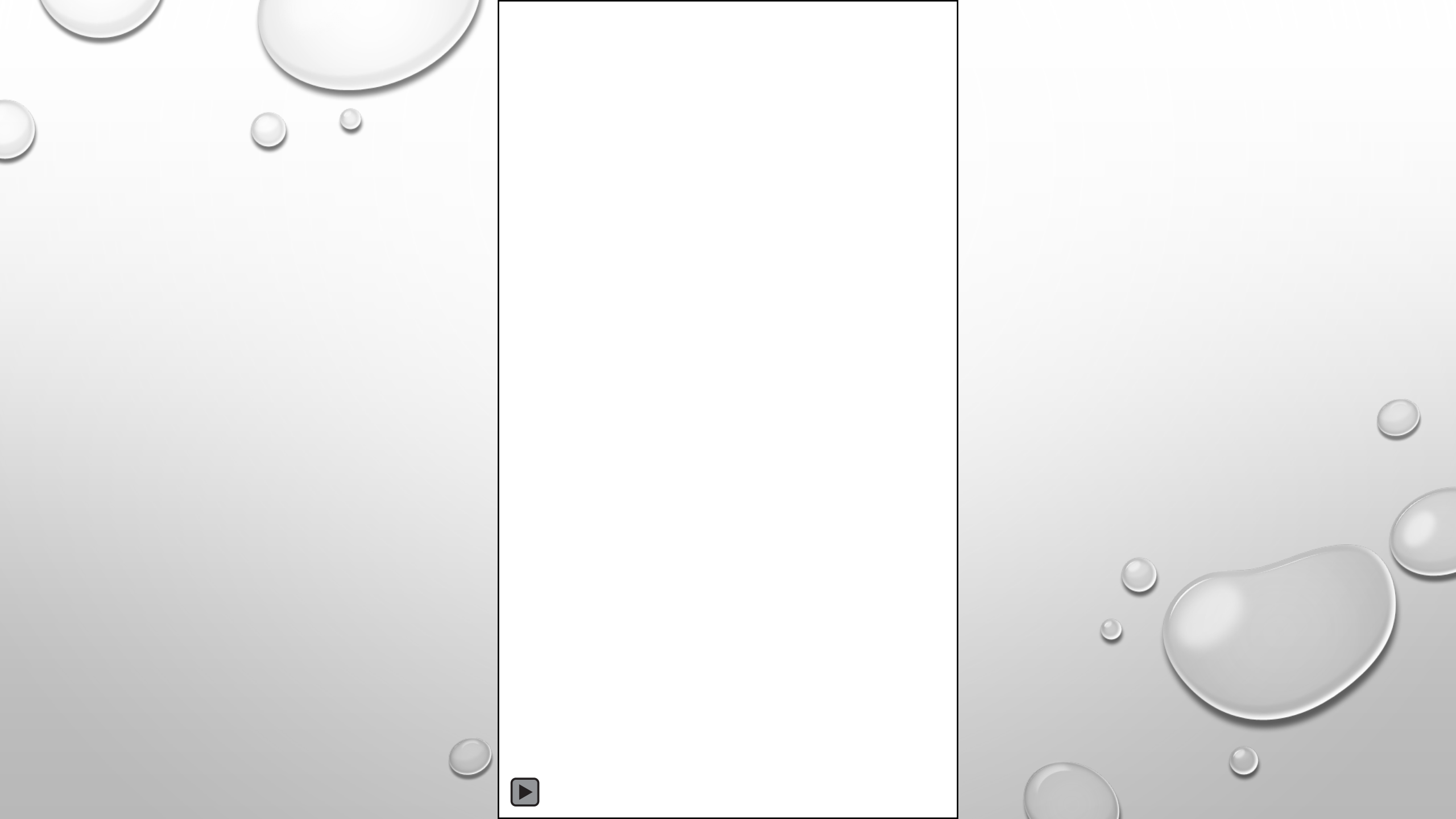










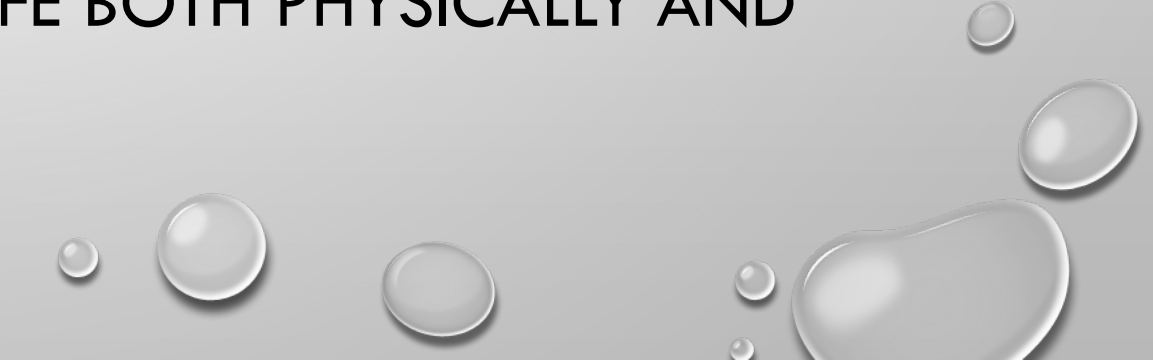


# IS YOUR GROUP A DANGER ZONE?

- UNSAFE GROUNDS / PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
- CANDLES / FIRE
- OLDER MEMBERS PICKING ON YOUNGER MEMBERS
- ACCESS TO KNIVES
- ACCESS TO CLEANING SOLUTIONS
- BREAKABLE ITEMS YOUTH MIGHT HAVE ACCESS TO, GLASS
- FIREARMS
- MEMBER IS UNABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND MADE FUN OF



# REVIEW

- RESEARCH SHOWS THAT A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT IS CONSIDERED A TOP PRIORITY TO ENSURE THAT YOUTH HAVE A POSITIVE 4-H EXPERIENCE.
  - A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT IS INCLUSIVE.
  - A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT HAS CARING ADULTS
  - A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT IS SAFE BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY
- 

# LETTER TO ME

BASED ON WHAT YOU LEARNED TODAY WRITE YOURSELF A LETTER ABOUT THINGS YOU CAN DO (PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY) TO MAKE YOUR CLUB, PROJECT, ETC. A MORE WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT IN THE NEXT 6-12 MONTHS.

SEND LETTER TO [STORBERT@UWYO.EDU](mailto:STORBERT@UWYO.EDU)

# SEE YOU IN FEBRUARY

- OUR NEXT TRAINING WILL BE FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM  
TOPIC WILL BE THE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE 4-H PROGRAM
- QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT [STORBERT@UWYO.EDU](mailto:STORBERT@UWYO.EDU)
- WEBSITE FOR RESOURCES [HTTP://WWW.UWYO.EDU/4-H/VOLUNTEERS/](http://WWW.UWYO.EDU/4-H/VOLUNTEERS/)

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