

BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES

Purpose: To have participants consider the challenges and the benefits of working in partnership with adults.

Time: 30 minutes

Materials: 6-8 ½ sheets of paper per participant, markers, paper or cloth sprayed with adhesive for the ½ sheets of paper

Procedure:

“We talked a little in the role-plays about both the negatives and some of the positive ways we’ve interacted with adults. Let’s focus for a minute on what we think adults might be able to bring to the table that adds to our experience and could help us in some way. Let’s brainstorm for a few minutes all the benefits that we think an adult can bring to a partnership with youth.”

Discussion Questions:

1. When you look at these benefits, what feelings do you have?
2. Are there items/benefits up here that you have to be an adult to have?
3. How can we use this information as we go forward?

Now ask the participants to do a similar process with the challenges or barriers of working with adults. “This is a list we may be able to use when we meet with the adults to determine how best to meet those challenges.”

Leader’s Notes

Give them a few minutes to think and then have them write their ideas on the half sheets.

Have them:

- write big
- 3-5 words per sheet
- one idea per sheet

Go through these instructions with them, step-by-step.

Discussion Questions:

1. How easy was it to come up with benefits?
Challenges?
2. What is there about the benefits that can help overcome the challenges?
3. Where else might you look for ideas on how to overcome the challenges?
4. What are you learning from this activity?
5. How might we use this information?

Leader's Notes