

ACTIVITY: TEACHING AND LEARNING

It’s easy to forget that you and your group members are simultaneously teachers and learners. A gentle reminder of that fact can be useful for work on leadership development with youth and adults. The Boys and Girls Club of Benton Harbor, Michigan, used this activity in its community and shared it with the larger KLCC II group.

OVERVIEW

This activity allows group members to share the many moments during which they both teach and learn from one another.

OBJECTIVES

- To encourage a space for both teaching and learning
- To facilitate reflection
- To share talents and gifts

TIME REQUIRED

Approximately 25 minutes

SUPPLIES

You don’t need materials for this activity, just enough space for your group members to sit in a circle.

WHAT	TIME	HOW	MATERIALS
Step 1: Setting the context	3 min	<p>Have group members sit in a circle. Tell them, “We’ve been working as youth and adult partners for a while now, and we’ve been doing a great job. I’d like to take a little time to think and talk about how we’ve learned from and taught others.”</p> <p>“I’d like you to think about these two questions: During our time together, what have you learned? What have you taught?”</p> <p>Give participants a few minutes to think about their answers.</p>	
Step 2: Sharing with others	15–20 min	<p>Go around the circle (you may choose to use a talking piece) and have participants share their answers. Give them enough time to fully express themselves. Model engagement in the activity by listening deeply.</p>	
Step 3: Wrapping it up	5 min	<p>When everyone has shared, thank group members for their reflections. Ask whether anyone has something to comment about or thoughts sparked by what others have said. Allow time for these discussions. Ask a few final questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Were you surprised by what you heard? ■ Did several people learn or teach similar things? ■ How can this discussion help us as we move forward? 	