



USING ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FEEDBACK FORM

Date Completed: _____

| BELONGING | Most of the Time | Sometimes | Rarely | Not Observed |
|--|------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|
| Positive Relationship with a Caring Adult | | | | |
| Youth & adults participate equally to plan, implement, & evaluate club program | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Call each member by his/her first name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Introductions and get-acquainted activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Recruit parents and other caring adults to serve as volunteers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Adults listen to what youth are saying rather than promote their own ideas | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Adults interact with youth (mingling with youth vs. sitting in the back) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Celebrate and have fun together beyond club meetings | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

A Safe Environment

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

An Inclusive Environment

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

MASTERY

Engagement in Learning

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Meetings have a balance of education, recreation and business | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members working together, planning activities and laughing | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members mature and grow from first year members to club officers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Club agenda available to members | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Opportunity for Mastery

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Active project leaders | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Club involved in county activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members set project goals and gain knowledge through hands-on activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members share their achievements with each other | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members receive public recognition for their achievements | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members assist or mentor other members | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members exhibit or demonstrate what they have learned | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

INDEPENDENCE

Opportunity to See Oneself as an Active Participant in the Future

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Members try new projects and activities as they get older | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Active club officers or youth leadership team | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Officers prepare agendas | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Officers and members plan | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members draw on their project interests to help choose | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Club has an annual plan/program | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Opportunity for Self-Determination

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Members attend meetings and actively participate | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Club has constitution or bylaws | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members choose and plan club activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Members talk about their experiences at meetings | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Youth participate in decision-making activities in the club | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Encourage older members to apply for leadership positions at the county level | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Older members plan, implement, evaluate programs for younger members | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

GENEROSITY

Opportunity to Value and Practice Service for Others

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Club community service projects | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Older members assist younger members | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Share, reflect and recognize service contributions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Connection with local officials | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

The national 4-H Impact Design Implementation Team identified these essential elements as the critical elements in a 4-H experience.

Information adapted from: UW Extension, Feedback Form and Positive Youth Development: The Eight Essential Elements of a 4-H Experience, Iowa State University Extension Helping Leaders Be 4-H Savvy: Positive Youth Development by Sheri Seibold, Extension Educator, University of Illinois.



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