

GAP 100
Activity Support

GAP 100 Reference #

107

What

Youth Input in Program

Why:

- Studies have demonstrated that both the youth and parents enjoy the program more when youth are given opportunities to contribute to their program. This improves rates of retention and overall program satisfaction. Remember youth input plays an integral role in Scouts Canada's entire program and will help us stay the number one youth organization in Canada today.

What do I Need

- A well planned year that takes into account age appropriate activities that are challenging, interesting and where possible current to youths interests.

Who Do I Need

- The youth and their input by sections .i.e. (Where all sections may be involved with the Santa Claus parade the different sections will have different responsibilities from picking the theme to construction of the float). Make sure all can contribute and that the contributions are age appropriate.

Preparation

- Provide the youth with an outline of the years activities and important dates and ask them where or how they would like to contribute. This will vary from skits and songs to colouring place mats. Keep an open mind.

How do I do it

- Ask the youth, listen and encourage participation in their program. Using the program outlines from leaders' handbooks you can develop and guide each section. Leaders may guide a colony where Pack and Troop should foster the sixer roles and Court of honour. Brainstorm and the youth will help build the programs direction.

Follow-up:

- Discuss with the leadership team and youth what worked and what didn't, why things may not have and how it can be improved. Remember to share your successes with other sections and groups.