



Module 4 – Making Good Decisions - User's Guide

Training Outline

1. Introduction, Overview and Purpose
2. Present PowerPoint slides 1-8.
3. Stakeholder Activity
4. Present PowerPoint slides 9-18
5. Decision Making Activity
6. Present Remaining PowerPoint Slides
7. Scenarios
8. Wrap-up

Overview

The previous modules have set the stage for the 4-H character program, the relationship with CHARACTER COUNTS! SM, a brief description of character theory as well as some important definitions. Module 3 discussed the Six Pillars of Character SM and provided discussion and activities for each.

Purpose

Module 4, talks about choices and how we use the pillars to make sound decisions even when some of the pillars appear to be in conflict with one another.

Training Emphasis

- What is involved in making good decisions?
- Two methods for recognizing important decisions.
 - Five Questions
 - Seven Steps to Good Decisions

Discussion Points/Activities

Make copies of the scenarios below. Divide the group into small groups of 3-4. Assign each group one or two of the following scenarios. During the discussion look for signs that they understand the material – using the language such as the pillars and what they mean or referring to how decisions are made, etc. Give the groups 5-7 minutes to discuss their scenario. At the end of the 5-7 minutes ask each group to read their scenario to the group and tell what they would do.

Scenarios

- The Jones family completes the camp registration form and turns it in late although it was completed by the deadline. They just forgot to drop it off at the office. They believe the form should be accepted after all it was completed on time.
- Stanley is enrolled in the beef project. Mom and Dad talk to some 4-H families and learn that a beef project can be profitable and they really need help paying for Stanley's college education. They determine a way to alter the nose print of their champion steer so it can be shown and sold at a larger, more profitable event.
- Samantha really wants to be selected for National 4-H Congress. She is unsure how to complete a winning report so she borrows a copy of completed application from one of her friends who attended National Congress

four years earlier. She copies the application completely.

- The Happy Clovers Club is small – 7 members. They have only \$50.00 in the treasury so it is kept in a cardboard box under the treasurer’s bed. The treasurer need \$20.00 for his date on Saturday night so he “borrows” from the 4-H treasury.

Stakeholder Activity

Present the following situation:

Emily works in a clothing store in the mall. It is time for end of season sales and there are lots of belts that are going on sale. Emily’s best friend Marcie loves to accessorize with belts so Emily tells her to come by the store Monday evening – the evening the manager is not on duty. Marcie comes by the store and Emily gives her several belts because “there are so many, the manager will never notice that these are missing.”

Ask the group to identify the stakeholders in this situation. (store manager, Emily’s family etc)

Decision Making Activity

Bob and Larry are honor students in high school and have always followed the rules never causing any trouble. A week before graduation they decide to go out and “have some fun”. They remove a stop sign from a four-way intersection then hide in the trees waiting to see what happens. It’s not long before they find out. Two cars collide in the intersection killing everyone.

Ask the group to apply either the Recognizing Important Decisions Five Questions (slide 19) or the Seven Step Decision-making Process (slide 21) to this situation. Also have them think about the stakeholders in this situation.

Now for the rest of the story – Bob and Larry had wonderful life-long plans including attending a top-notch University. Instead they are now serving life sentences in a state prison.

Quiz Key: 1. T; 2. F; 3. F; 4. T

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