

Tips for Shared Learning Among Youth and Adults

Adult Do's	Adult Don'ts	Youth Do's	Youth Don'ts
<p>Come willing and ready to listen and learn</p> <p>Help keep the other adults in check</p> <p>Help ensure a safe environment for all to offer their input and ideas</p> <p>Articulate clearly the roles, responsibilities and expectations for all youth and adult participants</p> <p>Articulate from an adult perspective why youth voice is so important</p> <p>Ensure and articulate the importance of youth input and its impact after the event</p> <p>Prepare youth to be facilitators and co-facilitators and work to make sure a youth is the first to speak</p> <p>Lead with a question</p> <p>Have fun!</p>	<p>Assume that you know more or have more valuable knowledge than the youth</p> <p>Team up with or allow other adults to dominate the conversation</p> <p>Allow the outspoken or more experienced youth to dominate or rule the experience for all</p> <p>Assume that everyone understands why they are there and how they need to be together</p> <p>Create an atmosphere of tokenism</p> <p>Set up youth to feel engaged and important only to have them involved in a fruitless event or conversation</p> <p>Facilitate everything or be the first to speak</p> <p>Deliver answers</p> <p>Act like you would rather be or need to be somewhere else</p>	<p>Come willing and ready to contribute ideas, listen and learn</p> <p>Encourage all youth participants to contribute to the process and speak their truth</p> <p>Step Up and respectfully articulate when you feel an adult is dominating a conversation</p> <p>Bring honesty, energy and your unique ideas and experiences to the conversation</p> <p>Respect people with different backgrounds and experiences</p> <p>Follow up by taking your ideas and information back to your own school and community</p> <p>Have fun!</p>	<p>Assume adults won't take you seriously or aren't really interested in hearing the truth from your perspective</p> <p>Team up with people you know or who share ideas in an attempt to "win" a conversation</p> <p>Defer leadership and/or expertise to adults</p> <p>Show up just because someone told you to or because you got out of school</p> <p>Assume that everyone has had your same experiences</p> <p>Leave this as a one-time experience and go back to your school and community without working to change anything</p> <p>Complain about being bored without helping to make things fun</p>

Contact: Anderson Williams at andersonwilliams@cascadeeducationalconsultants.com