

Brown County 4-H Afterschool Program Evaluation Report First Quarter, 2005

Two separate evaluation instruments were utilized to evaluate 4-H Afterschool

- 1) A staff observation of youth behavior was conducted weekly
- 2) A youth evaluation was conducted at the conclusion of the 6 week period

Training on the Critical Elements Model and the evaluation instruments were provided to the Afterschool teaching staff.

Evaluations were conducted at the conclusion of each of the "Afterschool" programs. Results from the 67 youth in grades 1-5 that participated in the evaluation found that youth experienced each of the critical elements to a high degree.

- Positive Relationships with a Caring Adult – 80% of youth reported that adults in 4-H really care me. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: Multiple reports of youth hugging staff as a welcome and goodbye, "Two youth did not want to leave after program ended", "They gave us hugs and were sad because it was the last day, "They want to sit on our laps, One child said, I like you", "Youth are excited to see me".
- Opportunity for Mastery/Competence –73% of youth reported that they learned new things at 4-H. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: "Youth were eager to show me what they were learning", "They were constantly asking questions and bringing me to see things", "Students talked about what they can do to prevent 'litter bugs' in the future", "Youth are eager to further experiment with their airplane designs".
- Opportunity to Value and Practice Service for Others – 75% of youth reported that they learned ways to help other people. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: "Youth help each other", "Youth help to pick up crayons while waiting for other to finish", Many reports of youth helping one another, "Youth are eager to help those 'catch up' who have missed a week of 4-H".
- Opportunity for Self-Determination – 82% of youth reported that they learned to make good choices at 4-H. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: "One youth was so interested in finding out more about reptiles that he offered to look up info about them on line", Youth were able to work independently on projects", "Youth are eager to experiment at home with their planes after they constructed them", "youth are eager to devise their own experiments with flight as well as make modifications to see what happens".
- An Inclusive Environment – 76% of youth reported that they learned to treat people with respect at 4-H. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: "New youth were accepted readily into the group", "many youth are eagerly working together", "Youth are eager to sign up for 4-H in the future", "All had different opinions as to what the story was about, but all respected and kept an open mind to each others thoughts", "They are all friends and like to joke around

with each other”, “They all worked in groups (on owl pellets) and no one was excluded”.

- Opportunity to See One’s Self as an Active Participant in the Future – 76% of youth reported that they look forward to 4-H days. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: “They kids tell us (the staff) that they look forward to 4-H”, “Youth stated that they didn’t want 4-H to end”, “Youth report that a week is too long to wait for 4-H to come again”, “Youth talk about their future plans, one reports wanting to be a 4-H Teacher and several youth express a desire to go to college”.
- Engagement in Learning – 82% of youth reported that they have fun learning at 4-H. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: “Youth were excited when we were early so they could get started right away”, “They (the youth) were constantly asking questions and bring me to see things”, “Youth want to know when they can sign up for 4-H again”.
- An Emotionally and Physically Safe Environment – 70% of youth reported that they feel safe to share their idea’s with others at 4-H. Staff Observation reports indicated the following: “Youth are open. They make fun of themselves and each other in their own way”, “Youth are eager to share about their personal heritage”, “Youth are very open and share stories and life experiences”, “They share their ideas with each other”, “Youth enjoyed playing charades, even though they were shy about acting out the ‘animals’.

Youth were also asked if they had been in 4-H before and if they knew what the H’s in 4-H stand for. 45% of youth reported being in 4-H prior to this session. Because of the short duration of programming, only 25% of the youth were able to report familiarity with the 4-H pledge.