

Lesson Plan I: What is Research?

Objective: To introduce the group, go over expectations and get a sense of what youth know and how they feel about research.

Time: 60 Minutes

How Many: 10-20

Materials: Agree and Disagree Signs

Enroll: Raise your hand if you have had to do research before?
Raise your hand if you enjoy doing research?
Take answers from the group about what kind of research they have done.

Do/Experience:

Forced Choice Activity: Put agree and disagree signs on opposite sides of the room. Ask youth to stand up and move to the center of the room. You will read a series of statements. After each statement, they should silently decide whether they agree or disagree and move to that side of the room. Have youth share why they answered what they did for each statement.

- I have done research before.
- I like research.
- Research is boring.
- Talking to people is research.
- I know what the biggest problem at this (school/community/organization etc.) is.
- You need to do research in college.
- There are a lot of problems at this (school/community/organization etc.).
- Youth are generally happy at this (school/community/organization, etc.).
- Many youth have personal problems
- I know how most people here feel about the (school/community/organization, etc.).
- I want to know more about what issues youth have.

Process: What did you notice about the group? What did you learn from this activity?

Label: In this stage of the project, we will be figuring out a key issue and doing more research to find out how the (school/community/organization, etc.) feels about it. The skills you learn here will help you in college, in jobs, and in the future.

Celebrate: Everyone shares one thing they are looking forward to about this project.