


# Teen Leadership Track

## 2021 Teens as Teachers Conference

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Topics included today are:

What's in a Name?	Civic Engagement: Your Voice Matters!
Paper Plate Collage	Choose Your Cause



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# What's in a Name?



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**What's in a Name?**



- **Age:** all
- **Time needed:** 15-20 minutes (depending on the group size)
- **Description**  
Easy way to share a little bit of information about yourselves and discover something you might not have known before about others.
- **Advance preparation**  
If possible, encourage all to find out some information about their names prior to coming to the meeting or event.



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**What's in a Name?**

**Directions**

1. Form a large circle. Explain that there's a story behind each of our names and this activity will give us a chance to share some of that information.
2. Explain the procedure and tell about your own name to demonstrate.  
Say your full name: first, middle and last name.  
Explain why you were given that name (named after a family member or movie star).  
Share anything about your name's ethnic origins.
3. Each person takes turns introducing themselves.



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**What's in a Name?**

**Follow-up discussion**  
After everyone has introduced themselves, ask what they learned about the importance of names and why names are so important to us.

**Hint**  
This activity makes a great get-acquainted exercise.  
Consider adapting the activity and using it to take roll call.  
If you have time, it's fun to ask people what name they would choose for themselves if they had the chance and why.



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**What's in a Name?**

**Sum it up**

Names are important because they have to do with who we are as people. Asking others to give us their names is often the first step we take towards getting to know someone better.



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**Civic Engagement: Your Voice Matters!**



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**Civic Engagement: Your Voice Matters!**

**Government is Us!**

- Representative Elected (Makes Rules for Entire Group)
- Pick 5 Rules to Represent the Group (Handout)
- Select One to Share
- New Representative Elected
- What are our group rules?




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**Government is Us! Reflection**

What was frustrating or difficult?

What were the differences in how you selected representatives?

What is the job of the representative?

Were you able to communicate your ideas to your representative?




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**Government is Us! Reflection**

What were the differences in how you selected representatives?




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**Government is Us! Reflection**

What is the job of the representative?

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**Government is Us! Reflection**

Were you able to communicate your ideas to your representative?




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**Government is Us!**

In our democracy, we choose representatives to make decisions for us. Some of the representative governmental bodies are called Congress, House of Representatives, County Commissioners, School Boards.

Those we elect should be representing our ideas at the local, state or national levels.




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**Agree to Disagree**

Agree to Disagree!

- Create your 5 index cards
  - strongly agree
  - agree
  - no opinion
  - disagree
  - strongly disagree




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**Agree to Disagree**

Agree to Disagree!

- Ground Rules:
  - Be Respectful
  - Listen to Each Other
  - Remain Open and Non-Judgemental
  - Be sensitive to group members




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**Agree to Disagree**

Let's Play!

1. Vending machines with pop should be banned in public schools.
2. A student who misses more than a normal number of school days should be denied a driver's license.
3. There should be a law that requires bicyclists under the age of 16 to wear a helmet.
4. The government should give subsidies- contributions of money- to farmers.

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**Agree to Disagree: Reflection**

What did you think about as you were making your decision?




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**Agree to Disagree: Reflection**

Were you with the same people on every issue?




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**Agree to Disagree: Reflection**

Were there any issues for which everyone had the same opinion?




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**Agree to Disagree: Reflection**

Why is understanding that there are different sides to an issue an important part of citizenship?




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**Agree to Disagree: Reflection**

Remember having your own opinion and expressing your thoughts to others is a great way to deal with problem solving and difficult situations within a group.

Don't be afraid to voice your opinion and make your voice count!



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**Stretch Break!**

10 Minute Break!

- Stretch
- Communicate with group members your thoughts
- Take care of business

See you back at 11:05!



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**Paper Plate Collage**



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**Paper Plate Collage**



- **Age:** Mini 4-Hers-early elementary
- **Time:** 35-45 minutes
- **Materials needed:** paper plates, scissors, glue, magazines, stickers, markers, crayons
- **Description**

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**Paper Plate Collage**

- **Advance preparation**
- **Show example**
- **Directions**
- **Create**
- **Share**

**Directions**

1. Explain that this project will give everyone a chance to make a paper plate collage to illustrate interesting things about themselves.
2. Point out the materials available to make the collages. Describe how to look through the magazines for pictures, cartoons, words, and other images youngsters can use to describe things about themselves.
3. Tell youngsters to look for things that have to do with the following:
  - People who are important to you
  - Places you like to go
  - Things you like to do
  - Foods you like
  - Things you are good at doing
  - Things you would like to be able to do
  - Other things you like
4. Hold up your own paper plate collage and tell youngsters what it says about you.

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**Paper Plate Collage**

6. As youngsters are working on their collages, interrupt occasionally to remind them of the kinds of things to be looking for in the magazines and to ask for any questions.
7. Keep track of the time and let youngsters know when there are only five more minutes remaining to put the finishing touches on their collages.
8. Have youngsters take turns saying one or two things about what the collages illustrate about who they are.

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**Paper Plate Collage**

**Follow-up Discussion**

Once everyone has had a chance to show their collage, ask them the following:

- How did they decide what pictures, images or words to include?
- Were there things they were looking for, but couldn't find, that they would have liked to add to their collages?
- What was it like describing your collage to the rest of the group?

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**Paper Plate Collage**

*Hints*

- Consider pairing youngsters with an older youth to work on this activity.
- Look for opportunities to display the completed collages, or encourage youngsters to keep them until county fair time.

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**Paper Plate Collage**

**Sum it up.**

Comment on how interesting it has been to see what the paper plates say about everyone in the room. Explain that making the collages is a little bit like telling other people some of the things we want them to know about ourselves—and that's the beginning of the communication process.

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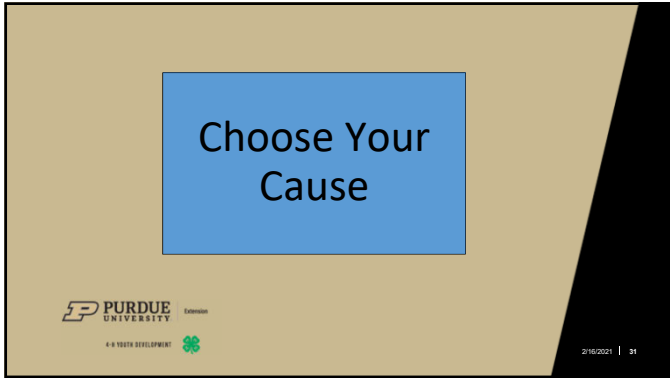
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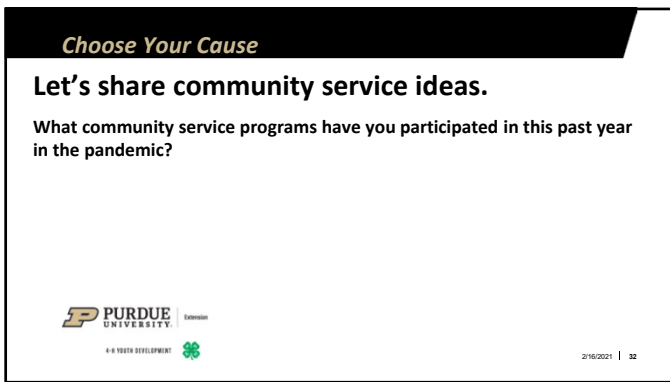
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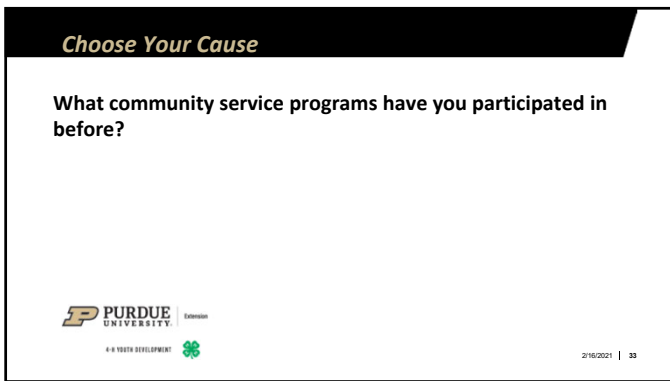
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### Choose Your Cause

**Investigate**

Identify a local, national, or global community need that you would like to address.

The following are examples of common community issues. Select the one that is most important to you. The benefit(s) you care about may not be listed. Add any issue(s) you want to help solve.

<b>Education</b> Recruit and train ..... volunteer readers, tutors, and mentors.	<b>Bullying/Violence</b> Reduce bullying and/or violence in school and communities by ..... %.	<b>Disease Prevention</b> Encourage ..... students to stay in school.	<b>Disasters</b> Help ..... people to prepare for a disaster.
<b>Safe Drinking</b> Educate ..... people about the dangers of distracted driving.	<b>Water</b> Increase or protect ..... bodies of water.	<b>Reduction, Reuse, Recycle</b> Recycle ..... pounds of glass, metal, plastic, or paper out of landfill.	<b>Energy</b> Reduce energy and reduce our carbon footprint by ..... %.
<b>Hunger</b> Provide food for ..... people.	<b>Economic Opportunity</b> Organize a job skills training for ..... people.	<b>First Aid</b> Work with local agencies to train ..... people in CPR/first aid skills.	<b>Gender Equality</b> Support for gender equity for employer ..... people.
<b>Access to School</b> Help ..... students attend the world's great schools and gain access to the internet.	<b>Trees</b> Increase the Earth's forest cover by planting ..... trees.	<b>Places to Play</b> Create or improve ..... playgrounds to provide safe places for children to play.	<b>Green Space</b> Create ..... square feet of new green space at community gardens.
<b>Biodiversity</b> Protect ..... acres of public land for endangered plants and animal species.	<b>Health &amp; Obesity</b> Increase physical activity and/or healthy eating habits of ..... people.	<b>Illness</b> Stop the spread of infectious diseases by immunizing or educating ..... people.	<b>Housing</b> Build or renovate ..... affordable housing units.
<b>Healthier Habits</b> Promote positive habits and improve the health of ..... people and bodies.	<b>Responsible Decision</b> Reduce the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or risky sexual behavior by ..... %.	<b>Medical Research</b> Fund ..... dollars in research to look for these diseases.	<b>Other Cause</b> Add/deduce new pay rates about .....

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### Choose Your Cause

**Identify your passion**

<b>Music</b> Playing an instrument, singing, writing songs.	<b>Art</b> Painting, drawing, sculpture, graphic art.	<b>Writing</b> Writing poetry, stories, and plays; journalism.	<b>Movement</b> Dancing, martial arts, cheerleading.
<b>Building</b> Wood, working, construction, welding.	<b>Leadership</b> Peace building, student government, politics.	<b>Entrepreneurship</b> Business, marketing, inventing things.	<b>Sports</b> Team sports, physical activities, competitions.
<b>Teaching</b> Mentoring, tutoring, teaching, reading to kids.	<b>Nature</b> Exploring nature, wildlife, gardening.	<b>Animals</b> Caring for animals, training, medicine.	<b>Computers</b> Software development, repair, web design.
<b>Creative Arts</b> Cooking, sewing, fashion, knitting.	<b>Academic Subjects</b> Science, math, history, literature, geography.	<b>Speech</b> Debate or public speaking, broadcasting.	<b>Comedy</b> Making people laugh, jokes, writing sketches.
<b>Spirituality</b> Prayer, meditation, studying sacred texts.	<b>Drama / Theater</b> Acting, directing, theater lighting, or set design.	<b>Photography &amp; Film</b> Taking pictures, making films, animation.	<b>Reading</b> Reading fiction, nonfiction, poetry.
<b>Advocacy</b> Politics and government, commitment to a cause.	<b>Journalism</b> News, writing, radio & TV production.	<b>Outdoor Recreation</b> Fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, bicycling.	<b>Mechanics</b> Electronics or machine repair, auto repair.

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### Choose Your Cause

**AWARENESS**  
Educate. Share information and teach others to positively change people's behaviors.

**SERVICE**  
Volunteer. Use your creativity, time, and talent to directly meet a need in your community.

**ADVOCACY**  
Advocate. Speak out, join others, and persuade policy makers to change policies and laws.

**PHILANTHROPY**  
Give. Collect and donate financial and in-kind support.

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**Choose Your Cause**

**Put it all together!**

**Example:**

Community Need	Personal Assets	Community Assets	Type of Project	Project Idea
My cause is... increasing the amount of paper our school recycles.	My personal passion is... woodshop class.	My community can help by... letting me use tools in woodshop class and donating wood.	My action strategy is... doing direct service.	Creating new recycling bin lids that have slots just for paper.

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**Teach Backs**

**March 9 or March 16, 7-8 p.m. (ET)**  
**Via Zoom and breakout rooms**  
**7-10 minute presentations as a team**  
**Feedback provided**

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**Evaluation**

**Please give us your feedback on TAT 2021!**

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The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

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**Thank you!!**

*Best wishes to you and your teams as you teach in your communities!*



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