

# Facilitating for Diverse Youth Program Facilitation

## DESCRIPTION

On The Canadian Path, we are aware of each individual's personal progression, as well as his or her background. Scouting is a journey, which means that youth make the program their own according to their own interests, goals and abilities.

This approach to Scouting is sometimes referred to as "age-appropriate facilitation"; however, the program may be adapted not only according to age, but according to other factors, such as gender, sexual orientation and religion. Scouters must appreciate the diversity within their Sections and adjust the way that they facilitate the program accordingly.

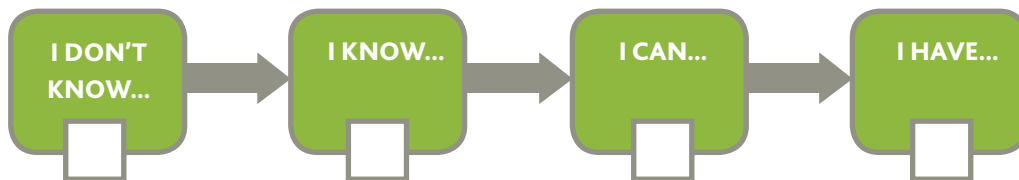
## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

**I can describe the differences in age-appropriate program facilitation between my Section and an older or younger Section.**

- I have a good understanding of the diversity within my Section.
- I can gather information on the disabilities youth in my Section have.
- I have cultivated a good relationship with the parents and guardians in my Section.
- I can demonstrate how to modify program activities to accommodate all youth in my Section.

## TIPS AND TRICKS

- There are lots of resources on the internet, but one of your best resources is the youth's parents.
- There is a tremendous difference between rules and guidelines as they apply to Scouts Canada. The Two-Scouter Rule is a good example of a rule that we all follow. Guidelines (such as the procedure for an Opening Ceremony) are more flexible.
- Ask first; don't assume! In our efforts to support people with disabilities, we sometimes want to offer more help than is needed.



# Facilitating for Diverse Youth

## Program Facilitation

### PLAN

- What is Scouts Canada's Social Justice and Diversity Policy?
- What do you know about the disabilities that youth in your Section have?
- What do you know about the religions, cultures and sexual orientations that are in your Section?
- Where will you go for information? Who has relevant information?
- What kinds of questions do you need to ask the youth to promote inclusion?
- What do you believe about inclusion?

### DO

- Be aware of the diversity in your Section. Note any specific challenges or accommodations and discuss them with your Scouter Team and your Section Leadership Team (if appropriate).

- Review your Section's Code of Conduct to see if diversity is considered.
- Provide an opportunity for a youth or a Scouter to share an aspect of his or her unique makeup with the group.
- Ensure that parents in your community are informed about Scouts Canada's No One Left Behind (NOLB) program.

### REVIEW

- What did you learn about Scouts Canada's Social Justice and Diversity Policy?
- How can you review SPICES development in an age-appropriate way?
- What can you do to continue to promote inclusion with the youth in your Section?

### SAFETY NOTE

- Walking over to a youth and tapping him or her on the shoulder is an appropriate response to misbehaviour; shouting is not. Demonstrate respect for the dignity of the youth.
- Scouters are ultimately responsible for creating a safe, respectful framework in which youth take on increasing leadership and responsibility in age-appropriate ways, as suitable for the individual youth.

### ONLINE RESOURCES

- *The Scouter Manual*—**Chapter 5: Diversity**
- eLearning course: Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders
- eLearning course: How You Can Help Scouting Reach More Young People
- **Scouts Canada Social Justice and Diversity Policy**
- **No One Left Behind**
- **Inclusion Fact Sheets**
- **Canadian Heritage**