



SOUTH CAROLINA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

Affiliated with National Volunteer Outreach Network, Country Women's Council, U.S.A., Associated Country Women of the World and in partnership with Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

SCFCL website: <http://www.scfcl.com>

Leader Training Guide

Working Together - FCL Members and Youth

Objectives:

1. Focus on talents that can be taught.
2. Importance of working with youth.
3. Ideas where to work with youth.
4. Baking and craft activities.

Lesson Overview/Introduction:

The question has been asked and/or the thought presented "How can we, FCL educators, work with youth in our community?" and "What can we do?" During this lesson participants will focus on talents that they have that can be used to teach. Participants will realize the importance and advantage of teaching youth. They will be given ideas where to find the opportunity to work with youth. Two ideas are included in this lesson that are easy and fun to do.

Lesson:

1. Focus on talents that you enjoy and willing to teach

You may be wondering how you can be used in teaching youth. Each of you have talents, skills and knowledge that can be taught to the younger generation. Think about your skills and what you enjoy doing. These talents and skills can help you determine what you would like to teach.

2. Importance of working with youth

Working with youth will build friendships and memories. Hands on skills are not necessarily gained through textbooks or other forms of educational materials. We all

know that person to person teaching and learning experiences can be much more successful. A textbook may not provide that encouragement and or build that confidence as a face to face and hands on teaching experience can provide. For example, there are pattern instructions teaching you how to knit. If you are a visual person needing that “show me” what's better than a face to face and hands on instructor. Your assistance can be the tool that can make the process to accomplish successful and awarding.

3. Ideas where to work with youth.

There may be some concern how to find that opportunity to work with youth. To be used, you must make it known you want to be useful. After all, wanting to be useful has to be put into action. Following are some ideas to contact to make your services available:

1. Local County Extension Office for opportunities working with 4-H clubs, camps, and special 4-H events. 4-H club leaders would gratefully enjoy having you teach and share your skills and knowledge to the youth in their clubs. 4-H leaders are always looking for special educators and what a better way to be one to share your talents.
2. Churches have vacation Bible School that would welcome helpers doing crafts. Volunteering to help in Junior Church craft time can be a huge help to the teachers.
3. Schools, especially the elementary level, would welcome special events. One time I taught a “Bread” workshop teaching 4th graders how to knead dough, use a rolling pin and cut out donuts. Following they tasted the donuts I had prepared. Most had never felt bread dough let alone the skill of kneading, rolling out the dough and using a donut cutter. The kids had a blast working with the dough and of course testing the end result of the prepared donuts. Sometimes, as this case, an introduction with some hands-on experience is all time allows but enough to give them a new experience.
4. Organize a neighborhood craft club with the number you would feel comfortable teaching and working with. Encourage an older teen or adult to assist.
5. Grandchildren always are fun to teach and direct whether its craft making, cooking or baking. I have eleven grandchildren and I plan activities to do with them when I visit or when they come to visit.

6. Contact your local parks for special events. You could set up a craft table for youth to come by and do a make and take project. Sometimes planned activities need volunteers and you can be one of the volunteers.
7. Local community events during holidays or even farmer markets can be an opportunity to set up an activity table.
8. Look for opportunities during your local county fairs. Demonstrations or craft event can be scheduled.

4. Two activity ideas that can be used in teaching youth.

Following are a couple of ideas that you can work with the youth that are very enjoyable and that I have personally taught and assisted in my 4-H club and with the grandchildren.

Caramel Filled Chocolate Cookies

Ingredients:

2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
 ¾ cup unsweetened cocoa
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 1 cup sugar
 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
 1 cup butter, softened
 2 teaspoons vanilla
 2 eggs

½ cup chopped pecans
 48 wrapped Rolo Chewy Caramels in milk
 chocolate (9 oz. package) or more if needed.

Topping:

½ cup chopped pecans
 1 tablespoon sugar

Preheat oven to 375-degree F.

Have children unwrap the Rolo caramels. (Have extras for treats!)

Lightly spoon flour into measuring cup; level off and place in small mixing bowl. Stir in cocoa, and baking soda. Set aside.

In large mixing bowl, beat sugar, brown sugar and butter until light and fluffy. Add vanilla and eggs and beat well. Add flour mixture and blend well. Stir in ½ cup pecans.

Flour hands and use 1 tablespoon of dough to shape completely around the Rolo candy. (Kids love doing this and I have had youth as young as two years old do this.)

In a small bowl coming the ½ cup pecans and 1 tables sugar. Press ONE SIDE of each ball into the pecan mixture. Place, nut side up, 2” apart on ungreased cookie sheets.

Bake in 375-degree F. oven for 7 to 10 minutes or until set and slightly cracked. Cool 2 minutes and remove cookies from cooking sheet onto wire rack. Cool completely on wire rack.

Makes approximately 48 cookies.

FRIENDSHIP PENS

Kit per person

1 ball point pen with cap (Bic round)
1 96-inch length or 8 12-inch lengths of yarn – all in one length (can be any color)
3 11-inch lengths of yarn (any color)
3 to 4 pony craft beads (any color or colors)
glue gun
glue stick
craft stick
scissors
sandwich bag

Prepare Kit and place pen, yarn, beads in sandwich bag.

With the cap on the pen and at the bottom edge of the cap and on the ball of the pen, apply a small amount of glue. Remove cap. Immediately place one end of the 96” length yarn on the glue. (I wrap the yarn two times around the ball of the pen to cover the glue to make sure the yarn adhesives to the pen.

Prepare the tassel by tying the 3 strands together at one end leaving an inch or little more.

Select 3 or 4 colored pony beads and place in bag.

Explain the contents in the bag. Keep tassel yarn and beads in the bag until needed.

Directions for youth:

Remove the pen and attached yarn from sandwich bag. Youth will begin by

winding the yarn around the ball of the pen to the top of the pen, leaving ¼” of yarn length. Cut excess yarn off of length. For young children, an adult will apply glue on the top of the pen. Use a craft stick to place the 1/4” length of yarn on glue.

Braid the 3 strands. Adult can hold the tie end, or another youth can hold it while the youth braids. (Some may need to learn to braid and if so, it is a good teaching skill for them to learn to do.) Leave an inch or so unbraided. Keeping the ends together place on

the beads and then tie the ends together leaving an inch or so. Fold tassel leaving one end longer than the other. Apply hot glue on the top of the pen and place the folded edge onto the glue using the craft stick to prevent glue sticking to self. The “Friendship Pen” is made! This is a fun make and take project. My 4-H club does this activity at our County fair each year.

Lesson Summary: As SCFCL educators we can make a difference in our communities working with youth. Identifying your talents and skills is the first step in preparing for this experience. Reach out in your community to locate opportunities to serve. You can use the two activities provided as you begin your experience. As an educator you can help that youth learn new skills, build confidence, as well as, accomplish the project. It can be an awarding and successful experience for you and the youth.

Suggested Materials:

- 1. Printed cookie recipes to hand out to participants.**
- 2. Printed instructions making the “Friendship Pens”.**

Sources: “Caramel Filled Chocolate Cookie” recipe from collection of Betty Osgood. “Friendship Pens”, an original craft, designed by Betty Osgood.

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