DEVELOPMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH

6 To 8 Age Group

CHARACTERISTICS

Easily motivated, eager to try something new. Plan a wide variety of activities

All new learning involves use of language. Be very specific and simple with instructions.

Sensitive to criticism, don’t accept failure well. Ask youths to give feedback on what they have heard.

Experimental, exploratory behavior part of development. Utilize field trips, real models and hands-on experience.

Learn best if physically active. Provide activities that encourage use of hands such as cutting with scissors, painting, pasting, brushing and assembling.

Strong desire for affection and attention of adults. Plan for small group activities with an adult for each three to four youths.

Deal with here and now, interest span short. Provide a variety of short and specific learning activities.

IMPLICATIONS FOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Plan activities that take a short time to complete, with each experience building on previous activities.

Provide positive encouragement and assistance.

Plan many simple learning activities in which success can be experienced.

Set up situations that foster cooperation and teamwork rather than competition.

Free time should be planned and encouraged. Move from one activity to another.

Karen S. Headlee
Family & Consumer Science Extension Agent
Lee County Extension
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
239-333-7520
239-485-2305 Fax
kheadlee@uff.edu
kheadlee@leegov.com
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu

3406 Palm Beach Blvd.
Fort Myers, FL 33916-3736