



The Key 2

Unlocking youth and children's work together

Understanding, Developing, Working

Welcome to The Key 2

The Key 2 is the second in the series of interactive and informative training resources which aims to equip those who work with children and young people in a variety of church settings.

Created by the Education departments from the Diocese of Bath and Wells, the Diocese of Bristol and the Diocese of Exeter, The Key 2 builds on The Key and is primarily aimed at volunteers, however it can also be used as a next steps tool for existing volunteers or paid workers.

The Key 2 has been specifically designed to support and enhance conversation and learning experienced through The Key. Three more sessions explore and unlock youth and children's work further in a fun and engaging way. Facilitators are encouraged to follow the simple guidelines, however it is flexible enough to use other resources to extend the learning experience.

The core aims of The Key 2 are:

- ➔ To gain a better understanding of the world through the eyes of children and young people
- ➔ Explore discipleship and nurturing children and young people in their faith journey
- ➔ Become more confident and equipped when working in a variety of roles and settings

The Key 2 has been designed to be delivered to small and large groups. The style of the three sessions are interactive and full of games, quizzes, reflections, ideas, practical advice and group work. Each session lasts for approximately 2 hours and can be delivered on 3 separate occasions or as a full day.

The Key 2 will hopefully stimulate, motivate and act as a pathway to further training and development.

Session 3





WORKING

more effectively with children and young people

Aim of the session:

To inspire those who work with children and young people to become more confident and develop their skills and conduct as caring Christian youth and children's leaders and volunteers.

Learning outcomes:

- ➔ Develop listening skills with particular focus on pastoral care of children and young people
- ➔ Recognise the different roles individuals take on in a group work context and how best to facilitate them
- ➔ Identify and apply the skills, qualities and gifts needed in leadership
- ➔ Engage and empower children and young people in leadership opportunities

Session Outline:

- ➔ **Introduction:** Welcome & opening prayer
- ➔ **Activity 1:** Are you listening?
- ➔ **Activity 2:** Group dynamics
- ➔ **Activity 3:** Looking for potential
- ➔ **Activity 4:** Leading by example
- ➔ **Closing reflection:** God rejoices over you
- ➔ **Summing up:** Including final thoughts and any questions

MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

Activity 1: Equipment to play 'Berlitz' advert (on CDRom). Handout: 'Top tips for listening'

Activity 2: Plenty of old newspapers and sticky tape. Worksheet: 'Group Dynamics'. Handout: 'Working in small groups'

Activity 3: Worksheet: 'Looking for potential'.

Activity 4: Worksheet: 'Nehemiah' and summary

Closing Reflection: Pens and post-its; Garden Jenga (or normal sized Jenga can also be used).



Introduction and welcome

You may wish to open with a brief time of prayer. Welcome the group and briefly recap on the second session and pick up on any points or questions arising from it.

Activity 1

ARE YOU LISTENING?

15 MINS

15 mins approx

This exercise will help the group explore and understand good listening skills.

Organise the group into pairs. Each pair has three minutes to describe to their partner their last holiday. Remember to time them so that they know when the time is up and swap over. To help those who might get tongue-tied here are some questions to help:

Where did they go?

What was the weather like?

Did they do anything exciting?

Did they visit anywhere special?

Call the group back and ask several volunteers to relay their partner's holiday back to the whole group. How well did they listen? If you have time, on a flipchart get the group to answer the following questions, thinking about what makes a good listener; skills, attributes etc:

Did you feel that your partner was listening to you?

Did they look/sound interested?

What was their body language like?

Summary

Show the Berlitz advert (German coastguard) this can be found on the CD Rom.

Sometimes it seems as though children and young people speak a different language to us. This doesn't mean it will exclude us from having a meaningful conversation with them. The most important thing is to create time, space and an environment where open conversations are possible and not restricted.

There are times when we can offer advice, but our role as Christian leaders is to value, respect and love the children and young people we serve. Be encouraged to walk with them in their journey and help them make informed decisions in their lives and not judge them if it contradicts our own ethics and beliefs.