YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING

WHY IS YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING IMPORTANT?

When youth are engaged, they are involved cognitively, emotionally, and behaviorally. Research has found powerful links between levels of youth engagement and their achievement and persistence in school. Youth beliefs about their competence and confidence in their ability to succeed are key factors influencing their level of engagement.

HOW CAN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS HELP PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING?

**SPARK PASSION**
Frequently interact with youth to spark interest and enthusiasm in what they’re doing.

**CHALLENGE**
Offer activities that match youth interests and are appropriately challenging.

**BUILD COOPERATION**
Involve youth in cooperative learning activities.

**ENCOURAGE AGENCY**
Offer choices between activities and involve youth in program-planning and decision-making.

**ACKNOWLEDGE ACHIEVEMENT**
Provide opportunities for youth to be recognized for their efforts and accomplishments.

**DON’T RUSH**
Allow time in your program schedule to explore and complete activities fully.

Contact NIOST to foster and measure engagement in learning.

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