

You should always have a clear intention about what you are going to observe... For example, will you observe the program as a whole, or a specific programming goal (such as youth leadership)?

Below is an example of types of questions that have been tailored for an observer looking for evidence of youth leadership in a program. Feel free to tailor the questions below, to your own specific evaluation goals.

- How do youth enter the room? Whom do they talk with and what do they do?
- Do the adults use strategies to facilitate/ invite youth initiative and youth voice? If so, what are these strategies?
- Do the adults guide youth and offer direction? Do they instruct or tell them what to do? If so, describe.
- Are the youth speaking up? Do they offer suggestions for alternatives or creative approaches?
- What is the adult response to these suggestions? Do the youth speak to the program leaders about their ideas and suggestions for the project?
- Are the youth asking questions? How do adults respond to these questions?
- Are youth suggestions incorporated? Is there a plan in place for incorporating youth suggestions? If so, who creates this plan?
- If future efforts are planned, who will do the follow up, the youth, adults, or both?
- Who makes decisions?
- Are there youth who are not actively participating? What does this look like? How do others (youth and adults) respond to those who do not actively participate?
- Is there laughter and conversation? Or is it quiet?
- Are participants standing, sitting, or moving around? How do they move in relationship to one another?