



**Iowa 4-H After School Program**  
***Citizenship Program, Lesson Plan***  
**Eight, 60 minute sessions**

**Grades:** 7 - 8

**Optimum Group Size:** 10 youth per volunteer

**Supplies Needed:** Listed below

**Reference Resources:**

- Public Adventures Guide Handbook 4H 285 LDR
- Public Adventures Adventure Kit 4H 285
- Postcards are part of Adventure Kit

**Physical Setting:** Classroom

**Life Skills Addressed:**

- Teamwork, Decision-making, Communication

**Indicator:**

- To gain an appreciation for working together on a group project that will benefit the group and/or community.
- To be part of a group discovering citizenship and putting it into action with a plan.
- Setting goals
- Gain skills in interviewing community members

**School Standards and Benchmarks:**

Working with others

- Contributes to overall effort of a group

Displays effective interpersonal skills

- Seeks information

Civics Standards

- Understands the roles of volunteerism and organized groups
- Understand ideas about civic life, politics, and government

**Evaluation:** This is an ongoing part of this program.

<b>Time Allotment</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Supplies</b>
<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>Welcome to Public Adventures</b>	
10 minutes	Name and Game: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have everyone sit in a circle and say their name and one thing that they like that begins with the same letter of their first name. Example: I am Cory and I like cake.</li> </ul> Popping the Question: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write a variety of getting to know you questions on strips of paper that are put into a balloon that you blow up and tie. Example of questions:</li> </ul>	Balloons Slips of paper with questions on them that are put into the balloons.  Need a notebook or 3 ring binder for each youth.

<b>Time Allotment</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Supplies</b>
	What is your favorite activity outside of school? Where would you like to travel? What would you like to do when you grow up?	
10 – 15 minutes	Discovering Citizenship	p. 11 Public Adventures Guide's Handbook
5 minutes	Setting Ground Rules	p. 14 Guides Handbook
10 minutes	Making the Rules	p. 14 Guide's Handbook
10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Postcard</li> <li>• Ideas for Successful Meeting</li> </ul>	
10 minutes	Write Yourself a Letter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer these questions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What do I want to get out of my public adventure?</li> <li>2. What am I looking forward to?</li> <li>3. What am I nervous about?</li> <li>4. What am I hoping to learn?</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	
5 minutes	What If: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• everyone talks at the same time</li> </ul>	p. 15 Guide's Handbook
10 minutes	Writing an Agenda	Newsprint
5 minutes	Understanding Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What went well? What didn't?</li> <li>• What do we need to do differently?</li> <li>• What would make it more interesting?</li> <li>• What did we learn?</li> <li>• Are we ready to move on to the next step?</li> </ul>	Keep in your notebook p.16 Guide's Handbook
5 – 7 minutes	Notebook Journal Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give one example of how the group worked together at the meeting.</li> <li>• What would have happened if your group hadn't worked together?</li> <li>• What is the best thing about working together?</li> <li>• What was the most important thing to remember when working in a group?</li> <li>• Make a list of the other situations when you need to work in a group to get something done.</li> </ul>	p. 16 Guide's Handbook
<b>DAY 2</b>	<b>Explore the Public World</b>	
10 minutes	Understanding Public Vs private	p. 17 Guide's Book
10 – 15 minutes	Sight Seeing	p. 19 Guide's Book
10 minutes	Hunting for Essential Issues	p. 19 Guide's Book
15 minutes	Sight Seeing Together: Note: Information for group sizes 6 or less, 6 – 12, and 12 or more	p. 20 Guides' Book
10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postcard # 2 review</li> <li>• Strategies for making decisions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Voting</li> <li>2. Compromise</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	p. 21 Guide's Book

<b>Time Allotment</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Supplies</b>
	3. Negotiation	
10 minutes	Media Hunt	p.19 newspaper, radio or TV news,
5 minutes	Notebook Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What worked well in making the decision?</li> <li>• Why is it important that all group members be able to live with your group's final decision?</li> <li>• The next time your group makes a decision what will they do differently?</li> </ul>	p.21 Guide's Book
<b>DAY 3</b>	<b>Choose Your Destination</b>	
5 – 10 minutes	Exploring Interests	p. 23 Guide's Book
10 – 15 minutes	Setting a Goal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A goal is what the group wants to create, change or improve related to the issue they have identified.</li> </ul>	p.24 Guide's Book
20 minutes	Deciding on a Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From possibilities to projects</li> <li>• Use what if for group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--if they think there is only one way to reach their goal OR</li> <li>--if the group chooses a project that won't challenge them.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Postcard 3 Research Tips p.24 – 25 Guide's Handbook
10 – 15 minutes	Writing a Mission Statement	p. 26 Guide's Book
10 minutes	Mission Possible	p.27 Guide's Book
10 minutes	Notebook Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What was hardest about choosing a goal and project?</li> <li>• How did thinking about interests affect your choice of a goal?</li> <li>• What is one thing you've learned that you will use later?</li> </ul>	p. 27 Guide's Book
<b>DAY 4</b>	<b>Discover Your Stakeholders</b>	
5 minutes	Identifying Your Group's Stakeholders	p.28 Guide's Book
5-7 minutes	Introducing your group to the Idea of Power	p. 28 Guide's Book
10 minutes	Stakeholders in Sight	p.29 Guide's Book
10 - 15 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go Ask!</li> <li>• Postcard #4</li> <li>• Interviewing Tips</li> </ul>	p. 31 Guide's Book
10 minutes	Trial Run	p. 31 Guide's Book
10 minutes	Stakeholders in Sight	p. 32 Guide's Book
5 – 7 minutes	Journal Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What surprised you about what you learned in the interviews?</li> <li>• What have you learned about making assumptions?</li> <li>• How are you going to use what you learned about others in your group's project?</li> <li>• Think of a situation in the future that you would</li> </ul>	p. 32 Guide's Book

<b>Time Allotment</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Supplies</b>
	use interviewing skills.	
<b>DAY 5</b>	<b>Plan Your Itinerary</b>	
10 minutes	Creating An Action Plan	Share example from the Guide's Book p. 33
20 – 25 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making a Master Plan</li> <li>• Action Plan Details</li> </ul>	p. 34 Guide's Book p. 35 Guide's Book
15 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details, Details!</li> <li>• Postcard # 5 Tips for Assigning Tasks</li> </ul>	p. 35 Guide's Book
10 – 12 minutes	Reviewing Action Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Journal in Notebook</li> <li>• What skills did you have that will help your group complete your project?</li> <li>• What skills do other members of your group have?</li> <li>• What would happen if everyone in the group was good at the same thing?</li> </ul>	p. 36 Guide's Book
5 minutes	Evaluation of your meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did it go?</li> <li>• If not so good what would make it better?</li> </ul>	
<b>DAY 6</b>	<b>Complete Your Journey</b>	
20 – 30 minutes	Putting your group's Plan into action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to be accountable—each one does what they say they are going to do.</li> </ul>	p. 37 Guide's Handbook
30 minutes plus	It's Time to Go: Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postcards 7 Writing Letters</li> <li>• Postcard 8 Speaking In Public</li> <li>• Postcard 9 Inviting Guest Speakers</li> <li>• Postcard 10 Conducting a Survey</li> <li>• Postcard 11 Creating a Petition</li> <li>• Postcard 12 Fundraising</li> <li>• Postcard 13 Navigating Government</li> <li>• Postcard 14 Getting Media Coverage</li> </ul>	p. 37 Guide's Book
20 -30 minutes	What Just Happened: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluating your action steps</li> <li>• Postcard #15</li> <li>• Record Progress in youth's notebooks</li> </ul>	p. 38 Guide's Handbook
<b>DAY 7 and 8</b>	<b>Look Back and Look Forward</b>	
30 + minutes	Doing a Final Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Postcard #16 Evaluation your group's successes and difficulties.</li> </ul>	p. 40 Guide's Book
20 – 30 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating you Own True Adventure</li> <li>• Postcard #17 Tips and Activity Ideas</li> </ul>	p. 41 Guide's Book
10-15 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review your initial description of the world as they wanted it.</li> <li>• Find that again and discuss if there is something to add or change.</li> </ul>	p.42
10-15 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a little party to celebrate the group's work.</li> </ul>	