

Contact the Design Team

The Ricochet Leadership curriculum has been designed by a team of Iowa State University Extension youth specialists. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact any of these members:

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RICOCCHET
An Extreme  Leadership Adventure



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Ricochet: An Extreme Leadership Adventure

What is Ricochet?



“Ricochet” is an adventure-based leadership development program created specifically for middle-school age youth.

Ricochet means to move around lively and energetically with some level of unpredictability. Middle school students often do much the same!

The ultimate goal of the program is for youth to see themselves as leaders in their communities.

What Happens During Ricochet?

Research shows that youth learn by doing, so the majority of the program is devoted to youth experiencing fun, challenging activities to develop their leadership skills.

Youth also connect with their community by identifying leaders for panel discussions and identifying & conducting community leadership projects.

How is the Adventure Designed?

The curriculum is designed by Iowa State University Extension youth specialists and based on research outlined in the book—*Youth Leadership: A Guide to Understanding Leadership Development in Adolescents* by Josephine van Linden and Carl Fertman.

The research lays out 3 stages of leadership development and 5 dimensions (or categories) in each stage. The curriculum aligns with these stages and dimensions.

- **Ricochet 1:** An Extreme Leadership Adventure – aligns with stage one – Awareness
- **Ricochet 2:** The Adventure Continues – aligns with stage two – Interaction
- **Ricochet 3:** The Final Adventure – aligns with stage three – Mastery

All levels include 5 dimensions of leadership:

- Leadership Information
- Leadership Attitudes
- Communication Skills
- Decision Making
- Stress Management

Where Do We Start?

The facilitator notebook is a good place to start. Additional resources and information are available on the web at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/emmet/info/ricochet.htm>

- A Community Feasibility Study
- Program Promotion Materials
- Budget Considerations
- Equipment Recommendations
- A Delivery Matrix
- Nametag & Certificate Templates
- Student Journals
- Celebration Ceremony Suggestions
- And More!

