

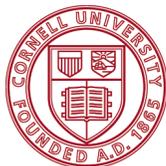
Establishing Measurable Objectives Activity

Be certain that your objectives are measurable, and that they align with your intended outcomes. You only need three to six well written objectives. Too many may be difficult to assess and follow through with.

Let's practice:

- Write one objective.
 - *Example: To teach youth leaders how to effectively engage the interest of third grade children in gardening activities.*
- Then ask, can you measure to evaluate your effectiveness in achieving this objective? How?
 - *Example: Yes, by observing, surveying, and/or interviewing children and youth.*
- Now, take the words “as a result of” and place it at the beginning of your objective. This will illuminate the related outcomes. Be as specific as you can.
 - *Examples: As a result of providing opportunities for youth leaders to engage with third graders...*
 - *10 youth will learn garden-based learning activities to teach to school children.*
 - *After participating in an Act for Youth training, 10 youth will demonstrate leadership competencies, will increase in self-confidence, and learn effective communication strategies.*
 - *Youth will have opportunities to display their newly acquired leadership skills in other areas of the school setting identified as critical by a committee on teen behavior, including the school cafeteria, outdoor recreation area, and during assembly.*
 - *75 third graders will be inspired by the opportunity to interact with older youth mentors, increasing their interest in the garden and in serving as youth leaders in the future.*
 - *Youth leaders and third grade students will take home lessons learned and begin family gardening at home.*
 - *Teachers will have capable assistance in the garden, allowing them to focus their attention on involving students in planning the newly forming wildlife habitat.*
 - *Administrators will observe demonstrated successes and provide continued support for the garden.*

As you can see, one clear objective can generate a number of positive outcomes to choose from. You need not list all of them; these illuminate the possibilities. The important point: focused, clear, measurable, and aligned.



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