



Participatory Evaluation

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Description

Is your program achieving the outcomes that you want? Let's discuss how to ask good evaluation questions, identify who should be involved, and come up with a plan to conduct a simple evaluation.

We'll focus on participatory evaluation using action research. Geared toward program managers with little or no evaluation experience.

Objectives



- ▶ Learn how to ask good evaluation questions
- ▶ Identify who to involve in your program evaluation
- ▶ List steps to complete a simple program evaluation



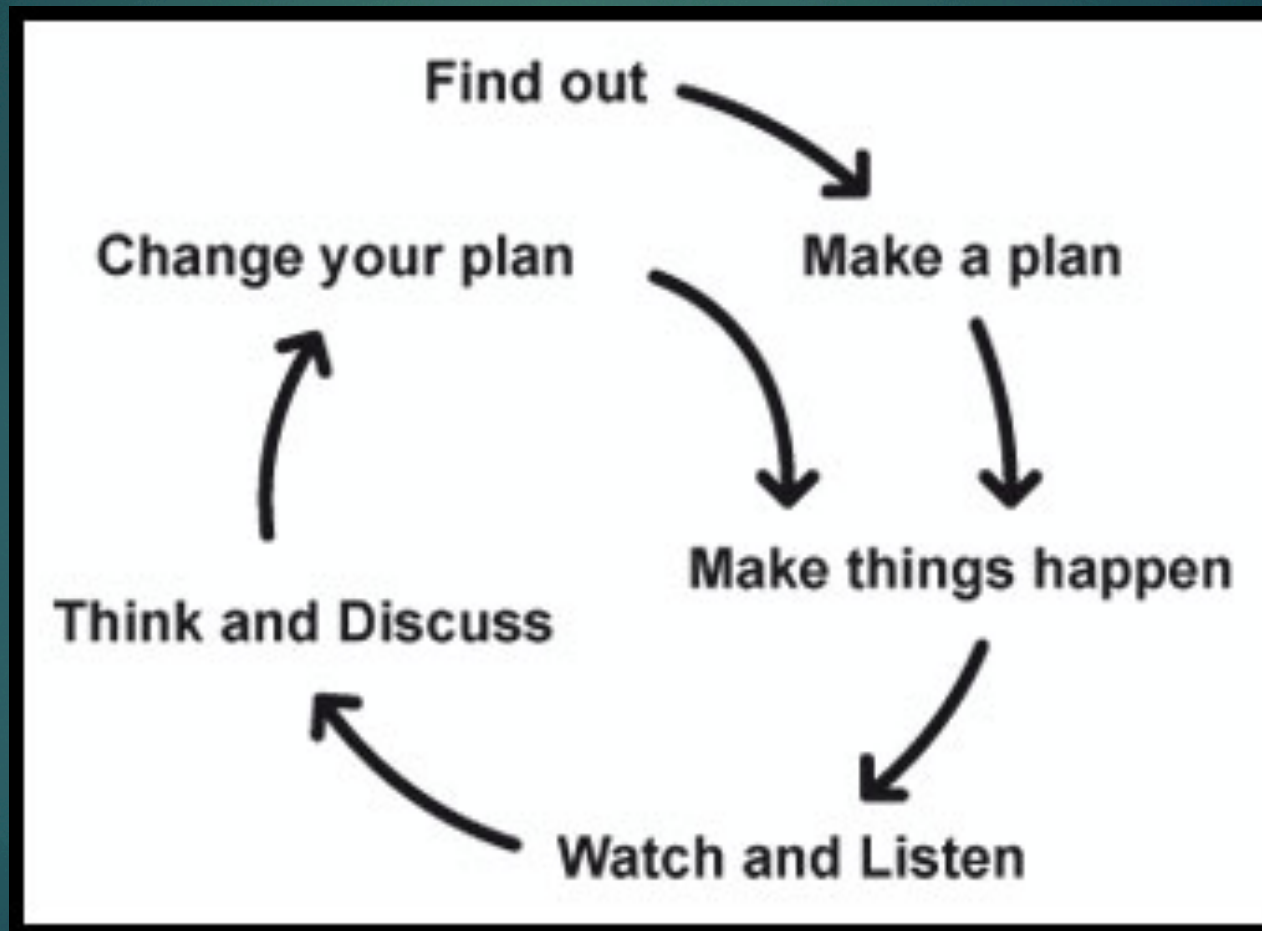
What is your previous experience with evaluation?

- ▶ No Experience
- ▶ Participated in evaluation that was lead by someone else
- ▶ Have some experience with evaluation
- ▶ Have evaluated several projects

What are you interested in improving?

- ▶ Student Impact (social/emotional, grades)
- ▶ Parent Engagement
- ▶ Community Involvement
- ▶ Program Quality
- ▶ High Quality Staff
- ▶ Keep Funders Happy
- ▶ Use of Technology
- ▶ Other

Action Research Model



Open Space Technology

<http://www.openspaceworld.org/cgi/wiki.cgi?>

WorkingInOpenSpace

- ▶ In Open Space meetings...participants create and manage their own agenda of parallel working sessions around a central theme of strategic importance
- ▶ In these times of swirling change, conversation qualifies as real work -- and is essential for powerful, profitable action.

Open Space Principals

- ▶ *Whoever comes are the right people*
- ▶ *Whenever it starts is the right time*
- ▶ *Wherever it happens is the right place*
- ▶ *Whatever happens is the only thing that could have*
- ▶ *When it's over, it's over ... (you can take the conversation with you)*
- ▶ **THE LAW OF TWO FEET:** If you're not learning or participating move to somewhere else

Questions to ASK

- ▶ What is your issue? The Five Whys
- ▶ Who will be involved?
- ▶ What data will you collect?
- ▶ How will you share information?
- ▶ What is your timeline?

Open Space Participants

- ▶ **Convener:** someone who identifies an idea, not an expert, just someone with a burning question or thought that he/she would like to discuss
- ▶ **Bumble Bees:** move from group to group to hear different ideas
- ▶ **Butterflies:** take time out from the group discussion to reflect

Sample Surveys

- ▶ Texas 4-H surveys: Character Education for youth and families

<http://agrilife.org/od/evaluation/scan-forms/download-forms/outcome-programs-4-h-scan-forms/>

- ▶ Utah Afterschool Quality Assessment and Improvement Tool: Quality Indicators for Programs

<http://utahafterschool.org/quality/quality-tool-documents>

- ▶ NIOST Survey of Academic and Youth Outcomes: Surveys for Program Quality, Youth, Staff and Teachers

<http://www.niost.org/Training-Descriptions/afterschool-program-assessment-system-apas-training-description>



For more information

Education Information and Resource Center
(EIRC)

[http://www.eirc.org/website/programs-
services/research-grants/](http://www.eirc.org/website/programs-services/research-grants/)

Action Research Plan

Agency _____


Coordinator/Director _____

As your agency works through the *Action Research Process*; this tool will guide you through the reflective process and document your efforts and progress. This form should be updated each time you meet to discuss your action research plan. If you make changes to the action it should be based on your observations, measures, etc. The new action starts the next row.

Issue/Problem:

Who is participating in the Action Research Process?	What action(s) do you propose to take? (be specific)	What data will you collect?	What changes do you expect to see? How will you observe and measure the change?	What changes did you observe and/or document?	What worked well	What were the barriers or challenges?

The Five Whys: Measuring Outcomes Exercise



We want to _____(action)

for _____(whom)

Why? So ..

Why? So ...

Why? So ...

Why? So

Why? So