Discussion Circle Roles—The Process

Form groups of four for your discussion.

Assign each person in the group one of the four "connector" roles below. Each connector leads a portion of the group discussion regarding the content. During your time as discussion leader, ask the questions below (along with others that come to mind) and encourage group members to respond. Establish the time allotment, for example, each person could lead his or her share of the conversation for four minutes, allowing approximately one minute for each person to answer and one minute for the connector to answer as well. Write notes and ideas on the Discussion Circle page.

Personal Connector

Ask questions that connect the content to group members' experiences, such as:

- 1. What does this information have to do with you or others you know?
- 2. Are you reminded of any situations you have been in or know about similar to those described in the article? What happened?
- 3. How have you or people you know resolved similar situations?

Topic Connector

Ask questions that connect this content to other information you know about this topic, such as:

- 1. What new ideas did you learn about this topic?
- 2. What situations described are you familiar with from personal experience?
- 3. What additional questions do you have about this topic?

Service Connector

Ask questions that connect this content to ideas for service plans, such as:

- 1. Did any noteworthy, helpful action take place in what you have read?
- 2. What service ideas did you think of when you read this?
- 3. What resources did you learn about that could be helpful as you create a plan for action?

Learning Connector

Ask questions that connect this content to learning opportunities, such as:

- 1. What else would you like to know about this topic or content?
- 2. What related topics have you learned about or experienced in school?
- 3. What do you think people your age would learn from reading this?

Discussion Circle

To begin, review these tips for effective group discussions:

- Use active listening skills.
- Ask questions.
- Take turns speaking.
- Welcome all comments.

Personal Connector

Topic Connector

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Service Connector

► Learning Connector

Process Notes:

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