

# Planning for the Unexpected



This activity will allow members to:

- Learn how to prepare for failure.
- Think through problems to find solutions.
- Increase confidence and team-building skills.

Materials needed:

- Large blank paper (flip-chart size)
- Markers
- Index cards (one per member)
- Pens or pencils

How to lead this activity:

No matter how much your club plans, be ready for something not to go the way you expected. This does not mean your service project will fail. It means your club should be ready to respond with a positive attitude.

1. Before the club meeting, write each of the following quotes on a separate piece of flip-chart paper and place the papers around the room where everyone can see them:
  - a. "If Plan A didn't work, there are 25 other letters in the alphabet. Stay cool!"
  - b. "Tough times don't last. Tough people do."
  - c. "When something goes wrong, yell 'plot twist' and make changes."
  - d. "Sometimes things have to go wrong in order to go right."
2. Begin by letting members know the meeting will be about what to do when things don't go as planned. The K-Kids club needs to prepare so they can respond well and succeed.
3. Ask members to read each of the quotes posted around the room. Tell them to choose the quote they like best and stand next to it.
4. Go around the room and ask each member to share what he/she liked best about the chosen quote.
5. Give each member an index card and a pen or pencil. Ask each member to write down his/her favorite quote on the index card.
6. Tell members to keep these cards. When the club runs into problems during the service project, members should trade their quotes with each other. This will help them remember how important it is to stay calm to overcome problems.
7. Let members know they can return to their seats.

8. Lead the club in a discussion about what might go wrong. Create your own examples. Here are a few to get you started:
  - a. What if our service project is outdoors and the weather is bad? How might we create a Plan B?
  - b. What if we do not reach our fundraising goal? How might we change our budget or plan another fundraiser?
  - c. What if club members get sick or cannot attend the service project? How might we make sure we have enough help?
9. When the activity is over, thank everyone for their time and participation.

