

**Assessment of Program Practices Tool (APT) – Quality Program Practices by Skill Outcome**

**Communication**

Quality Program Practice	APT Quality Domain
<p><b>Staff ask open-ended questions to facilitate youth reflection <i>during</i> the activity.</b> Staff probe and extend youth’s thinking, help youth make connections, encourage youth to focus on and share what they are learning. (Ex: What do you notice about the seeds that have germinated? How do you think it would have been different with less sunlight?)</p> <p><b>At the end of the activity period, staff engage youth in a structured time for feedback and reflection on the activity.</b> Staff engage youth in an extended discussion (or individual reflection time) about the activity, their feedback, and/or what they learned.</p>	<p><b>Staff Promote Engagement &amp; Stimulate Thinking (2/7 Practices)</b></p>
<p><b>Staff engage in friendly verbal exchanges with the youth.</b> Staff show interest in youth as individuals. (Ex: Staff make a point of connecting with all youth— talk about youth’s interests, solicit youth’s thoughts and opinions on a topic, ask about youth’s day or something they made.)</p> <p><b>Staff listen actively, attentively, and patiently to youth.</b> (Ex: Look at youth when speaking, give youth time to express themselves, summarize back what they heard youth saying.)</p>	<p><b>Staff Build Relationships &amp; Support Individual Youth (2/6 Practices)</b></p>
<p><b>Youth show interest in staff; seek out positive contact/interactions.</b> (Ex: Youth show staff something they made, initiate friendly verbal or physical interaction, stand close to staff when talking.)</p> <p><b>Youth listen attentively to staff.</b> (Ex: Youth make eye contact, don’t interrupt, ask follow up questions.)</p>	<p><b>Youth Relations with Adults (2/3 Practices)</b></p>
<p><b>Youth are busy and engaged in conversation or activities.</b> All youth are constructively engaged throughout the activity.</p>	<p><b>Youth Participation in Activity Time (1/5 Practices)</b></p>
<p><b>Youth listen to each other.</b> (Ex: Show interest, ask follow up questions.)</p>	<p><b>Peer Relations (1/3 Practices)</b></p>