

ACTIVITY: COLOR OUR WORLD WITH INSPIRATIONS

Even though the idea of youth-adult partnerships is a relatively new one, the notions of community change and relationship building are not. Throughout history, leaders have commented on what it means to care and what it means to support and believe in yourself and others, and their words are inspirational.

Capitalize on these great words by providing your group members with a list of inspirational quotations. Have participants pick their favorite quotation (or create their own), write it on a piece of paper, and then unleash their creativity by personalizing the quotation with their own decorations. Use the decorated phrases to decorate your space and “color your world with inspirations.”

For this activity, you need paper, art supplies, and a list of inspirational quotations – that’s it. We’ve included a list of quotations to get you started, but feel free to add more. Meaningful quotations can come from anywhere – *Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations*, your favorite books or songs, family or cultural sayings, bumper stickers, and even community bulletin boards.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

On believing...

- We must find time to stop and thank the people who made a difference in our lives.
–*Dan Zadra*
- Surround yourself with people who believe you can. –*Dan Zadra*
- There are people who take the heart out of you, and there are people who put it back.
–*Elizabeth David*
- Be grateful, truly grateful, for those good friends or thoughtful people.
–*Shawna Corley*
- There are low spots in our lives, but there are also high spots and most of them have come through encouragement from someone else. –*George Adams*
- If the people around you don’t believe in you, if they don’t encourage you, then you need to find some people who do. –*John Maxwell*
- Somebody saw something in you once – and that is why you’re where you are today. Thanks to them! –*Don Ward*
- Long before I was a success, my parents made me feel like I could be one.
–*Toni Morrison*
- I made you a kite so you would have to look up. –*Uncle Pete*
- I think my parents recognized something in me that they encouraged instead of deflated, and I’ll always be grateful to them for that. –*Graham Nash*
- I was lucky to be brought up loved. Not that everything I did was liked, but I knew that I was loved – and knowing this gave me the ability and freedom to be who I wanted to be. –*Bernie Siegel, M.D.*
- We all have the extraordinary coded within us, waiting to be released. –*Jean Houston*
- Most people see what is and never see what can be. –*Albert Einstein*
- It requires the eyes of faith to see the undeveloped butterfly in the caterpillar.
–*Margaret Larson*
- Faith helps you succeed when everything else fails. –*Dawn Ewing*

- My mother taught me very early on to believe I could achieve any accomplishment I wanted to. The first was to walk without braces. *–Wilma Rudolph*
- Thank you for believing in me before I believed in myself. *–Kobi Yamada*
- Believe that there’s light at the end of the tunnel. Believe that you might be that light for someone else. *–Kobi Yamada*
- A good teacher is one who helps you become who you feel yourself to be. *–Julius Lester*
- You must believe in yourself, my child, or no one else will believe in you. Be self-confident, self-reliant, and even if you don’t make it, you will know you have done your best. Now go to it. *–Mary Hardy MacArthur*
- If I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it. *–Mahatma Gandhi*
- Virtually every great accomplishment or movement was started by someone who believed passionately in something – and someone who believed passionately in that person. *–Margaret Warren*
- Those who believe in our ability do more than simulate us. They create for us an atmosphere in which it becomes easier to succeed. *–John H. Spalding*
- By choosing to believe and expect the best about people, you are able to bring out the best in them. *–Bob Moawad*
- The greatest good we can do for others is not to share our riches but to reveal theirs. *–B.J. Marshall*
- Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead. *–Louisa May Alcott*
- Somewhere someone is looking for exactly what you have to offer. *–Louise L. Hay*
- Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by another human being. Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light. *–Albert Schweitzer*
- Thanks for showing me that even on the darkest, rainiest days the sun is still there just behind the clouds, waiting to shine again. *–Albert Schweitzer*
- I’d like to brush the gray from out of your skies and leave them only blue. *–Edgar Guest*
- People must believe in each other, and feel that it can be done and must be done; in that way they are enormously strong. *–Vincent van Gogh*

On caring...

- Caring is everything. *–Baron Friedrich Von Hugel*
- What matters in today’s world is not the difference between those who believe and those who do not believe, but the difference between those who care and those who don’t. *–Abbé Pierre*
- I will act as if I do make a difference. *–William James*
- When you care, people notice. *–Susane Berger*
- Do the things that come from the heart. When you do, you won’t be dissatisfied, you won’t be envious, you won’t be longing for somebody else’s things. On the contrary, you’ll be overwhelmed with what comes back. *–Morrie Schwartz*
- Small tokens of sincere consideration or love carry messages far beyond their size. *–Karl-Hans van Fremde*
- The manner of giving is worth more than the gift. *–Pierre Corneille*
- Too often, we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. *–Leo Buscaglia*
- When we recall the past we usually find that it is the simplest things – not the great occasions – that in retrospect give off the greatest glow of happiness. *–Bob Hope*

- We cannot explain why these little signs mean so much to us. But the fact is that a word of thanks for some small thing can transform our day. *–Jeanne Reidy*
- Caring is a powerful business advantage. *–Scott Johnson*
- Take pride in what you do. The kind of pride I’m talking about is not the arrogant puffed-up kind; it’s just the whole idea of caring – fiercely caring. *–Red Auerbach*
- Care more than others think wise. Risk more than others think practical. Expect more than others think possible. *–Unknown*
- Love people. Use things. Not vice-versa. *–Kelly Ann Rothaus*
- It’s human nature to think about ourselves. It’s human relations to think about others. *–Bob Moawad*
- I use the business to make great people. I don’t use people to make a great business. *–Ralph Stayer*
- We are only as good as what we love. *–Sam Bellow*
- When you love your work, it shows. *–Audrey Woodhall*
- Know what you are doing. Love what you are doing. Believe in what you are doing. *–Steve Musseau*
- When I give, I give myself. *–Walt Whitman*
- People want to make a difference and be respected. Is that a surprise? *–Paul Ames*
- If people believe in the company they work for, they pour their heart into making it better. *–Howard Schultz*
- The greatest tragedy is indifference. *–The Red Cross*
- Seven national crimes: I don’t think. I don’t know. I don’t care. I am too busy. I leave well enough along. I have no time to read and find out. I am not interested. *–William Boetcker*
- If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other. *–Mother Teresa*
- You can really change the world if you care enough. *–M.W. Edelman*
- I believe that one of the most important things to learn in life is that you can make a difference in your community no matter who you are or where you live. I have seen so many good deeds – people helped, lives improved – because someone cared. *–Rosalyn Carter*
- Some people make the world more special just by being in it. *–Kelly Ann Rothaus*
- Children will not remember you for the material things you provided but for the feeling that you cherished them. *–Gail Grenier Sweet*
- It is lovely when I forget all birthdays, including my own, to find that somebody remembers me. *–Ellen Glasglow*
- I am so glad you are here. It helps me to realize how beautiful my world is. *–Rainer Maria Rilke*
- The human heart, at whatever age, opens to the heart that opens in return. *–Maria Edgeworth*
- The thoughtful little things you do each day have an accumulated effect on all our tomorrows. *–Alexandra Stoddard*
- Caring means you simply give to others a bit of yourself – a thoughtful act, a helpful idea, a word of appreciation, a lift over a rough spot, a sense of understanding, a timely suggestion. *–Charles H. Burr*
- When I count my blessings, I count you twice. *–Irish proverb*
- Take good care of yourself, just as you have taken such good care of others. *–Dan Zadra*
- Treasure this day, and treasure yourself. Truly, neither will ever happen again. *–Ray Bradbury*

On supporting...

- You can't be human alone. *-Unknown*
- No one can go it alone. Somewhere along the line is the person who gives you faith that you can make it. *-Grace Gill Olivarez*
- My heart gives thanks for empty moments given to dreams, and for thoughtful people who help those dreams come true. *-William Braithwaite*
- Surround yourself with people who respect you and treat you well. *-Claudia Black*
- Those whom we support hold us up in life. *-Maria von Ebner-Eschenbach*
- I get by with a little help from my friends. *-John Lennon*
- Cherish your human connections – your relationships with friends and family. *-Barbara Bush*
- Mentor each other unselfishly. *-Heroic Environments*
- Friends are kind to each other's hopes. They cherish each other's dreams. *-Henry David Thoreau*
- If someone listens, or stretches out a hand, whispers a kind word of encouragement, or attempts to understand, extraordinary things begin to happen. *-Loretta Girzartis*
- Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much. *-Helen Keller*
- The nice thing about teamwork is that you always have others on your side. *-Margaret Carty*
- Draw strength from each other. *-James A. Renier*
- The idea is not to see through one another, but to see one another through. *-C.D. Jackson*
- Loyalty means not that I agree with everything you say, or that I believe you are always right. Loyalty means that I share a common ideal with you and that, regardless of minor differences, we strive for it, shoulder to shoulder, confident in one another's good faith, trust, constancy and affection. *-Dr. Karl Menninger*
- Friends are those rare people who ask how we are, and then wait to hear the answer. *-Ed Cunningham*
- My friend picked me up when I was down, made me laugh though my eyes were full of tears, held me close when there was nothing else to do. *-Lisa Willow*
- It takes each of us to make a difference for all of us. *-Jackie Mutcherson*