

## Get involved in Youth Week

When planning Youth Week activities, there are three main things to think about:

1. Events should be organised by young people for young people.
2. Activities should celebrate and recognise the value of young people to their community.
3. No matter what you do, you should always try to have fun!

Here are some ideas to get you thinking. The good news is that most of them don't cost a lot of money!

### Community events

- Pool party
- Barbeque
- Movie night
- Karaoke night
- Dance party
- Fashion parade
- Radio forum/talk back session
- Create a website
- Costume party
- Food tasting day
- Cook out
- Forum or debate
- Write and produce a community newsletter or youth publication
- Adventure day
- Make a banner
- Cultural awareness day with art, dancing and food tasting
- 'Passion Café'—where young people can meet to talk about things they're passionate about
- Art exhibition based on a particular theme or topic
- Young people survey
- Public choir performance
- Community working bee

- Offer to be a helper for the day at your local community or childcare centre or somewhere similar
- Design and print a greeting card with a positive message for young (you could present one to your local Mayor and other community members)
- Paint a mural (with permission of the wall owner of course!)
- Recycling workshop
- Pet expo
- Wellbeing expo
- Be creative with the National Youth Week 2009 slogan

### Competitions and demos

- Drawing competition
- Writing competition
- Photography competition
- Battle of the bands
- DJ-ing competition
- Skateboarding competition
- Sports day
- Fun run
- Talent quest
- Treasure hunt/mystery nights
- Water sports

## Festivals

- Music festival
- Aerosol art display
- Drama festival
- Film festival
- Comedy festival

## Performances

- Theatre production
- Street theatre
- Pantomime at a child-care centre
- Dance performance

## Ideas for Businesses

- Employee, trainee, apprentice of the month award ceremony
- Conduct a review of local businesses. Suggest how their appeal and service delivery to young people can be improved
- Encourage a business or school to 'adopt' a young person for the day / week
- Present a community 'Youth Achievement Award' to local young people
- Create a comments board where young people who work for you can write down issues and provide ideas for improving the workplace
- Workshop to learn how to get into business

# Youth Week Tips

## Friends and Family

Include your friends and family in helping you organise and run an activity.

## Free Stuff

Ask people to donate their time, energy, facilities and other resources. You'll be surprised how positively they respond!

## Promotion

Promote the activity by using word of mouth and ask people to tell their friends. Use a local email group or a free paper. Local councils, libraries, video shops and local stores may allow you to advertise your activity.

## Support

Seek the support community groups such as service clubs, neighbourhood centre, schools and your local council.

## Planning

Plan things so they cost less. Ask people to bring their own chairs or hold part of an activity in a local hall or at a local pool.

## Be flexible

Stay open minded and consider suggestions and positive ideas.

## Recycle

Consider using existing resources rather than paying for new stuff.

## Be inventive

If you can't avoid something, try redesigning the activity and brainstorm alternative ways and innovative solutions to the problem.

## Manage the activity

Break big things into manageable tasks and don't forget to have fun too!

## Remember

Acknowledge people's involvement, participation and contribution to making your activity successful. Present them with a certificate of participation and appreciation to thank them for their generosity.