

# **Experiential Teaching and Learning**

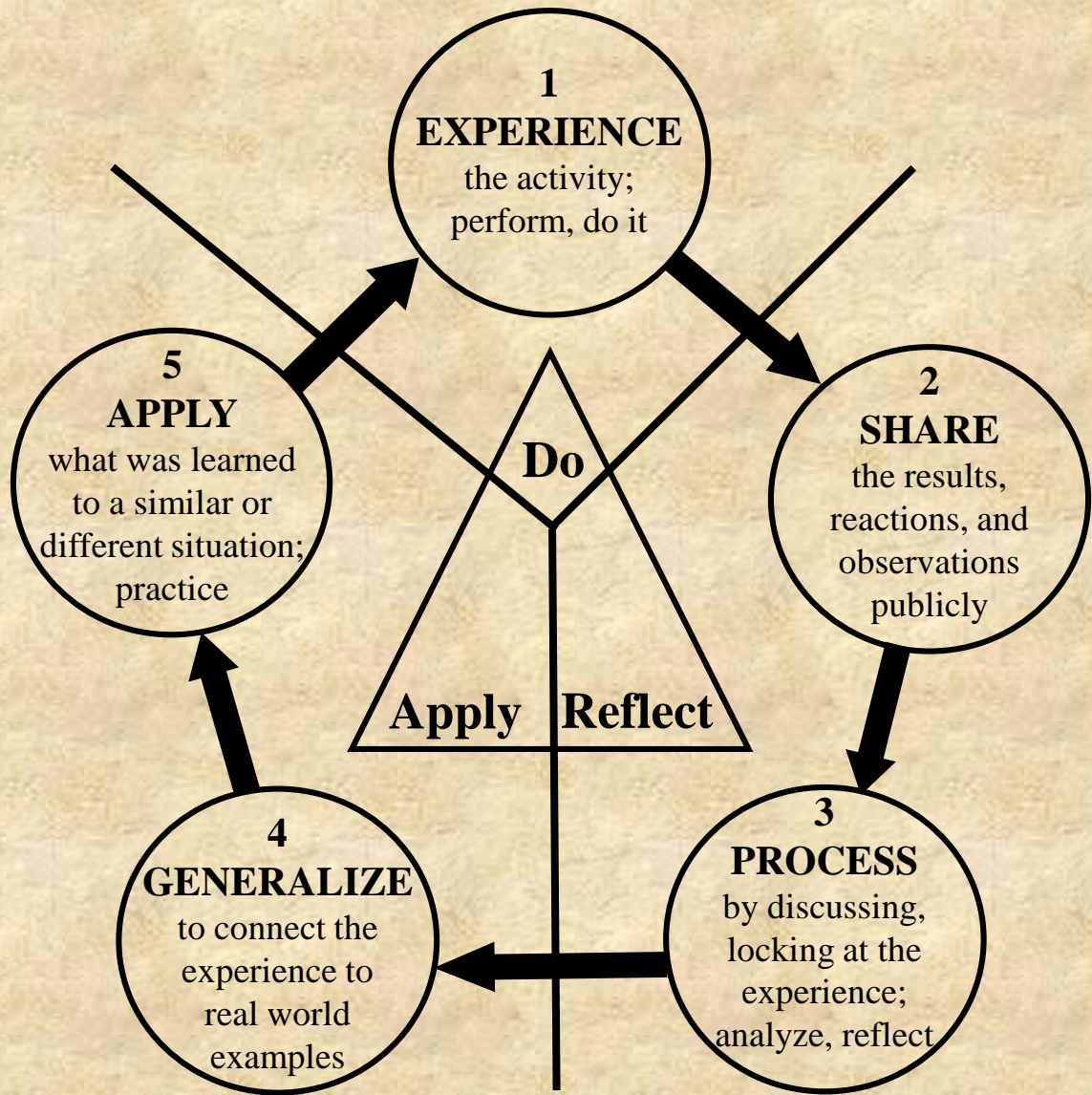
Adapted from Kathleen Jamison, Virginia 4-H Specialist, Curriculum and Learning

Adapted from National 4-H Curriculum Handbook, 1992

“Experiential learning takes place when a person involved in an activity looks back and evaluates it, determines what was useful or important to remember, and uses this information to perform another activity.”

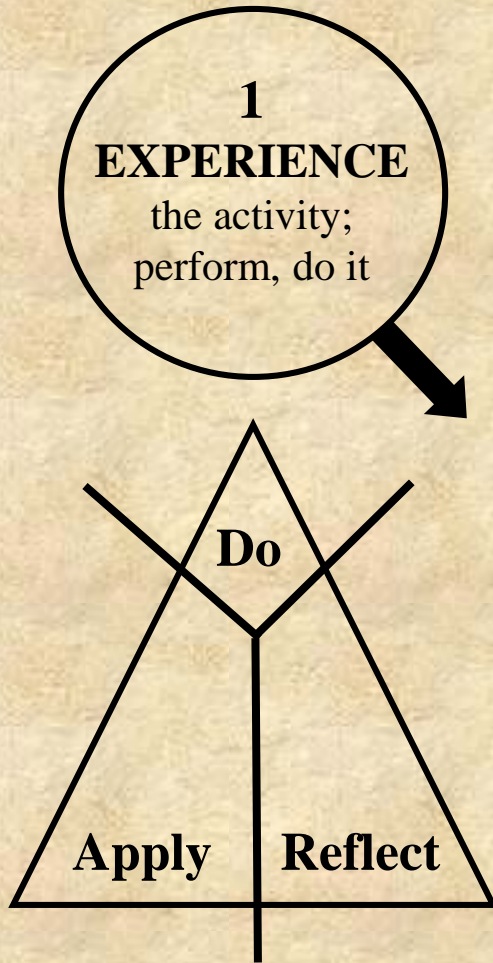
John Dewey

# Experiential Learning Model



# Action Step: Attention on the Learner

Experiencing: *Key Concept - Planning for discovery*



Key Phrases for leader:

- “Sit on your Hands,”
- observe
- facilitate to the “bigger picture.”

Key Objectives are discovery oriented:

- to explore
- to examine
- to construct
- to arrange

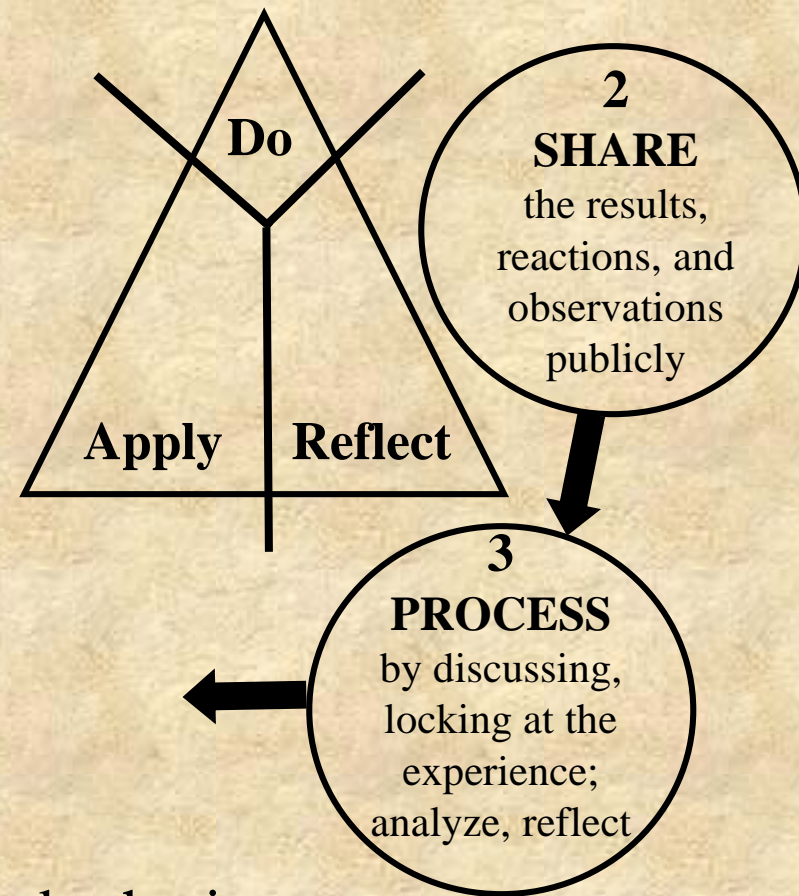
# Personal and Group Reflection Steps

Sharing: *Key concept - Responding*  
*Key question - “What happened?”*

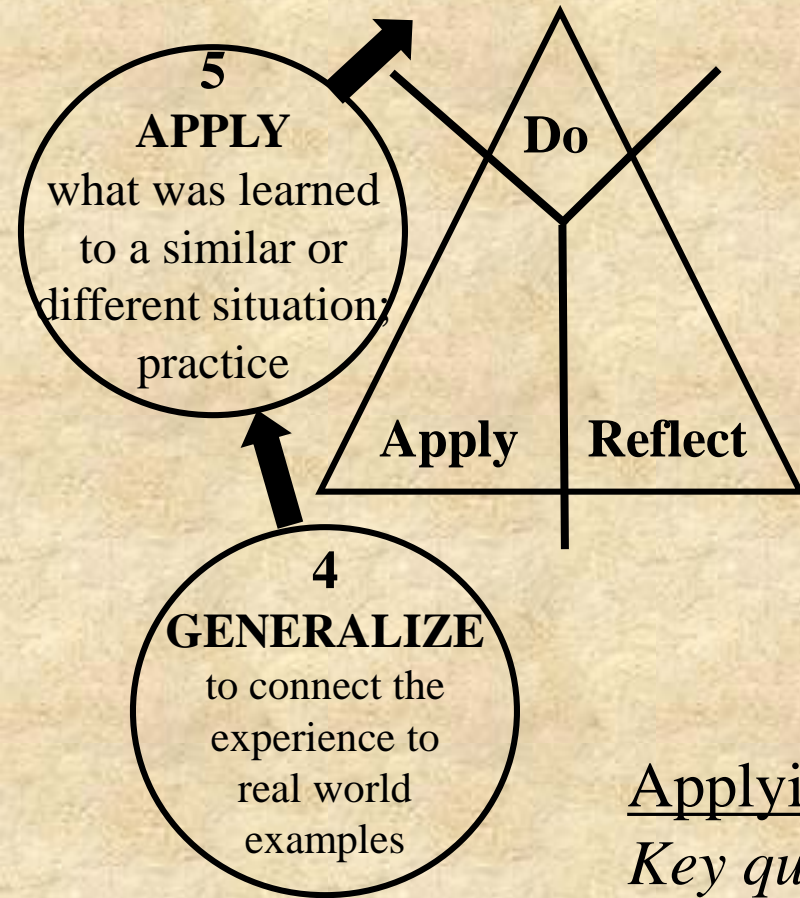
Processing: *Key concept - Analyzing*  
*Patterns*  
*Key question - “What’s important?”*

Leader’s role:

- allow adequate process time to include sharing
- use open-ended questioning to stimulate thinking and feeling
- encourage “pair-share” and large group share



# Connection and Application Step



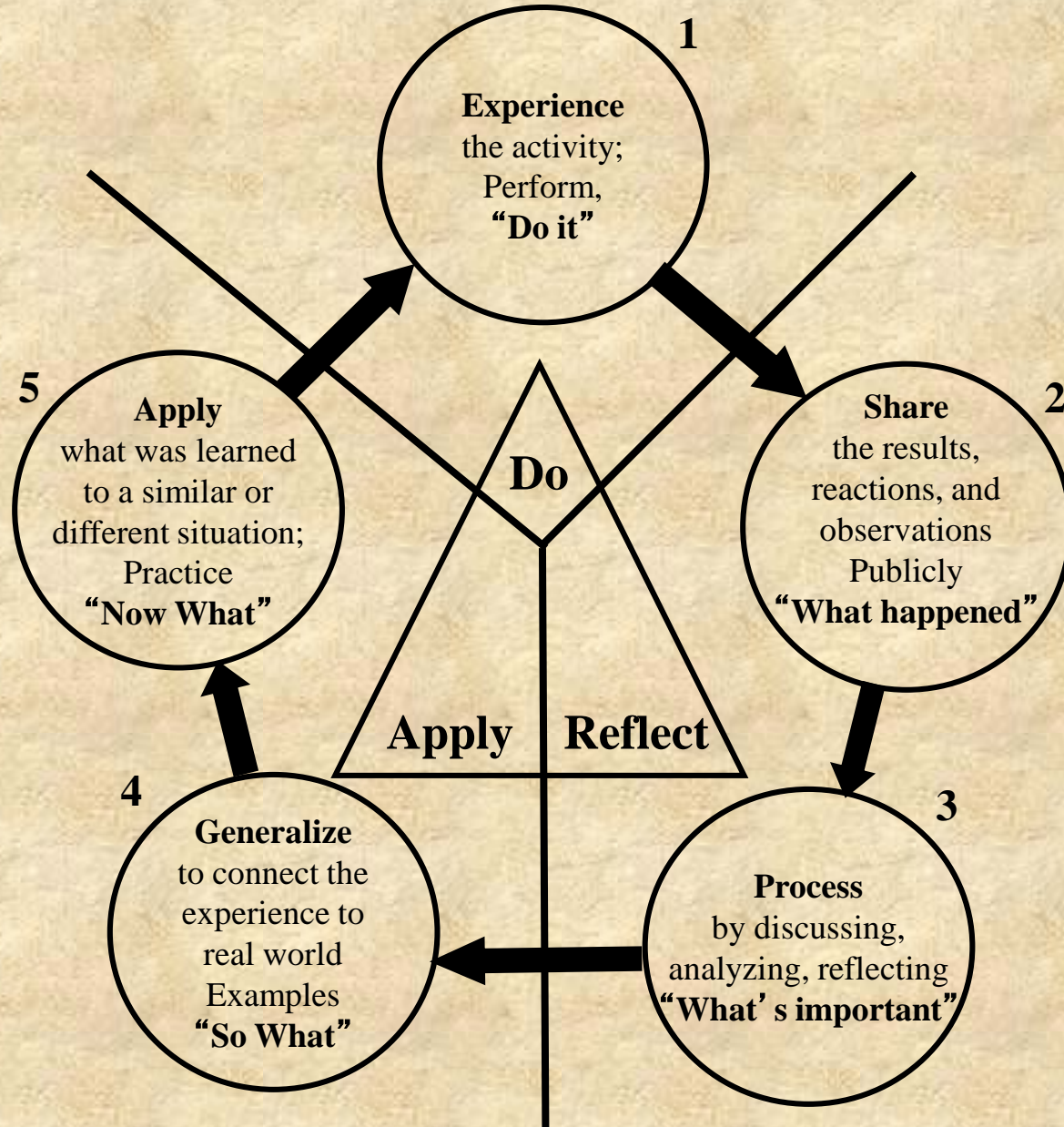
Generalizing: *Key concept - inference*  
*Key question - “So what?”*

Leader’s role: to guide youth in making connections between personal inner meaning of the activity and the broader world.

Applying: *Key concept - application*  
*Key question - “Now what?”*

Leader’s role: to facilitate youth finding ways to use what they have learned in new situations.

# Experiential Learning Model



# Questions Within Questions: Open-ended Spirals



What did you do?

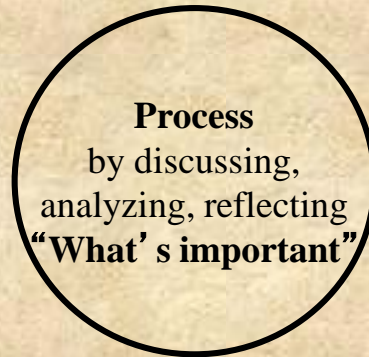
How did you feel?

What did you notice?

What was most difficult? Easiest?



# Questions Within Questions: Open-ended Spirals



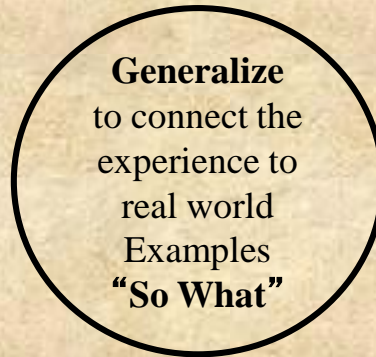
What are some important things you learned about\_\_\_\_\_?

What problems or issues seemed to occur over and over?  
Why did that happen?

What if you had\_\_\_\_\_?

If you could do it again, what would you do differently?

# Questions Within Questions: Open-ended Spirals

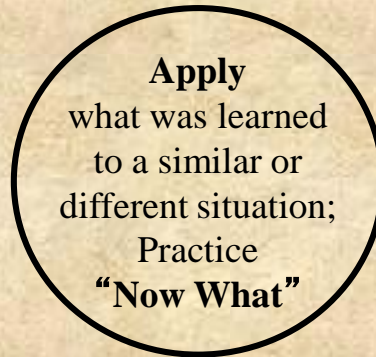


What did you learn about yourself through this activity?

How do the major themes or ideas relate to other things you do in your life? (Identify life skills)

What did you learn about (life skill) while you were doing this activity?

# Questions Within Questions: Open-ended Spirals



What will you do next time you run into a similar situation?

How can you use what you have learned in a similar situation?

What will you do differently next time?

# The Experiential Learning Model Threads Through...

Many skills in one activity

Or

In a short series of activities

# **Skills include:**

- Life Skills
- Project / Content Skills
- Science Process Skills
- Applied Skills
- Workforce/Leadership Skills
- Service Learning Skills

**Remember...**

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when a person **involved in an activity**  
**looks back** and **evaluates** it,  
**determines** what was useful or important to remember,  
and **uses** this information to perform another activity.”

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