



naaee

North American Association
for Environmental Education

Group Participation Guidelines

Remember to be thoughtful and respectful with your comments.

It can be too easy to reply quickly to a post in an emotionally-charged way. And, when you can't SEE the person you're responding to, it happens more often than any of us would like. Remember that on the other side of that "send" button is a real-life human with real-life feelings. If you can't say what you just typed to his or her face: don't say it at all.

There is beauty in difference.

Your fellow Group members will disagree with each other, and with you. And sometimes that can feel uncomfortable. Just remember that there is strength in this difference, and engaging in an open discussion is a great way to learn and grow as an EE professional. If you ever feel personally attacked, or if someone's behavior becomes offensive to you, please contact NAAEE's Digital Community Coordinator or your Group Moderators and seek their help. That's what we're here for!

Inclusion is not just a lofty word.

While the Moderators may strive to include everyone, it's each Group member's job to ensure that everyone feels that they have a voice. If you sense that someone isn't feeling included, think about how you'd want to be treated in a similar circumstance, and then try! Again, going back to "we are all human"....



naaee

North American Association
for Environmental Education

Step up, step back.

Along the same lines of inclusion, some of us chime in right away to discussions and others tend to take their time. If you feel that you've been "stepping up" too much in conversations, take a moment and let someone else chime in. That quiet person who's been following the chat likely has something to say too. And it's usually something pretty interesting.

Respect privacy.

Many of our Groups are not private. Anyone can join. However, as a member of a Group, discussions may arise where people disclose personal information. When this happens, please use discretion. Simultaneously, if someone asks you for information that you do not feel comfortable disclosing, you do not need to disclose it. Remember, NAAEE's Digital Community Coordinator and Group Moderators are always here to help, if and when needed.

Bring new ideas and thinking to the discussion.

You may think of your Group as its little corner of the EE world, but remember that you are all brilliant, passionate people who can raise each other to take your ideas to new levels. Think about how you can elevate your work, and think about how your Group may help elevate a topic within the field of EE, and beyond. You each have the power to give voice to issues that matter to you, so use it!

Enjoy the interaction.

We hope everyone enjoys being part of the group discussions and takes an active role in posting comments, blogs, and resources. We know everyone is extremely busy, but it can be great to connect with colleagues to push our thinking, create new initiatives, and help advance the field. Have fun with all of this!