

WORKING WITH BENEFICIARY PARTNERS QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1) **True or False: It is very important to spend time and effort establishing a trusting and mutually respectful working relationship with your beneficiary partner before the garden project even begins.**

Answer: True

Explanation: If you don't spend the time to establish a respectful working relationship at the start of your project, the relationship will start on the wrong foot. By starting off in the correct way you are building a solid foundation for the rest of the project.

- 2) **True or False: It is your responsibility to consult your partners at every step and ensure that everyone feels included.**

Answer: True

Explanation: You are leading this project and therefore you are responsible for the overall style and atmosphere of the project. You need to do whatever is necessary to ensure that your partners know you that you value their input.

- 3) **Select all correct answers: A Reel Gardening Volunteer should be...**

Answer: Kind
Respectful
Reliable

Explanation: When working with beneficiary partners you should be confident and open but not dominating or overbearing. Create a space for all opinions to be heard and take direction as much as you give it. You can do this by being patient, kind and respectful. It is also essential that all volunteers are reliable and deliver on their promises.

- 4) **True or False: Anyone would want a vegetable garden if you could just convince them of how much they need one.**

Answer: False

Explanation: It may seem to you that someone may benefit from a vegetable garden and you can try to show them this, but ultimately they may not want one. If someone doesn't want a vegetable garden it is not your responsibility to force one on them.

- 5) **Select all correct answers: Which of the following do you need to check when assessing whether a location is suitable for a vegetable garden?**

Answer: Does the area receive at least 6 hours of sunlight?
Is there easy access to water?
Is the area protected?

Explanation: You don't need to check whether there are insects in the soil to determine whether a location is suitable. There will always be some insects living in the soil. Some will be beneficial for the garden and some will be harmful. Unless there is a serious infestation of harmful insects in the soil, you will be able to plant the garden. It is unimportant whether a particular area gets cold at night. If the season is suitable for planting, it is unlikely that one particular area will become so cold that it will harm the garden. Rather ensure that you can plant in your province during this month.

- 6) **True or False: You don't need to water a garden over the school holidays as long as you water it a lot the day before you leave.**

Answer: False

Explanation: The garden will need to be watered every day for the first month and every second day there after. This includes during weekends and school holidays.

- 7) **True or False: Before you and your partner commit to the garden project you should both know exactly who will be looking after the garden, and those people need to have given their consent.**

Answer: True

Explanation: Making a garden project a success requires a very committed team of garden carers. This team needs to know exactly what kind of work they are taking on, and agree to it in advance. If people aren't properly consulted in the beginning stages it is likely that they will neglect the garden once the project has started. This may result in the garden failing. By establishing a committed team in advance, who all know what they are signing up for, the project has a higher chance of success.

- 8) **What is the primary reason vegetable garden projects fail?**

Answer: Commitment to the project

Explanation: Often caring for a garden ends up being a lot more work and commitment than people expect. This results in people overcommitting themselves to the project, only to realise at a later stage that they don't have the time. Furthermore, you will only see the results of your hard work 3 or 4 months after you've planted. Many people lose enthusiasm during this time and don't want to keep working on the garden while they wait for harvest.

- 9) **True or False: You should discuss the distribution of vegetables before the garden is even planted.**

Answer: True

Explanation: This is an important aspect of managing expectations. Everyone should know exactly what they are expected to contribute and exactly what they will receive in return. Only with all of this information can all parties decide whether or not they want to be a part of the project in the first place.

- 10) **True or False: If you have concerns about the readiness of your beneficiary partner or the suitability of the location, you should start the project and address your concerns along the way.**

Answer: False

Explanation: You need to be very clear about all aspects of the project before commencing. It is better to find out at the start of the project that the partnership is not aligned or the location is not suitable rather than discovering this once you have already invested in the project.