

Picture Story

Type: Sharing Ideas



What Is It?

Participants draw a series of pictures that tell stories about typical community members and the workshop topic.

How to Use It

1. Divide participants into several groups to draw different picture stories. Alternatively, participants can work individually.
2. Describe different 'typical' community members – for example, a '14-year-old school girl from a poor rural family', a '30-year-old male teacher in a village', or a '40-year-old woman with three children'.
3. Select three or four issues that might affect all of the 'typical' community members. Examples might include 'having diarrhea' or 'not having a latrine'.
4. Ask participants to choose one of the issues. Ask them to draw pictures telling the story of what might happen to the community member if they tried to address the issue.
5. Repeat the activity for the other problems.

Trainer Notes

Remind participants that the quality of their drawing does not matter. The activity is about sharing ideas and learning.

Encourage the participants to spend only a short time drawing their pictures so that they have more time to talk about what the pictures mean.

Why Use It?

Provides a non-threatening way to look at the challenges and options that people face

Explores how those challenges and options are, or are not, the same for all community members

Begins to identify what can be done to address the challenges

6. Repeat the process for different 'typical' community members (or ask different groups to draw stories about different 'typical' community members).
7. When the activity is complete, encourage the participants to discuss what the picture stories show.
 - Which community members have the most options for seeking help?
 - Which members have the fewest options?
 - How are different people treated when they try to get help? Why?
 - What could be done to improve the situation?

Variation

Have different groups draw different issues. They can show the issue from different 'typical' community members' points of view.