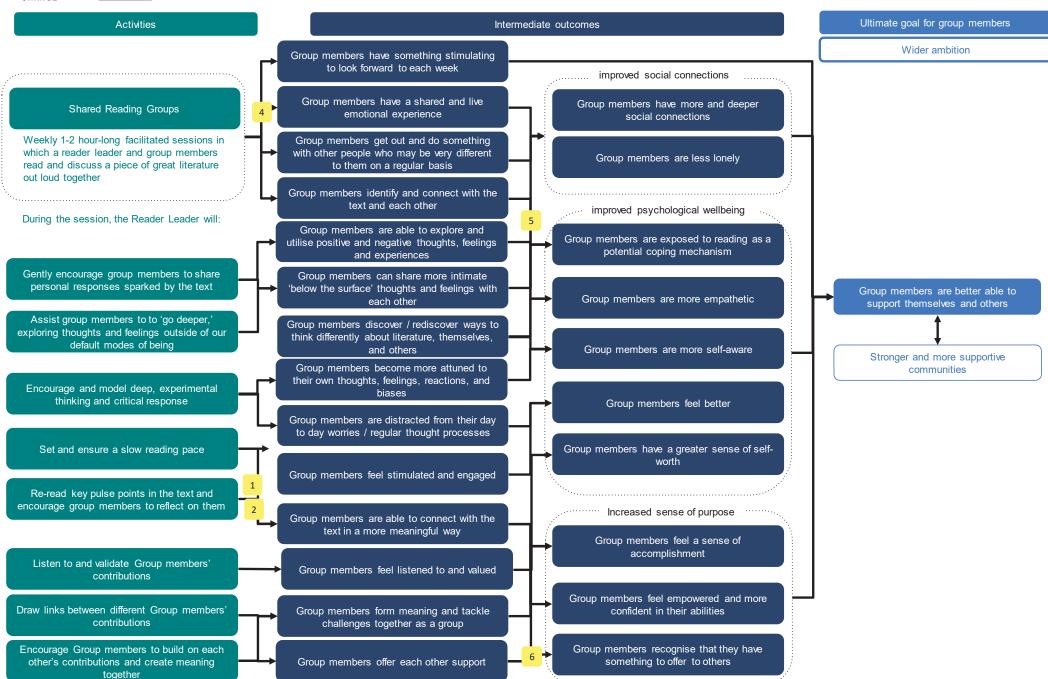


Shared Reading Theory of Change



Assumptions

- 1. The literature is appropriate for the context / personal circumstances of the group providing a 'just right' level of challenge
- 2. The literature is printed and read clearly
- 3. Group members are given the space to open up, as and when they are ready to
- 4. Group members are there because they want to be there
- 5. Interactions between group members are respectful
- 6. Group members acknowledge the support they have been offered

Key ingredients for successful groups

- · Great literature, i.e.:
 - Real human feeling
 - Stimulating
 - Encourages some stretch
 - Selected with the needs and experiences of the group in mind
- An informal and welcoming environment
- · Skilled reader leaders who are familiar with the text and able and utilise group member contributions
 - Models meaningful engagement
 - Manages critical / unhelpful behaviour
 - Listens attentively
 - Kind but bold
 - Creates a safe and welcoming environment
 - Ensures group members aren't aggressive, dominant etc.
 - Creates and develops connections between the discussion and the text
- Voluntary participation
- · Self-directed discussions