



Orientation	Pre-Arrival
Session Overview	<p>This session is designed to provide a wrap up of the pre-arrival orientation. Participants will review objectives from the Welcome session and be sure there are no outstanding questions.</p> <p>Note the following lesson icons throughout the session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ - this indicates a take away point that should not be missed during the lesson • this indicates a question or idea that can be used to facilitate a conversation
Session Objective	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Navigate the Host Family Account and identify important host family resources 2. Apply YFU policies and procedures that promote student and family safety throughout the student’s exchange 3. Identify challenges faced by adolescents and families in cross-cultural settings 4. Apply tips and best practices from other host families
Participants	<input type="checkbox"/> Students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Host Parents <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Parents <input type="checkbox"/> Host Siblings
Format	<input type="checkbox"/> Highly Active / Interactive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Some Activity / Interactivity <input type="checkbox"/> Independent
Duration	10 minutes
Group Size	Any size
Minimum Staffing	1 facilitator
Materials Needed	Flipchart or whiteboard Welcome Kit idea handout
Preparation	None

ACTIVITY- LOOKING FORWARD: (10 minutes)

1. Distribute and discuss the *Welcome Kit Ideas* handout to give the families information about creative ways to welcome their student.
2. Review some final tips with the families. Ask families to contribute additional tips.
 - ✓ Set goals between now and the Post-Arrival orientation to prepare for the student and make the student feel welcome.

- ✓ Sit down as a family and consider your own cultural iceberg, and discover what your student may run into below the waterline.
3. Review these objectives from the Welcome session and ask families for examples of how they can do these things:

YFU'S Pre-Arrival Orientation Objectives

- ✓ Navigate your *Host Family Account* and identify important host family resources
 - ✓ Apply YFU policies and procedures that promote student and family safety throughout the student's exchange
 - ✓ Identify challenges faced by adolescents and families in cross-cultural settings
 - ✓ Apply tips and best practices from other host families
3. Wrap up and close the day. Ask if there any additional questions. If necessary, offer to stay back and talk with families as needed. Thank everyone for spending this time with your orientation team today. Use some of these talking points as needed.
- ✓ Remind them that the international exchange experience is a journey for students and families. Starting as visitors, or having a visitor in the home, the ultimate destination is belonging and developing a meaningful understanding of the impact of exchange.
 - ✓ Host families, along with their students control the journey, using the power of choice and communication as tools to steer the experience.
 - ✓ YFU's role is that of a guide, using orientation programming and the support structure as their tools.
 - ✓ **Thank you for making the world your home for an international son or daughter.**



WELCOME KIT IDEAS

Start with something as basic as a gift bag, a plastic crate, a tote bag or a simple basket.

Any Item that can be used throughout the year is a good idea

Some basic welcome kit items may include:

- T-shirt from your high school, local college, or community- Old Navy has great patriotic ones
- School supplies: Notebook paper, binder, pens, pencils, etc.
- Snacks: Gum, cookies (Oreos are a favorite), candy bar, Gatorade, bottle of water
- Toiletries: Toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, chap stick
- Postcards (local scenes) with appropriate stamps for international mailing
- Map of city/area and/or brochures of local sights
- Calendar with holidays and family birthdays filled in
- List of important phone numbers, including emergency contact ones
- House key



Suggestions for involving host brothers and sisters:

- Write a personal email to student before arrival date
- Make a “welcome sign” for the airport—be sure students’ name is large and clearly written
- Make a “welcome sign” for front door of your home or your student’s bedroom
- Let siblings select things for the welcome basket.
- Help mark the special days on the calendar
- Make a cake, brownies, cookies, etc.
- Help acclimate student to the house - how to turn on shower; where the drinking glasses are kept; introduce to family pets, where bicycles are kept, etc.
- Make a list of rules that are most important to parents and share with student