

# Making the Best 4-H Clubs Better

## Intended Audience

- 4-H club members

## Lesson Objectives

Club members and parents will:

- Gain confidence
- Increase their public speaking skills
- Learn the basics of doing a demonstration

**Time:** 20 minutes

## Equipment and supplies

- Resource:
  - Set of Demonstration Activity Cards
- Handout:
  - “Show Me How to ... Plan a Demonstration”
- Pen/pencil/crayon/marker
- Demonstration Activity Card supplies

## Do ahead

- Review lesson
- Gather equipment and supplies
- Copy handouts, one per member
- Put supplies for the demonstrations out for 4-Hers to have easy access. when doing their “Show and Tell.”

## Show Me How to... Plan a 4-H Demonstration

### BACKGROUND

Demonstrations are nearly as old as 4-H itself. Some of the earliest boys and girls clubs were called demonstration clubs and with that in mind, this lesson will help your club continue to encourage this ever-important aspect of the 4-H experience.

Demonstrations are a great way for 4-H club members to share something they have learned through their project work or other research. In the process, they also gain valuable self-confidence, communication and interview skills they can use throughout life. To top it all off, they can earn recognition by participating in county and state level competitions!

The purpose of this activity is to help 4-H members become comfortable with speaking in front of a group and encourage them to give a further, more structured demonstration at a future club meeting.

### WHAT TO DO

#### Activity:

Review the four main components of planning a demonstration:

1. Select a single, simple idea on which to build your demonstration
2. Plan the body of the demonstration
3. Plan the conclusion, include handling questions
4. Then plan your introduction and select the title

Each member (or team of two members) will begin with Step 1 – Select a simple idea by drawing a Demonstration Activity Card from the baggie. Explain that they will show or teach the rest of the group how to do the simple activity listed on their card. Have the 4-H'ers use the supplies from the list to do their “Show and Tell”.



**Sources:**

- “Show Me, Tell Me ... 4-H Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks,” Patty House, Extension Educator, OSU Extension Clark County
- “A Few Ideas for Demonstrations,” University of Missouri Extension, Marion County

Once all have looked over their selections, go around the room and have each member show or demonstrate "how to" do their activity. Tell them to start by introducing their activity, "I am going to show you how to..."

Note: Depending on club size, you may need to split the group in order to give everyone a chance to participate.

**TALK IT OVER****Reflect:**

- What was the most difficult part of this activity? What part was better than you anticipated? What are some potential demonstration topics that you might want to explore? How could the four steps for planning a demonstration help you develop the topic you chose?

**Apply:**

- Set a demonstration schedule for your club. Give each person a date when they will present their demonstration. Share the additional links and resources with them and have them use the four steps to create their presentations.
- Enjoy learning about the great things your club members are doing!

**ADDITIONAL LINKS**

- <http://advisorshandbook.ohio4h.org>, Ohio 4-H Advisors Handbook, Creating Demonstrations with Your 4-H'ers, Judy Villard, Ph.D., Ohio State University Extension, Richland County.
- [https://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/d6/files/publications/documents/4H\\_909R.pdf](https://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/d6/files/publications/documents/4H_909R.pdf)  
Demonstrations for 4-H Members, 4-H Circular 909R

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