

Making the Best 4-H Clubs Better – Virtually

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

- Set of Demonstration Activity Cards
- Handout:
 - “Show Me How to Plan a Demonstration”
 - Ohio State Fair 4-H Communications Days - Illustrated Talk or Demonstration Rules
- Pen/pencil/crayon/marker

Do Ahead

- Review Curriculum Overview
- Review Lesson
- E-mail the copy of “Show Me How to Plan a Demonstration” to club members ahead of time.
- Assign each member one of the activities prior to the meeting and ask them to have supplies ready. (Or you can send them the list and tell them to choose one activity.)

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. This activity is designed to be used in a virtual meeting setting. Demonstrations do not have to be done in person. It is just as easy to stand in front of a laptop, tablet or phone camera and do a demonstration.

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 will begin with Step 1 – Share with the group the activity they have been assigned or selected. Explain that they will show or teach the rest of the group how to do the simple activity they were sent prior to the meeting. (Be sure to tell the 4-H'ers to gather their supplies for their “Show and Tell” prior to the meeting.)



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Sources

- “Show Me, Tell Me ... 4-H Demonstrations and Illustrated Talks,” Patty House, Extension Educator, OSU Extension Clark County

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- As activity leader in a virtual activity, you will need to call on members to show 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. Depending on the platform you are meeting on, you could assign smaller groups to break-out rooms to share with one another. Always be sure there are at least three people in a breakout room, and you should consider having an adult or teen leader assigned to each room to assist younger members if needed.
- Suggest to members that when presenting virtually they should make sure their camera is positioned to not have distractions in the background. They will want to be sitting or standing where those watching can see what they are doing. They may need to work on camera placement. Even in a virtual presentation, they need to be professional.
- Give each participant two to three minutes to show their activity. Then bring everyone back together to Talk It Over.

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 presentation.
- Enjoy learning about the great things your club members are doing!

EVALUATION

Place the following link in the chat for attendees to use to complete the evaluation for the session
go.osu.edu/bestbettervirtual .