

# Making the Best 4-H Clubs Better – Virtually

## Intended Audience

- 4-H Club Members

## Lesson Objectives

Club members and parents will:

- Learn how to be an effective ambassador for the 4-H program

**Time:** 20 minutes

## Equipment and supplies

- Ability to share screen and document notes (whiteboard, Word document)
- PDF of YOU are a 4-H Ambassador!

## Do Ahead

- Review Curriculum Overview
- Review Lesson
- Make sure you have handout and resources in electronic format of your computer
- Email a copy of “YOU are a 4-H Ambassador!” to 4-H members
- Recruit teens/volunteers to serve as breakout room facilitators.

## You are a 4-H Ambassador

### BACKGROUND

Club members and parents are ambassadors for 4-H! Positive word of mouth is our best promotional tool, so what they say to other youth, parents, and members of the community helps those people make the decision to become part of or to support the program. It's important members of our 4-H family share a positive message about 4-H and all the great opportunities and skills it provides youth across the nation.

Many 4-H alumni attribute their success in life to their 4-H activities and opportunities. Most of us have been stopped at the fair or have had a classmate ask, “What is 4-H, anyway?” Ask members to recall their answer to that question. After the conversation was over did the member, think, “I wish I had told them...?” Members are the best promoters of 4-Hand being good at explaining what 4-H is will allow members to tell someone about 4-H in just two short minutes.

### WHAT TO DO

#### Activity 1: The Value of 4-H

- Send each member a copy of the handout to complete individually at the club meeting. Allow people 5-7 minutes to complete the three questions on the worksheet.
- Ask members to give their answers to each question and record them to compile a master list of thoughts about why 4-H exists, what someone can expect to gain from being in 4-H, and about the value 4-H adds to their lives. Use a whiteboard or document that you are sharing from your screen to record answers so everyone can see them.
- Develop the lists into bullet points that can be distributed to club members for them to consider and refer to when they serve as 4-H ambassadors, either formally or informally.



## Sources

- “122 Ways to Build Teams” by Carol Searce, 2007 Corwin Press Thousand Oaks, CA

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*We are indebted to the original author of the previous version of this lesson plan, **Travis West.***

## Reviewed by

4-H Youth Development professionals in an 11-county region in Southern Ohio  
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## Activity 2: The Two Minute 4-H Story

- Divide the members into small groups using breakout rooms, with a teen or adult to provide leadership. Have the members of each group work on developing their own “Two Minute 4-H Story,” using some of the points discussed in the previous activity. Ask members to share their stories with the group and have group members provide positive feedback. The more often members share their stories, the more natural doing so will feel.
- Remind members of the adage, “If you can’t say something nice, don’t say anything at all.” That is true of 4-H, as well. We all experience the occasional disappointment or are unhappy with the result of a show or judging, but these short-term issues are often learning opportunities that help us grow and improve for the future. Do not dwell on the negative. Focus on the positive and make the experience part of your 4-H story!

## TALK IT OVER

### Reflect:

- What new things did you learn about 4-H from other responses?
- Did you have trouble answering the questions on the worksheet?

### Apply:

- How can you take advantage of new ideas for your own success?
- How will these ideas help you recruit new members for your club?

## EVALUATION

Place the following link in the chat for attendees to use to complete the evaluation for the session

[go.osu.edu/bestbettervirtual](https://go.osu.edu/bestbettervirtual) .