Fun Cloverbud Meeting Activities

By Angela Holmes, 4-H Youth Development Educator/CED, Erie County (OSU Extension).

You have a Cloverbud meeting this week. What activity are you going to do? How will you keep the Cloverbuds busy? That’s easy: just look on Pinterest or maybe search the Internet for a cute craft. Isn’t this how it’s done? I’d like you to consider something different. Utilize the wonderful resources that are available through Ohio 4-H: Ohio Cloverbud Program Manual Series I and Series II. Yes, these resources contain curriculum. But don’t let the word curriculum be a turn off.

The manuals are organized around topics like: Bubble-Mania, Sports, Wildlife, Food Fun and many others. Each topic has its own pull out resource guide sheet. Within the guide you will find several activities that deal with the topic. These activities vary from simple tasks that introduce the topic to more in-depth hands on learning experiences. There are even songs and ideas for snacks related to the topic. The guide is your very own cheat sheet. It tells you what supplies you will need for each activity, how long the activity will take and what group size works best.

I love Pinterest and all those wonderful Internet resources and use them myself, but I think they fall short in emphasizing the learning component. The Cloverbud Curriculum guide sheets provide follow-up questions to ask the Cloverbuds and activities to be done later at home. These questions and activities help to continue the learning and reinforce the learning that already took place.

Still want to search the Internet for ideas for your Cloverbud meeting? Try this web-site www.go.osu.edu/click. Here you will find one page activities for Cloverbuds. These are fun, simple things to try. All the Click it, Print it, Do it... Activity Pages have a wide range of titles including Lego Crafts, When I Grow Up, North Sky, Sports Bingo, and Pumpkin Painting to name a few.

I’m not asking you to totally give up your creativity or searching for the perfect Cloverbud activity, but try the resources provided to you by Ohio 4-H. To learn more about how to get a copy of the Ohio’s 4-H Cloverbud Program materials contact your local Extension Office or look them up in the Family Guide. There is a fee associated with the program materials, but often clubs will purchase those for the Cloverbud Advisor to use. Or you may be able to check out a copy from your Extension Office.
Faces Bingo:  
A Fun Cloverbud Activity  
By Janine Yeske, 4-H Youth Development Educator, CED, Jefferson County (OSU Extension).

Sometimes all we know about a person is what his/her face looks like. To really know a person, we have to look at more than their appearance. Look at the “Faces” Bingo game below and find people who like (or are) the things written in the squares. Ask them to write their names in the squares with the things that describe them. Now you know more about them than just what they look like. See how many squares you can get filled with names.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Favorite Food</th>
<th>Favorite Animal or Pet</th>
<th>Favorite Color</th>
<th>Favorite Entertainment</th>
<th>Their School Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PIZZA</td>
<td>CAT</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>VIDEO GAMES</td>
<td>KINDERGARTEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN NUGGETS</td>
<td>COW</td>
<td>GREEN</td>
<td>BOARD GAMES</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM BURGERS</td>
<td>DOG</td>
<td>YELLOW</td>
<td>OUTSIDE GAMES</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOT DOGS</td>
<td>GUINEA PIG OR HAMSTER</td>
<td>BLUE</td>
<td>MOVIES</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAC &amp; CHEESE</td>
<td>PIG</td>
<td>PINK</td>
<td>READING</td>
<td>SAME GRADE AS ME</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Campus Connections  
By Scott Scheer, Ph.D., State Extension Specialist, 4-H Youth Development (The Ohio State University).

Hello again! It’s great to make this 4-H Cloverbud Connection with you!

This newsletter issue is about you - the volunteer leader who is making a difference in the lives of children participating in 4-H Cloverbud program. The 4-H Cloverbud program operates somewhat differently than the program for older youth which is more project centered with youth officers running the meetings and activities. On the other hand, the 4-H Cloverbud program is leader directed as children participate in activities together. The children develop life skills because you help them work along with each other (social skills), learn (thinking skills), move (physical skills), and feel positive about themselves (self-esteem). Please know that you are the cornerstone of the 4-H Cloverbud program.

Thanks for your commitment to the 4-H Cloverbud program as we enhance the healthy development of children throughout the state!

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