



ENHANCING THE CLUB EXPERIENCE.....

December: Club Manager's Checklist

- Discuss District Food Show
- Distribute 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Applications to eligible senior members and announce any District/County Scholarship trainings
- Discuss upcoming County Livestock Show
- Recognize participants/winners in recent County and District events
- County Council Delegate give report from meeting
- Plan and implement Community Service Projects

After Meeting

- Turn in attendance sheets & reports



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December: Recreation

THE STAR

Equipment: 40 - 50 foot rope tied to itself forming a large circle

Challenge:

The whole group maintains contact with the rope while creating a five pointed star (the kind that crisscrosses in the middle) with the circle of rope.

Everyone must participate by holding onto the rope. They cannot let go of the rope or trade places with the people next to them to accomplish the task. (They can slide along the rope. Don't mention this unless you need too and the group is getting frustrated.) Once the group thinks that the task is complete, ask them to slowly lower the star to the ground and step back to admire their work.

Refreshment:

Christmas cookies



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December: Community Service

- Organize a clothing, coat or shoe drive. The link listed helps you plan a clothes drive if one is not in place in your community.
<http://charityguide.org/charity/fewhours/clothesdrive.htm>
- Have your Clothing Project Group sponsor set up a mending party to sew on buttons and mend donated items.
- Participate in an Angel Tree Program in your community.
http://www.pfm.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Angel_Tree1 - program for the children of those in prison.



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December: Flag Ceremony

RECIPE FOR THE AMERICAN FLAG

Ingredients:

- 1 large pot
- 1 American flag folded (in or beside pot)
- 1 cup each red, white, and blue pieces of paper
- 15-20 gold or silver stars cut out of paper or a sheet of gold or silver star stickers
- 1 stirring stick

Directions:

Place the American Flag in or beside the pot, folded so it can be picked up by the top corners. Sprinkle each color, at the appropriate time, into the pot. At "This is our flag..."- two participants lift the flag out of the pot and hold it high. All repeat the pledge to the flag.

Script:

- Reader 1: We are going to fix for you a treat that is really grand, and make for you a recipe-the greatest in the land.
- Reader 2: In first we will put a heaping cup of red for courage true.
- Reader 1: And then we will add for loyalty a dash of heavenly blue.
- Reader 2: For purity, we will now sift in a layer of snowy white.
- Reader 1: We will sprinkle in a pinch of stars to make it come out right.
- Reader 2: We will stir and stir and then you will see what we have made is "Old Glory."
- Reader 1: This is our flag, the most beautiful flag in the world, let us always be loyal to it. Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.



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December: Ice Breaker

INFORMATIVE BALLOONS

Mixer

Materials: same color balloons, strips of paper, pens

Distribute a balloon and a strip of paper to all participants. Participants write something about themselves on the strip of paper and places it inside the balloon. Fill the balloons with air and tie the ends. Participants bat the balloons around the room until they are completely mixed. Each participant should retrieve a balloon and break them one balloon at a time and read aloud the information on the balloon. The group then guesses to whom the information belongs.



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December: Inspiration and More

TO BELIEVE...

To believe is to know that every day is a new beginning. It is to trust that miracles happen, and dreams really do come true.

To believe is to see angels dancing among the clouds, To know the wonder of a stardust sky and the wisdom of the man in the moon.

To believe is to know the value of a nurturing heart, The innocence of a child's eyes and the beauty of an aging hand, for it is through their teachings we learn to love.

To believe is to find the strength and courage that lies within us. When it is time to pick up the pieces and begin again.

To believe is to know we are not alone, That life is a gift and this is our time to cherish it. To believe is to know that wonderful surprises are just waiting to happen, And all our hopes and dreams are within reach.

If only we believe.



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December: Program Idea

During the holidays, many people tend to eat, eat, and eat at all the holiday festivities that are celebrated. For a 4-H club program, invite some of your older 4-H members to do a presentation on healthy eating during the holidays. The 4-H members will love to help make some healthy snacks and taste them, as well!

December is a month of lots of shopping, as everyone is getting geared up for the holidays. When buying gifts for others, many try to watch every penny spent. Invite a 4-H adult leader or 4-H member to talk about consumer skills, what to look for when buying certain products, and how to set up and stick to a budget. This is also a great opportunity to highlight the consumer life skills project and consumer decision making contest. Choose a few items that are popular gifts this year, and have your presenter set up a “class” to be judged by 4-H members and parents in attendance. This can also serve as a great recruitment tool for the consumer decision making teams. The 4-H Consumer Decision Making Guide can be found at http://fcs.tamu.edu/money/your_money/cdm/2005/index.php and is a great tool to use when selecting products and determining what to look for when purchasing a specific product.