



ENHANCING THE CLUB EXPERIENCE.....

September: Club Manager's Checklist

- Have new/old members and leaders complete enrollment forms and collect (OR assist families in getting enrolled on 4-H Connect)
- Introduce new and old members
- Introduce club managers/leaders
- Discuss projects offered in club/county
- Review 4-H Club Bylaws/Budget and approve
- Pass out 4-H member County Handbook
- Distribute County 4-H Calendar
- Discuss National 4-H Week activities for October
- County Council Delegate give report from meeting
- Present the Club Charter
- Distribute M.A.P. (Member Achievement Plans) and explain how they are used to keep records for their 4-H projects
- Promote Upcoming Fall County and District Events/Trainings
- Plan and implement Community Service Projects
- Show members 4-H Connect and discuss the need for a profile

After Meeting

- Turn in all member/leader forms (if applicable)
- Turn in copy of Bylaws to CEA
- Turn in copy of Budget Proposals and Club Fund-Raiser Request Forms
- Turn in monthly attendance sheet & reports (OR report on 4-H Connect Club Manager Login Site)
- Determine new project interests

Cultivating Children of Character

What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.
Ralph Waldo Emerson, American essayist, philosopher and poet (1803-1882)

Want some service learning ideas that promote good character? Check out this website:
<http://www.goodcharacter.com/SERVICE/primer-10.html>



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September: Recreation

Pass Right – Pass Left

Concept:

Certain skills for good communication are certainly more important than others. One of the most important of these is the skill of listening. This activity will show the importance of listening and how difficult that is when you are not concentrating on what is being said because you're busy doing something else.

Time Estimate:

10 minutes plus discussion time

Materials Needed:

- The Wright Family Story
- One button or some other small item for each person in the group

Activity:

Have your entire group form a circle. The best format is to have them seated on the floor sitting "Indian" style. If this will not work with your group, you can have them in chairs or even standing in a circle. Give each person in the circle a penny or some other small item that can be passed easily from hand to hand. Tell the group that you are going to read them a story and every time they hear a word that sounds like right or left, they are to pass the button in their hand to the person on their right or left depending on what they heard. Start reading the story slowly so that they have a chance to catch on to what you want them to do. After a few passes stop the story and ask them how they are doing. Check to see that everyone has a button in his hand. If your group is typical, some will have two or three buttons and others will not have any. Have them redistribute the buttons so that everyone has one again. Now continue to read the story, getting faster as you go. Stop the story a couple more times to check on how they are doing.

Discussion Ideas:

- What was happening during this activity?
- What made the activity difficult to accomplish?
- What impact did what other people do have on your ability to stay up with the story?
- What would have made the activity easier to accomplish?
- How hard was it to listen and pass the objects at the same time?
- How much of the story can you remember?
- What can this activity tell us about communication?
- How hard were you concentrating during the activity?
- How hard were the people concentrating on either side of you?
- How does this level of concentration compare with what you do when someone is talking to you?
- Describe a situation you have had where someone was not really listening to you when you were telling them something.
- How did that make you feel?

From: "Activities That Teach" by Tom Jackson



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Pass Right – Pass Left, continued

Life With the Wright Family

One day the Wright family decided to take a vacation. The first thing they had to decide was who would be left at home since there was not enough room in the Wright family car for all of them. Mr. Wright decided that Aunt Linda Wright would be the one left at home. Of course this made Aunt Linda Wright so mad that she left the house immediately yelling “It will be a right cold day before I return”.

The Wright family now bundled up the children, Tommy Wright, Susan Wright, Timmy Wright, and Shelly Wright and got in the car and left. Unfortunately, as they turned out of the driveway someone had left a trash can in the street so they had to turn right around and stop the car. They told Tommy Wright to get out of the car and move the trash can so they could get going. Tommy took so long that they almost left him in the street. Once the Wright family got on the road, Mother Wright wondered if she had left the stove on. Father Wright told her not to worry as he had checked the stove and she had not left it on. As they turned right at the corner, everyone started to think about other things they they might have left undone.

No need to worry now, they were off on a right fine vacation. When they arrived at the gas station, Father Wright put gas in the car and then discovered that he had left his wallet at home. So Timmy Wright ran home to get the money that was left behind. After Timmy had left, Susan Wright started to feel sick. She left the car saying that she had to throw up. This of course got Mother Wright’s attention and she left the car in a hurry. Shelly Wright wanted to watch Susan get sick, so she left the car too. Father Wright was left with Tommy Wright who was playing a game in the backseat.

With all of this going on Father Wright decided that this was not the right time to take a vacation, so he gathered up all the family and left the gas station as quickly as he could. When he arrived home, he turned left into the driveway and said “I wish the Wright family had never left the house today!”



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September: Community Service

No More Tears

Young kids often have difficulties and are nervous about the first day of school. Lead them in some fun activities to lighten the mood and to show them that schools are fun places to learn. Work with local school officials to host a 'first day of school' party for kindergarteners. This can be held in conjunction with meet the teacher nights. Activities can be conducted in a classroom, gymnasium, library, etc. Remember your audience and their attention span. Keep your activity short, fun, and interactive! Be sure and wear your 4-H shirts or name tags to show them who you are.

We Vote Too!

An important part of a 4-H Club is voting on officers and the business of the club. It is the civic duty of adults. Assist local officials in conducting a voter registration event by passing out voter registration cards or information on how to register. In Texas, voters must register by 30 days prior to the election. So keep this in mind to make sure that every voter registers in time to make every vote count. In most Texas counties, the Tax Assessor-Collector is also the Voter Registrar. In some counties, the County Clerk or Elections Administrator registers voters. Remember that we are not campaigning for a candidate or party, but simply wanting to help show the importance of voting.

Resources to help get you started:

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvr.shtml>



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September: Flag Ceremony

Defining The Pledge Of Allegiance

Note: Use two readers; one to do the pledge as separated below, and the other to read the meaning of the word or phrase of the pledge.

Red Skelton, a famous comedian, recalled as a school boy his teacher reciting the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance. He never forgot that and later wrote down and eventually recorded his recollection of this lecture.

Let's take a look at his message.

READER 1	READER 2
I	Me; an individual; a committee of one
Pledge	I dedicate all of my worldly goods to vie without selfpity
Allegiance	My love and my devotion
To The Flag	Our standard; Old Glory; a symbol of Freedom; wherever she waves there is respect, because your loyalty has given her dignity that shouts Freedom is everybody's job
Of The United States	That means that we have all come together Individual Communities that have united into 50 great states. Fifty individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose. All divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose and that is love for country
And To The Republic	Republic – a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people; and it's from the peope to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people
For Which It Stands, One Nation Under God	One nation, meaning so blessed by God Indivisible Incapable of being divided
With Liberty	Which is Freedom; the right of power to live one's own life, without threats, fear or some sort of retaliation
And Justice	The principle, or qualities of dealing fairly with others
For All	It's as much your country as it is mine

Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the 4-H Motto and Pledge.



TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.



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September: Ice Breaker

Q& A Ball Toss

Print questions below on a beach ball with a permanent marker. Inflate the ball and have participants pass ball around the room. Each person who catches the ball must introduce themselves and then answer the question closest to their right thumb

- What is the loudest noise you've ever heard?
- What is your earliest memory?
- What is your favorite sport?
- Name all of the places you have lived.
- What is the funniest movie scene you've seen?
- Tell about a nickname.
- Describe the most extreme weather condition you've been in.
- What is your favorite book?
- Where is your favorite place in nature?
- What is your middle name, or what do you think it should have been?
- Describe the best meal you've ever eaten.
- What's your favorite song? (To add some risk, ask kids to sing a few bars.)
- Describe the most unusual thing that's happened to you.
- What's the best thing a friend ever told you?
- What's the worse chore you've ever had?



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September: Inspiration and More

No Secret to Success

“There are no secrets to success: don’t waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, Hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence.”

Author: Colin Powell, U.S. General of the Army and Politician

Source: <http://quotes-motivational-inspirational.blogspot.com/search/label/Success%20Quotes>



ENHANCING THE CLUB EXPERIENCE.....

September: Program Idea

College Savings Month

September is College Savings Month. Have an educational program on money management. This program topic might also be well suited during the time when 4-H members are receiving checks for stock show projects.