



DOT ACTIVITY

The purpose of this activity is to address belonging and inclusion. It's important that we support each other as we learn and do new things. Each member will be doing some things for the first time. Some "firsts" might include: attending their first meeting, being an officer, going to camp, making something, giving a talk or participating in a county activity. Helping new and continuing members and their families feel welcome and included is the responsibility of everyone.

Each participant closes their eyes and a colored dot is placed on their forehead. Most of the colors will be represented multiple times, but there will be two or more colors for which only ONE dot is distributed. Participants are told to open their eyes and that their task is to find the rest of their group **WITHOUT TALKING**. After groups have formed and several participants have realized that they are not part of a group, process the activity. Discussion questions include the following:

- How did you feel when you found your group?
- What strategies did you use to find your group?
- Describe how you felt if you did not become part of a group?
- Did those who had a group try in any way to help those without a group, and if so, how?
- How can we apply this in your 4-H club?

TALK IT OVER

Reflect

- Why is it important to create a welcoming environment?
- What are the risks of not having a welcoming environment at your 4-H club meeting?
- What do you currently do in your club to welcome new members?

Apply

- What are some new ideas you can use at future 4-H club meetings to create a welcoming environment?

Activity from University of Wisconsin-Madison: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/ncrvd/files/2015/04/AnnualVolunteerTraining4-HMeetingthatShakeRattleandRoll.pdf>



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