

ILLINOIS

Extension

4-H Club GO TO Resources



March 2018

Lesson Objectives:

Club members and parents will: Build skills related to belonging, independence, generosity and mastery

Time: 30 minutes

Equipment and supplies for each person:

- 1 balloon
- Pencil or pen
- Cardstock
- Markers
- Small piece of paper
- Sticky notes
- Sticky Dots

Preparations:

- Review Lesson

Growing True Leaders

Ice Breaker: Design a Personalized Vanity Plate

Do the Activity: All participants will fold a sheet of cardstock in half lengthwise. On one side of the fold, participants will write their first name on the cardstock. On the other side, they create a vanity license plate that describes something about themselves (likes, hobbies, family, talents, etc.). A vanity plate can be a combination of up to eight letters and numbers.

Share: Participants can share who they are and what their vanity plate tells about them.

Process: How is this activity useful?

Generalize: How can 4-H members use what they learned in this activity in their everyday life?

Apply: Summarize the discussion.

Balloon Fun Activity

Some club members are not as outgoing, so they may not like to speak up and share their ideas during a club meeting. Balloon Fun is one way to engage everyone at the club meeting in coming up with ideas for club activities without forcing them to speak in front of the entire club before they are ready. One example on how this can be used is to generate ideas for a future club field trip.

1. Ask each participant to think of one idea for a possible club field trip.
2. Write down your field trip idea on the small piece of paper you were provided and fold it up.
3. Slip the folded paper into the balloon.
4. Blow up the balloon and tie a knot so the paper won't fall out.



5. Place all the balloons in a large garbage bag and then allow everyone to pull out a new balloon; OR toss the balloons around until everyone has a new balloon.
6. Ask all participants to POP their balloon. Being careful to watch for the slip of paper to fly out.
7. Once they find their paper, they should unfold and read it.
8. Participants should share the idea written on their piece of paper with the entire group.

This creates a safe brainstorming strategy for all members to share their ideas in a club meeting without being nervous if they struggle with speaking in front of a group.

Secret Voting

A bit of extra effort is sometimes needed to get less vocal 4-H'ers to engage or to set things up so more vocal members don't dominate discussions. This method allows quiet members to share ideas without putting them in the spotlight. For this activity we will use the example of finding ways to raise funds for a fieldtrip.

Option #1

1. **Think** of what might be done to meet this goal for about 1/2 a minute.
2. Then you will **Pair** up with a partner and share your ideas with each other.
3. Then a member from each group should **Share** the ideas with the larger group.

Option#2

Another option is for everyone to write down one idea for a fundraiser on a sticky note and then post it on a large piece of paper. Using two sticky dots, vote for the idea you like the most by sticking a dot by it. You can use both dots for the same idea or vote for two different ideas. This technique allows everyone to get up and move. It allows for input from everyone and is less obvious with regards to who voted for what. Of course, in a meeting setting you may want to have opportunities for discussion before voting. So tying both the Think-Pair-Share option #1 and option #2 will give them the opportunity to share why a given idea is a good one.

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Sources & Additional Lesson info:

4-H Club GO TO Resources is being offered to 4-H clubs in Boone, DeKalb and Ogle Counties as a way to enrich and enhance 4-H experiences and programming at the club level. It is the goal of the Extension staff to assist 4-H leaders and officers in providing simple hands-on activities on a monthly basis that can broaden the 4-H club experience and as a result heighten positive youth development.

Resources: 2017 National 4-H Volunteer e-Forum Cultivating an Environment for Growing True Leaders

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