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4-H Demonstrations : 4-H Activities for Every Club

Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

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4-H Demonstrations

*4-H Activities
For Every Club*

DEMONSTRATIONS

Tell and Show

JUDGING WORK

Teaches Quality

THE EXHIBITS

Tell the Story

Be a Demonstrator

Did you ever show someone how to make a whistle, or how to play a game? Then you are a *demonstrator* and know something about one of the best methods of teaching and learning.

Club members demonstrate in club meetings giving short demonstrations. They give team demonstrations as well and these require more planning and practice because two people must work together.

Demonstrating teaches poise, self-confidence and the ability to work with others. Learning to "think and do" at the same time, to select and organize materials, and to gain complete information on one subject are values of demonstrations. Every club should have a demonstration team each year.

Team demonstrations are of most importance in the club community. Each team should plan to give the demonstration at home meetings, before schools, service clubs, ladies organizations and county groups. Developing a demonstration team requires time for study, preparation of illustrative material and practice. Make your time well spent by giving the demonstration often.

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Demonstration Guide

Planning The Demonstration

List all points to be discussed and demonstrated.

Arrange in logical demonstration order.

Make a diagram similar to the one below, divide and list the points in the introduction, body (parts 1, and 2) and conclusion. Each demonstrator should do equal amounts.

List materials and equipment.

Plan necessary posters and charts.

Working The Plan

Gather all up-to-date **reliable** information.

Practice demonstration phases and then suit words to the action. Use your own ideas.

Make an outline of the spoken parts and practice from it. Do not memorize speeches.

Practice as a team when each is familiar with his own parts. Score your demonstration using the score-card on the next page.

Demonstrator 1

I. INTRODUCTION—Be Original and Be Brief

This is the interest-getter. Tell why the topic was chosen and relate it to your club work. Build up interest in the subject. Demonstration work may be started. Announce the next step in the demonstration in informal manner: "Mary (or John) will show you how to test for correct posture."

No talking—assist demonstrator by quietly furnishing supplies when needed and removing equipment that has been used. The demonstrator never leaves the front table. Place supplies at one side of the table and remove from the opposite side where the demonstrator places them. Keep the back table in order. Assist with demonstration work at front table when needed.

III. BODY OF DEMONSTRATION—Part II.— Build to a Climax.

Continue and complete the demonstration. Correct methods and skillful work are important throughout. Work for simplicity and attractiveness in products. A pleasant cheerful attitude throughout helps to sell your demonstration. Accidents might occur. Be poised and right them quickly. It is important to know how to meet an emergency.

Assist by helping with charts and posters. Prepare finished products for display. Clear away and organize materials on back table. Be at front table before close to be ready to answer questions. Each answers questions, concerning his part of the demonstration.

Demonstrator 2

Be at front table to be introduced then stay in the background, lending necessary assistance to demonstrator 1. Arrange posters to be shown. Bring necessary equipment to front table (trays are useful). Make advance preparations for next step. Help demonstrator 1 when necessary but do not talk. Make preparation for next step at back table.

II. BODY OF DEMONSTRATION—Part I— Show and Tell.

The real demonstration begins here and is completed in the second part by demonstrator 1. Show and explain each process. Keep space in front clear and equipment at the side. Use a poster when necessary to make a point clear. Shift demonstration to team-mate at logical time.

Again the helper. Be alert and make team work efficient and well-timed. Show interest in the demonstration to center attention of the audience at the front table. The demonstration should be planned to keep both members busy. Table should be cleared of all but finished products before the conclusion is given. Step to table just before you are to begin the summary.

IV. THE SUMMARY—A Brief Review.

The demonstration is over. The summary reviews the important points of the demonstration. A summary poster will be of value. Display finished products. No new information is given. Ask for questions. Invite audience to inspect results.

Measure Your Success

Here are some hints to help you be a better demonstrator:

1. The team is introduced by the leader or another club member.
2. Be natural—smile now and then—call your teammate by name.
3. Be well-groomed, and appropriately dressed. You are on parade.
4. Watch your posture. Poor posture distracts from what you do and say.
5. Speak naturally and clearly.
6. Use good English.
7. Look at your audience and talk directly to them.
8. The demonstrator never turns his back to the audience

Score Your Demonstration

1. Selection of Subject	15
Worthwhile, basic phase of club work.	
Represents practice within club.	
Relates to home, farm or community.	
2. Subject Matter	40
One central theme.	
Organization—Points in logical order.	
Essentials emphasized.	
Accuracy.	
Completeness.	
Replies to practical questions.	
3. Presentation	35
Clearness:	
Well balanced organization.	
Method and explanation coordinated.	
Good teaching devices—originality.	
Illustrative Material:	
(equipment, posters, etc.)	
Well chosen and designed.	
Effective use.	
Team work —efficient, well-timed.	
Workmanship —correct methods, neatness, ease.	
Attitude and Manner —enthusiastic, cheerful, sincere, natural.	
Appearance —appropriate, neat.	
Effectiveness of personality.	
4. Results	10
Quality of work done and finished product.	
All processes made clear.	
Effect on audience.	
Total	100

Learn To "Make The Best Better"

Every club member aims to do his work better than it was done before. The club member learns the quality rating of his work through exhibits and through judging.

Be An Exhibitor

Exhibiting at club, a community program, county achievement day or state fair, gives an opportunity to compare your work with that of other club members. All exhibits are rated as to quality in blue, red and white ribbon classes. Every club member can reach the blue ribbon group if his job is done well. Careful preparation and display of exhibits helps to make the day a success. Articles made, crops produced, and animals raised are on parade on achievement day.

Exhibits are one of the best means of showing others the results of club work. Club work thrives where it is understood by people of the community.

Learn To Judge Wisely

Judging is selecting one article over another because of certain qualities. Judging work helps you to recognize good products. If you learn to know true value, you will do better work, you can buy more for your money and you will appreciate the things you own. Judging work helps you to make wise selections and teaches you to express your opinions.

Judging contests stimulate interest in judging work but judging skill is first gained at 4-H club meetings and in local judging practices.

In judging contests, members rate four articles of a class in order of excellence. Reasons for the placing are then given orally and scores are given on each class.

Club members like to judge.

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