WHAT IS A DEMONSTRATION?

A Demonstration is showing someone else how to do something. It can be as easy as showing how to thread a needle or as complicated as giving an illustrated talk on the different birthing positions of baby animals and how to help in each delivery.

Over 85% of our learning takes place through our sense of sight. The best way we can pass on to others what we know is by showing them. Giving a demonstration is really advanced show-and-tell.

Demonstrations are one of the most important tools we have in 4-H to teach personal development, without the member realizing he is being taught.

Where else could we teach the following more effectively:

1. Proper grooming for specific occasions.
2. Use of proper grammar to express one’s self.
3. Development of poise and self confidence.
4. Proper introduction of self and subject.
5. Researching the subject to be certain the facts are accurate.
6. Ability to organize thoughts and to go about doing things in a logical sequence.
7. Improvement of hand-finger dexterity.
8. Selection of the best tools or equipment for a given task.
9. How to make and use visual aids.
10. How to sum up or summarize what has just been done.

SELECTING SUBJECT MATTER

When deciding on a subject for a demonstration, the members should select one within their current 4-H experience. A simple demonstration will often be more effective than one crammed full of complicated activities. Stick to one subject. Remember that a demonstration shows how to do something. The member can also give an illustrated talk through the use of drawings and photographs. The illustrated talk tells about something. Be careful not to get the two mixed up.

ORGANIZING THE DEMONSTRATION

A quick overview of organizing a demonstration follows. A detailed step-by-step process is outlined for you and the club member in this coaching kit. This merely highlights what must be considered.

1. Select a subject.
2. Prepare posters - you may print on both sides if stiff cardboard is used. Print posters in dark pen so they may be read easily. If using stencils to letter, fill in spaces.
GIVING A DEMONSTRATION - TIPS FOR THE MEMBER

1. Introduce yourself, age, years in project and club.
2. Say title and use it in why you are giving demonstration.
3. Use eye contact with “audience”.
4. Don’t read off card.
5. Don’t let demonstration drag. Keep talking at all times.
7. Change posters as you go.
8. Summarize demonstration and go to “Closing”.

Demonstrations are a learning tool for the member and for the audience. They can be a lot of fun. We hope that your members will accept the challenge of giving one.

POSTER EXAMPLES

TITLE POSTER

Fair

LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Jane Doe
Tall Pine Aggies
Electric I Age 9

Best

LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Jane Doe
Age 9 Electric I
Tall Pine Aggies

Very Poor

Let THERE be light
Jane Doe
Tall Pine Aggies
Age 9
Elect.
**SUMMARY**

1. Cut insulation but not wires.
2. Always twist wires to the left.
3. Use board for safety.

**BEST**

1. Cut insulation but not wires.
2. Always twist wires to the left.
3. Use board for safety.

**Very Poor**

**Summary Poster**