



South Carolina State Fair hosts 4-H Alumni Luncheon!!!

Thank you, 4-H Alumni and South Carolina State Fair, for a wonderful day at 4-H Alumni Day at the Fair (our first ever)!!! There were 95 people in attendance. We enjoyed getting to visit with everyone and hearing your #4HGrown story. We were thrilled to hear from Molly Spearman, our South Carolina Department of Education Superintendent and Saluda County 4-H Alum! South Carolina State Fair not only hosted a delicious luncheon, served by Seawell's Catering, but the SC State Fair Foundation presented a \$10,000 donation to South Carolina 4-H's new annual giving campaign!!! Thank you all for everything you do to support the development of youth in our great state!



Scenes from the 4-H Alumni Day at the Fair Luncheon on October 13, 2016.
Image Credit: Kim Arp, Director of Development, Facebook page.

4-H at SC State Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 4-H presence at the South Carolina State Fair very strong this year!!! From displays, competitions, and demonstrations in the Livestock Arenas and Moore Building to the 4-H Exhibit in the Ellison Building, we had a very strong showing of Volunteers, Youth, and Agents! The 4-H Clover could be seen almost anywhere you looked. Fair season can be a lot of work to prepare and manage all the events, even without a 1000-year flood or major hurricane affecting a majority of the state! We could not have done it without the unwavering support of people who believe in the power of 4-H. Thank you all for the teamwork and dedication everyone showed throughout the two-week event!!!



State Teen Council working the 4-H Exhibit on 4-H Day at the Fair, October 15, 2016. Image Credit: Leigh Walker, Darlington 4-H Agent, Facebook page.



Monthly 4-H Club Activity Idea *written by J. Hope Morris, UPIC Intern*

Putting your Imagination to Work

Objective: to allow for self expression, gain an appreciation for others, and provide a service to the community.

Age Range: All ages.

Hands-on Activity: Explore a guided imagination activity and craft a holiday decoration.

Life Skills: HEAD = learning to learn, decision making;
HEART = social skills, communication;
HANDS = responsible citizenship, community service volunteering;
HEALTH = self-esteem, character, concern for others, sharing.



Introduction

As we go throughout our day in school, 4-H, and the community, we encounter many different people with varying personalities. Some are easy to pinpoint but others traits may be harder to see. Use this brief activity to allow youth to explore their own imaginations and share with others. This activity can provide insights to personality traits, show that every person perceives things a little differently, and explore how imaginations may also share things in common!

Next, you will guide youth in putting their imaginations to work as they create holiday decorations that will bring warmth to the heart of people in the community.

Part 1 - Imagine

Materials:

- Paper
- Pen or Pencil
- Crayons, Markers, etc. (if desired)
- Space to spread out or Folders to prevent one's work from influencing others

Supply each 4-H member with a paper and pencil and have them separate themselves from one another so they cannot see what their neighbor is drawing. (You can also use folders to prevent the unintended influence of seeing someone else's work.) Read the scenario, pausing to allow



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adequate time, and, as the story progresses, have 4-H'ers draw what they visualize in their minds.

Scenario:

Step 1 - Imagine you are walking through a desert and you see a cube. (A cube is a 6-sided, 3-dimensional object, like a box, block, or dice. Try not to give an example if possible because it may influence what they imagine.) Draw what you see thinking about the following questions: How big is the cube and what material is it made out of? How far is it from the ground?

Step 2 – Near the cube there is a ladder. Add a ladder to your drawing. Where is it in relation to the cube and what is the ladder made of?

Step 3 – Picture a horse next to the cube and ladder. What is the horse doing? Is it wearing anything (reins, saddle, etc.)?

Step 4 – Lastly, imagine a storm starting. Add the storm to your sketch. How big is it? How close is it to the cube, ladder, and horse?

After everyone has finished their drawings have them present their image to everyone else. After each member has presented, spark up a discussion about why people have different designs and how people perceive things differently. Helping 4-H'ers realize this differences in the activity may also open their eyes to how people view things in real life situations whether it be individual projects, group work, or hobbies.



Part 2 - Action

Materials:

- Foam Balls (4" and 5" size)
- 5.5" Wooden Dowel (candy apple sticks, bamboo skewers (careful, they're sharp!) or whatever works)
- Embellishments and Decorations (holiday sock (for hat), ribbon, buttons, etc.)
- Hot Glue Gun or Straight Pins for attaching decorations
- Polymer Clay (optional)
- Smooth Finish (to texturize; optional)

There are many times during 4-H where we focus on the importance of leadership and our project area, but let us not forget the value of citizenship! With the holidays approaching quickly, there are multiple opportunities to reach out in the community and positively impact people's lives. Community service is a gateway tool to allow people to know that they are cared for and that 4-H is an organization with huge hearts and generous with their time. One idea that may be a creative, yet easy way to

Here is a possible interpretation of the various objects in the scenario and how they could relate to individual personalities. (Disclaimer: This is supposed to be a fun exercise and is in no way a factual or research-supported analysis.)

- The cube represents oneself: the size reflects one's ego, the distance from the ground suggests whether the person is grounded or has their head in the sky, the material reflects openness or clarity of ones' personality.
- The ladder represents friendships: the size relative to the cube reflects number of friends, the proximity to the cube represents how close your friends are and whether they can lean on you for support.
- The horse represents your relationships with others. A work horse would represent your desire to have stable and dependable relationships. A wild mustang would represent fun-loving and carefree attitudes. A saddle or bridle suggests you like to be a leader or in control.
- The storm represents how stress affects your life. A big, close storm suggests you struggle with stress or there is a stressful event looming over you now. A storm on the horizon indicates you analyze threats and try to avoid them when possible.

bring some holiday cheer to people's lives is through the transformation of styrofoam balls. Below is a step-by-step example of how to create a cute holiday gift that you may consider giving to local organization of your choice, club sponsors, or the less fortunate.

Step 1 – First, flatten the bottom of each foam ball, and insert the wooden dowel halfway (about 2 inches) through the flat side of the smaller ball. Optional: Cover both balls with a texture layer of Smooth Finish (can apply with a plastic knife and whatever you have that works well).



Step 2 – You can use whatever you desire to make the hat. An option that works well is to use the ankle part of a festive sock and fit it around the snowman's head. Tying a piece of twine or using a small band, create the top of the hat by leaving about 1.5 inches and cut off the rest of the sock. To make the pom pom top, cut the top into thin strips.



Step 3 – Join the 2 snowballs on the wooden dowel.



Step 4 – Decorate!!! Use your imagination to continue to add to your snowman. Attach buttons of your choice with a hot glue gun. Create the nose with polymer clay or another item that you see fit. Glue on pony beads or buttons for the eyes. Assemble the arms by shaping construction paper/felt into the shape of mittens and placing them on toothpicks, which go into either side of the snowman. And ta-da, there you have it!

Images for this activity were taken from:

www.happinesishomeade.net



Discussion Questions

- How does it make you feel when someone else does something to help you?
- How does it make you feel when you help someone else?
- What do decorations around the holidays mean to you? How do they make you feel?
- What are some additional ideas that you have about giving back in our community?
- How would you teach someone to do this activity?
- What are some decisions you had to make when doing this activity? Did you decide alone or did you work as a group?

Conclusion

As the holiday season approaches, it is a great time to reflect and show our compassion for others by giving back to our community. Reaching out to those in need around you encourages youth to grow in their character through a desire to help others. The intent of this activity is that you will create these crafts and distribute them throughout to community to those who may need a little extra holiday cheer.



For more holiday ideas and fun, you may also want to try
a turkey!

<http://alilbird.blogspot.com/2010/10/countdown-to-thanksgiving-turkey.html>