



Who's on the Program

Program Planning:

Planning a club's yearly program should be a group effort between the adults and youth in the club. Here are several ideas for ways to plan programs:

1. Appoint a committee of adults and youth to plan the year's programs. Designate who is in charge for each month, who is to contact the speaker, presenters for the program.
2. The executive committee made up of officers and club leaders. Again, assign or designate who is to organize each month's program, contact speakers, etc.
3. Assign club families to each month to be in charge of organizing a program for the club meeting. A list of suggestions from the group may be helpful.

Encourage your youth members to take an active role in planning club programs. You will hear what their needs, concerns, and interests are.

Variety Is The Spice of Life

Incorporate variety in your club's yearly program. Along with the usual speaker presentation, try some of the ideas listed here:

What members get out of the program can make or break a 4-H club and it's effectiveness. This is the "FUN" that we all need in our lives.

PROJECT MEETING NIGHT—With today's busy schedules, utilize some of your club meetings to do "hands on" project activities.

TOURS—Make one meeting a special event and take the club on a tour of a local business, museum, local places of interest—especially those related to a project area.

CLUB EXCHANGE—Invite another club for a special program presentation or evening of fun and recreation.

CULTURAL/INTERNATIONAL

NIGHT—Invite a foreign exchange student to talk about their country. Or, invite local residents to talk about countries they have visited, immigrated from, etc. to learn about the rest of the world.

PARENT'S NIGHT—Or, grandparents, alumni, etc. Ask some of them to be part of the program—talking about the past or something unique that happened in their life.

SKIT NIGHT—Divide into groups and work on and present impromptu skits for the club.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT—Spend one whole meeting "doing" your club's community service project.

PROJECT QUIZ BOWL—Make project learning into a game. Come up with a series of questions and organize the group into teams. Provide a bell or some kind of noise maker and just like on the T.V. Quiz shows have a blast.

CAREER NIGHT—Line up a panel of people to speak about careers for the future. Help members connect their interests and project activities with future career plans and goals.

SAFETY/FIRST AID/CPR—Everyone needs to know about safety and first aid in their lives. Contact local paramedics, ambulance volunteers, or medical personnel to talk about these issues.

SURF THE "NET"—Set up a meeting night at the public library or school and explore the Information Highway.

MINI FAIR—Have 4-H members bring in "exhibits" and have a preview run of the fair complete with judging—especially helpful for new members.

GAME NIGHT—Plan the meeting around games/activities that require teamwork to solve a problem. Make sure everyone plays!

Thinking about 4-H Club Meetings

Here's a tool that might be helpful as your club reorganizes this fall. This exercise is to help the members, parents and leaders reflect upon the club meeting, identify the things they like about it and maybe find some things that could use some improvement.

Circle the words that best describe your 4-H Club Meeting:

Lively	Slow	Project Sharing
Boring	Fun	Prepared Officers
Music	Games	Announcements
Poor Attendance	Involved Members	Uncomfortable
4-H Pledges	Fun Roll Call	Interesting Programs
Clear Agenda	Reports	Friendly
Good Attendance	Good Discussion	People Know What's Happening

What's fun about your 4-H club meeting?

What would be fun to do for recreation at a 4-H club meeting?

What would be a good program for a 4-H club meeting?

4-H Meeting Guide

