

Thoughts for: Successful 4-H Judging Experiences

Encouragement from one adult can make a big difference in a child's life.

4-H'ers themselves are more important than the exhibits they make or grow.

Ribbons and awards will fade, but the things 4-H'ers learn last a lifetime.

The county fair is just "one part" of the total learning experience for youth involved with youth and 4-H programs. An exhibit is "one part" of participation in a subject matter project area.

Kids Are Unique

Examine performances and exhibits according to skills that are characteristic to the age, ability and experience level of each young person.

Help Them Express Themselves

Help kids tell you what they have learned. They may not know the right words to use to answer your question the first time. Allow them time to think. Restate the question if necessary. Avoid questions that can be answered with just yes or no. Probe. Ask . . . How? Why? When? Where?

Listen

Smile

Respect creativity

Use words kids will understand

Use a pleasant tone of voice

Understand emotions are high

Each 4-H'er is a winner for trying a new experience.

As a Judge, You Have the Responsibility to:

- evaluate, educate and encourage

- be knowledgeable in subject matter with up-to-date information
- help young people learn - educate
- help them recognize their accomplishments (efforts and successes) - encourage
- help them evaluate their efforts
- help them develop standards for self-evaluation in the future
- encourage them and provide positive feedback
- guide them to consider what they might learn next

Remember:

Participation at the county fair is an exciting experience for 4-H'ers. Work with them. Assist and support them in a positive way.

You can have tremendous influence on 4-H'ers during the judging experience.

4-H'ers learn from your words and example.

Be a role model:

◆ Be sincere ◆ Be specific ◆ Be positive ◆ Be friendly

EVALUATE

EDUCATE

ENCOURAGE

THANK YOU FOR BEING
A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON 4-H'ERS
DURING THE EXHIBIT JUDGING
EXPERIENCE.