Stop actions can be used at a 4-H meeting to add variety to your meetings and to involve everyone who is there. They are particularly useful in changing topics such as the change from committee reports to old business, or from old to new business. They can be used to spark a creative spirit, to help everyone feel included or to just have fun. The time needed can vary from a couple of minutes to longer, depending on the situation.

Select a topic for each group from the following list. Have participants work in pairs or small groups. Allow a minute or two for discussion. Then ask for one answer from each pair or group, and write it down for all to see. Go around the group as many or as few times as there is time available.

Make sure the point of emphasis is how many ideas we can come up with together. The purpose is to build group dynamics and do some creative thinking, not to see who got the most answers.

1. 10 people you would take with you to Disneyland.
2. List of words that have two “D’s”.
3. List things that are green.
4. Name cities in Iowa.
5. Name 5 words that rhyme with ________ (example: pickle).
6. Create a word—write a commercial for it.
7. List words that have three “S’s”.
8. List words that have two “T’s”.
9. List 10 plants you can eat.
10. Name 10 things to put in a first aid kit.
11. Write and pronounce your name as it is spelled “backwards”.
12. List 4 countries in the world.
13. Name as many states that you can in one minute.
14. List ways to use a paper clip.
15. Name as many presidents as you can in 20 seconds.
16. Name things in this room with your eyes closed.
17. List U.S. capitols.
18. List Nintendo or Sega games.
19. Name different road signs.
20. Write a poem in 2 minutes — “4-H is....”
21. Name bodies of water.
22. The worst possible names for a horse are...(or anything else).
23. List names used for both sexes.
24. List brand names of tennis shoes.
25. List winter activities.

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