4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Series

Ideas for 4-H Club Meetings

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Use these ideas creatively and expand them to make your 4-H meetings interesting and exciting.

October

Business

➤ Reorganize club; elect officers
➤ Study how to conduct club meetings
➤ Plan a Thanksgiving party
➤ Plan a “get-acquainted” party for new members and their parents
➤ Report on 4-H promotion activities
➤ Discuss 4-H record books

Demonstrations or Talks

➤ Safety on the internet
➤ Good manners pay dividends
➤ Proper lighting of our homes
➤ My most enjoyable hunting or fishing experience

Other Education

➤ Guest speaker (parent) – “Favorite Hobby”

Social-Recreational

➤ New games
➤ Folk games
➤ Harvest supper
➤ Halloween party

November

Business

➤ Appoint holiday committee and plan community service activities
➤ Plan to explain to local organizations what the club is doing
➤ Plan a special occasion to honor parents
➤ Discuss making a “recreational kit” for the club
➤ Discuss plans for the club achievement banquet or program
➤ Discuss 4-H record books

Demonstrations or Talks

➤ Bicycle safety program
➤ Wood science activities
➤ Art projects
➤ What I learned by making an exhibit for the county fair
➤ How to keep healthy

Other Education

➤ Volunteer leader – Lead a group “hands-on project”

Social-Recreational

➤ Folk games
➤ Parents’ night
➤ Taffy pull
➤ Thanksgiving party

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December

Business
➤ Discuss club programs
➤ Secretary reports on club accomplishments during the year
➤ Plan some recognition for 4-H leaders and others assisting in 4-H work
➤ Plan photography exhibit
➤ Discuss 4-H record books and scholarships

Demonstrations or Talks
➤ Using electricity wisely
➤ Repairing an appliance cord
➤ Adopt-A-Grandparent
➤ Writing a 4-H story
➤ How to make introductions
➤ Making Christmas ornaments

Other Education
➤ Speaker from Red Cross or other community group

Social-Recreational
➤ Caroling
➤ Hobby show
➤ Box supper

January

Business
➤ Discuss plans for the club program
➤ Plan ways to finance club activities
➤ Outline how clubs can help with community projects
➤ Plan a Valentine party
➤ Discuss how to get more parents interested in club work

Demonstrations or Talks
➤ Geology talk
➤ How to construct a firebreak
➤ How to press wool
➤ Gun safety
➤ Feeding birds in winter months
➤ The history of our country
➤ Clothing decisions

Other Education
➤ Speaker – “Building Character”

Social-Recreational
➤ Knot-tying contest
➤ Storytelling
➤ Games and songs
➤ Videotape
➤ Story of Martin Luther King

February

Business
➤ Discuss improving 4-H projects
➤ Plan a club health program
➤ Discuss ways of “pepping up” 4-H club work
➤ Plan a St. Patrick’s Day program
➤ Plan a club share-the-fun contest
➤ How to keep 4-H records

Demonstrations or Talks
➤ First-aid kit for garden insect control
➤ How to select colors to fit you
➤ Plant foods – soil science
➤ Youth opportunities in Arkansas
➤ Fire! The enemy of the forest
➤ The story of our community or club

Other Education
➤ Program given by county Extension agent

Social-Recreational
➤ Puzzles
➤ Pancake supper
➤ Popcorn popping
➤ Treasure hunt
➤ Stories of Washington and Lincoln
➤ Inside game tournament
➤ Pie supper

March

Business
➤ Make plans for a spring project tour
➤ Discuss suggestions for improving club meetings
➤ Discuss Citizenship . . . Washington Focus
➤ Make a list of prospective club members
➤ Reports on progress members are making with their projects
➤ Plan for county and district 4-H O-Ramas
➤ Discuss special activities such as camps and conferences

Demonstrations or Talks
➤ Safety in the home
➤ Treating vegetable seeds
➤ Better lighting
➤ Cleaning silver
➤ How to get the most from 4-H work
➤ Highway courtesies

Other Education
➤ Speaker or video topic – “Conflict Resolution”
March (cont.)

Social-Recreational

➤ Stunts
➤ Playing homemade games
➤ Carnival
➤ Asking riddles

April

Business

➤ Training for judging and demonstration activities
➤ Plan a club tour to visit members' projects
➤ Discuss county 4-H activities and make plans to participate

Demonstrations or Talks

➤ A well-equipped sewing box
➤ Making a rope halter
➤ County, state and national 4-H activities
➤ How to keep 4-H records
➤ Showing our appreciation as a club to our community

Other Education

➤ Speaker – Local law enforcement representative

Social-Recreational

➤ Easter egg hunt
➤ Nature hike
➤ Original skits or pantomime contest
➤ Arbor Day program
➤ Mother’s Day program or party
➤ April “shower” for club recreational equipment

May

Business

➤ Plan a club picnic
➤ Organize for conducting a community safety campaign
➤ Plan as a club to visit another club
➤ Discuss the 4-H awards program
➤ Plan a Memorial Day activity or assist an adult club in their activity
➤ Discuss 4-H records

Demonstrations or Talks

➤ How to make a leaf and twig collection
➤ Gun safety
➤ Money management
➤ Citizenship
➤ Hobbies for 4-H members
➤ What to eat for breakfast and why
➤ Tips on good manners

May (cont.)

Other Education

➤ Speaker – County elected official
➤ Judging activity – club participation

Social-Recreational

➤ Wiener roast
➤ Picnic and hike

June

Business

➤ Discuss District O-Rama
➤ Discuss plans for 4-H camp
➤ Plan a special meeting for parents
➤ Discuss and plan to have a talkfest
➤ Plan a community “share-the-fun” night
➤ Discuss how to get 100 percent completion on 4-H projects

Demonstrations or Talks

➤ Preparing fruits and vegetables for freezing
➤ 4-H work makes for better citizens and leaders
➤ Talk on good sportsmanship
➤ Setting up your own website

Other Education

➤ Invite a local artist or craftsman to talk about their work

Social-Recreational

➤ Outdoor games
➤ Evening campfires
➤ Strawberry festival
➤ Musical program
➤ Potluck dinner
➤ Hog-calling contest

July

Business

➤ Discuss exhibits at community and county fairs
➤ Plan watermelon feast
➤ Reports on conferences and special 4-H activities
➤ Discuss State O-Rama

Demonstrations or Talks

➤ Grading eggs
➤ Taking soil samples
➤ Canning and freezing vegetables
➤ Reports on District 4-H O-Rama, county camp or other 4-H activities
➤ How to make an insect collection
➤ Protecting the wildlife in our county
July (cont.)

Other Education
➤ Guest speaker – “Hiking in the Natural State”

Social-Recreational
➤ Marshmallow roast
➤ Swimming party
➤ Scavenger hunt

August

Business
➤ Discuss the awards given for doing good 4-H work
➤ Plan a club tour to a place of interest
➤ Stage a model club meeting
➤ Plan to ask outstanding men and women leaders in the community to give 15-minute talks on topics interesting to club members

Demonstrations or Talks
➤ Environmental stewardship talk
➤ Dangers of drug abuse
➤ Digital photography
➤ Suggestions for the good of the club
➤ Report on Arkansas 4-H O-Rama
➤ The value of having a good hobby
➤ How to make a leaf collection

Other Education
➤ Conduct a 4-H project skillathon

Social-Recreational
➤ Ice cream social
➤ Folklore
➤ Watermelon party
➤ Lemonade party for supporters of your 4-H program, parents, friends and prospective members

September

Business
➤ Plan a club banquet for October or November
➤ Make plans for National 4-H Week and National 4-H Sunday
➤ Plan a club or community exhibit

Demonstrations or Talks
➤ Technology in the home
➤ State game and fish regulations
➤ The most interesting 4-H activity this year

Other Education
➤ Speaker (State 4-H Officer or Ambassador) – “Opportunities in 4-H”

Social-Recreational
➤ Song practice
➤ Hay ride
➤ New games
➤ Horseshoe pitching
➤ Autumn hike to take nature photographs

Developed by Jean Pace, 4-H Volunteer, Fulton County. Revised by Darlene Z. Baker, State Leader - 4-H Youth Development.