

# 4-H Demonstration Tips, Hints and Helps

## Must Do's

- ★ Keep work area in front clear of items.
- ★ Show a finished product.
- ★ Blend something to see, some action and something to hear.
- ★ Use short notes on note cards.
- ★ Have a title poster and possibly one other with supplies, things to remember, etc.
- ★ Have items pre-measured, pre-cut.
- ★ Focus on 2-3 things for audience to remember.
- ★ Smile
- ★ Look at the audience regularly.
- ★ Choose a topic you really like and have learned well.
- ★ Ask for questions and then do a closing statement so that audience knows you are done.
- ★ Practice
- ★ Dress appropriate to the topic.

## Audience Frustrations

- ★ Cannot see
- ★ Cannot hear
- ★ Cannot read the poster
- ★ Long pauses
- ★ Looks hard to do
- ★ Member does not seem to like what they are doing.
- ★ Watching someone read.

## Hints That May Help

- ★ Use posters as a note outline for you to speak from.
- ★ Use trays so that items to use are on one side and moved to the completed tray.
- ★ Tape a bag to the table for scraps/trash.
- ★ Some topics work better done as a team.
- ★ Keeping demo to the point makes it easy for audience to follow.
- ★ Having a copy of the recipe or directions for audience to pick up later may be helpful.
- ★ Do a practice demo for someone offering positive tips.
- ★ If someone introduces you by name, then do not repeat that in your demo.
- ★ Be prepared for weather conditions (wind, heat).
- ★ Have a pre-designated helper to make set up and take down faster. They can also hold posters if needed.

