

Injection Sites and Techniques

Shannon Williams, Extension Educator

Goal (learning objective)

Youth will learn about proper injection technique and appropriate locations to administer injections.

Supplies

- 1 orange or 1/2 banana - one per youth
- Syringes - 6cc or 12cc - one per youth (can be shared)
- Needles - 18 x 1/2 or 3/4 - one per youth (can be shared)
- Dyed sterile water in vaccine bottles (can be shared)
- Sharp knives for use by adult volunteer

Pre-lesson preparation

- Check with your local veterinarian early to have them save sterile water.
 - a. Draw some of the water out of each bottle and replace it with a SMALL amount of food coloring. Red or green works best.
- Study recommended injection sites for species (see resources).

Lesson directions and outline

Share the following information with the youth:

At some point in time, it is necessary to give all animals an injection. This could be a vaccine to prevent a disease or a medication to treat a disease. It is important to use proper injection technique and to administer injections in recommended locations as not to damage the meat.

Conducting the activity (DO)

1. Discuss with youth the importance of properly restraining the animal when giving an injection.
2. Discuss with youth the difference between subcutaneous (sq) and intermuscular (im) injections.
3. Show youth the correct locations for injections on the species they are interested in.
4. Demonstrate to the group how to correctly fill a syringe with “medication.”
5. Have youth fill their syringe with 1cc of “medication.”
6. Have youth inject the piece of fruit, administering:
 - a. One sq injection
 - b. One im injection
7. Cut the fruit to see if they administered the “medication” in the proper location.

What did we learn? (REFLECT)

- Ask: What are some reasons why we would give an animal an injection?
- Ask: Where are the proper locations for injections on their animal? Why those locations?

Why is that important? (APPLY)

- Ask: What could happen if an injection was given in the wrong location?
- Ask: What could happen if you were given an injection in the wrong location?

Resources

Ohio State University Extension. (2011). Health Maintenance. *Beef resource handbook* (pages 5-7 through 5-8).

Ohio State University Extension. (2008). Caring for Animals *Goat resource handbook* (pages 165-166).

Ohio State University Extension. (2011). Health Maintenance and Diseases. *Sheep resource handbook for market and breeding projects* (pages 71-72).

Ohio State University Extension. (2000). Caring for Animals. *Swine resource handbook for market and breeding projects* (pages 24-7 through 24-9).