

Evaluation

Cindy Kinder, Extension Educator

Goal (learning objective)

Youth will learn about the basics of livestock evaluation and judging through animal parts, terms and judging criteria.

Supplies

- Animal Parts poster and the part labels from the Ohio Learning Lab Kit (each species)
- Copies of the following (enough for group):
 - Judging Beef Cattle & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 669
 - Judging Sheep & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 679
 - Judging Meat Goat & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 678
 - Judging Swine & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 677

Pre-lesson preparation

- Review the following:
 - Judging Beef Cattle & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 669
 - Judging Sheep & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 679
 - Judging Meat Goat & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 678
 - Judging Swine & Oral Reasons 101, PNW 677
- Check out Learning Lab Kits from county extension office

Lesson directions and outline

Have youth discuss why they think learning animal body parts is important to learning about animal evaluation? How is knowing more about animal evaluation important to raising a livestock project?

List the reasons on flip chart paper.

Explain to youth that livestock evaluation and judging can be a fun and exciting activity. Learning the basics of animal judging starts with learning the parts and what the criteria is for animal selection.

Conducting the activity (DO)

1. Review with youth the handouts, teaching the following sections: Animal Parts, Terms, Selecting your Animal.
2. Challenge youth by using the poster to see how many parts can be identified correctly. Variations of the challenge may include
 - a. A timed event “in 60 seconds or less”
 - b. Teams of youth with the fastest speed and or number correct
 - c. Pin the tail “part” on the poster where one youth is blindfolded and the other is not.

What did we learn? (REFLECT)

- Ask: What are the main criteria for livestock judging?
- Ask: Name five parts and two terms associated with the animal?

Why is that important? (APPLY)

- Ask: Why is it important to know the criteria of something? How does that knowledge impact you when you use that item?
- Ask: Why does understanding each breed’s qualities make more knowledgeable to produce a better product?
- Ask: How does animal conformation impact animal performance? Or animal quality?

Resources

- Kinder, C., Mavencamp, D. (2015). Judging Beef Cattle and Oral Reasons 101. University of Idaho Extension. PNW 669. <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edcomm/pdf/PNW/PNW669.pdf>
- Kinder, C., Mavencamp, D. (2015). Judging Meat Goats and Oral Reasons 101. University of Idaho Extension. PNW 678. <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edcomm/pdf/PNW/PNW678.pdf>
- Kinder, C., Mavencamp, D. (2015). Judging Sheep and Oral Reasons 101. University of Idaho Extension. PNW 679. <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edcomm/pdf/PNW/PNW679.pdf>
- Kinder, C., Mavencamp, D. (2015). Judging Swine and Oral Reasons 101. University of Idaho Extension. PNW 677. <http://www.cals.uidaho.edu/edcomm/pdf/PNW/PNW677.pdf>
- Ohio State University Extension. (n.d.). Learning Lab Kits. Beef, Sheep, Swine, and Goat. Available from: <http://www.ohio4h.org/books-and-resources/learning-lab-kits> (NOTE: Check with your local county extension office on availability to check out).
- Ohio State University Extension. (2011). Selection. *Beef resource handbook* (pages 2-1, 2-2, 2-10 and 2-11).
- Ohio State University Extension. (2008). Choosing an Animal. *Goat Resource Handbook* (page 21).
- Ohio State University Extension. (2011). Selection: The First Step. *Sheep resource handbook for market and breeding projects* (page 11-12).
- Ohio State University Extension. (2000). Your Very First Step - Selection. *Swine resource handbook for market and breeding projects* (pages 3-1 through 3-2).