

Serving up a Motion

Following basic parliamentary procedure is critical to keeping 4-H meetings moving smoothly and quickly. One of the most common mistakes made during a meeting is opening discussion. This fun, and tasty, activity helps 4-H youth learn the basics of presenting ideas in meetings using parliamentary procedure to present motions.



Activity:

1. Display ingredients and talk about the importance of parliamentary procedure for the smooth operation of a meeting.
2. Tell the group that they are going to make a trail mix using the correct way of presenting motions.
3. Explain that ingredients will be added to the bowl as motions are made. (They must say “I move that we add....” Ask for a second, discuss and vote. If the 4-Her says, “I motion.... Ask them to restate correctly).
4. As soon as all the ingredients are added, members can eat the Trail Mix as a snack.

Reflection:

1. What is Parliamentary Procedure? *An agreement to keep meetings orderly and allows all to participate.*
2. How do we start a discussion? *Make a Motion*
3. Why do we need a second before discussion? *To confirm more than one person wants to discuss the mater.*
4. If I want to disagree or ask a question, when should I do this? *During the discussion*
5. Who can make a motion? *Any member*
6. Who is the presiding officer? *The president, or other officer, leading the meeting*
7. Do I have to vote? *No, you can abstain, which means you choose not to vote.*

SUPPLIES FOR ACTIVITY

Large Bowl

Spoon

Ingredients for Trail Mix*:

- Cheerios
- Raisins
- M & M's (Plain/Regular)
- Chex
- Pretzels
- Marshmallows
- Broccoli (or other item not traditionally in mix)

Serving materials (cups, napkins)

**Always consider allergies when conducting this activity and adjust ingredients accordingly.*

Adapted from Wisconsin 4-H 2001.