



4-H Clover Connection

Extension Educator: Todd Branson
Program Assistant: Tara Taylor



4-H Promotes Showing Character

The Oklahoma 4-H Youth Development Program is teaching youth how to show character while participating in a livestock project.

Jeff Sallee, state 4-H assistant Extension program specialist, said the Showing Character program relates to the character of the livestock production and exhibiting community, as well as to the character of the individual members of the community.

Sallee said good character has three components, which include knowing what is right, feeling the need to do right and doing what is right.

"Good character takes courage and self-control," he said. "It may mean doing something you do not want to do or not doing something you want to do."

Sallee said the more exhibitors know, feel and do the right things, the stronger their character becomes.

Showing Character is a series of lesson plans teaching the seven pillars of character, which include trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship and decision making.

The program teaches the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. All these character traits are used to teach the youth how to make ethical decisions.

"Exhibitors are to use the decision-making model," Sallee said. "The model includes identifying the situation; considering all the stakeholders; the principles of character override non-ethical ones; and when two core ethical values conflict, choose the one that will produce the most good for the largest number of people."

For more information on Showing Character or other Extension programs, contact your county Extension office.

Teen Leaders Tour Vet Clinic

Twenty-nine Teen Leader 4-H'ers and several parents and leaders attended the monthly Teen Leader meeting up in Hinton, Ok on Wednesday afternoon. This month's meeting was held at the Great Plains Veterinary Clinic. Jered Davidson, Teen Leader President, called the meeting to order at 4:55p.m. on Wednesday, January, 8. Discussion was over the Candy Sales which will begin January 29th and the upcoming Jr. 4-H Share the Fun in Binger. They also discussed Upcoming 4-H contests and the date of the first meeting of the Caddo County 4-H Technology Club. Final discussion was over the county website and all the changes recently. Any visitor is welcome to visit and evaluate the tools on the website. Go to <http://countyext.okstate.edu/caddo/youth> for more information.

The Teen Leaders were greeted by Dr. Mike Chalfant DVM of Great Plains Veterinary Clinic who gave the 4-H'ers a tour and allowed them to view a feline declaw surgery and they observed Dr. Chalfant ultrasound a dog. They also studied differences in X-ray photos and listened as he gave a talk on working as a veterinarian, going to college, and things they deal with on a daily basis. "Anyone can go to veterinary school. It is hard work, but if you want to be a veterinarian, you can do it," explained Dr. Chalfant. He also stated that as a veterinarian you see several different types of species. He works with dogs, cats, horses, sheep, swine, cattle, birds, and an occasional pet snake or gerbil. "You have to be ready for anything out here. We have even seen a 'snake' patient," he said.

The Teen Leaders meet on a regular monthly basis at several different locations across the district. For more information about 4-H or becoming involved with the Teen Leaders, contact Todd Branson at the OSU Extension Center at (405) 247-3376. The next Teen Leader meeting will be in Anadarko at the Anadarko Hospital on February 26 at 4:30 p.m. The Teen Leaders will have the opportunity to see all areas of a working hospital and ask questions about working in the Health Sciences field.

WE ARE ROLE MODELS 2

(W.A.R.M.)



TRUSTWORTHINESS

Character Education News for Parents

By: Todd Branson

What's right is right even when *no one else is doing it*.
What's wrong is wrong even when *everyone else is doing it*.

Character in the Workplace

I saw a cartoon of an earnest looking fellow standing in front of a man sitting behind a desk. The caption: "We admire your integrity, Daniel. Unfortunately, we have no room for that in our firm." This may not be an overstatement.

A 1995 survey of more than 2,000 secretaries in the U.S. and Canada revealed that nearly 60 percent lied about their supervisors' whereabouts. OK, that's a moral misdemeanor, but nearly one in five also said they had falsely stated they witnessed a signature on a notarized document and 10 percent said they removed or destroyed damaging information from a file at the request of their bosses.

Usually, the lies and deceptions told at work aren't company policy. Instead, they reflect the flexible

morality of individual supervisors who out of ambition, fear or corrupt character ask others to lie or look the other way.

Let there be no mistake, it's unethical to ask someone to lie to advance personal or business objectives. Executives should establish an environment where every employee is expected to be honest. And they must deal firmly and consistently with those who ask or allow employees to do otherwise. But it's also the responsibility of individual employees, regardless of their power or status, to exercise the moral courage to refuse to do anything unethical even when ordered to do so. Your integrity is a personal asset. Don't let anyone mess with it.

Modeling Character at Home

1. Set your child up to succeed.

Children who know that they are capable of doing things will be more likely to do what they say they will do. So set reasonable expectations for your child's success and adjust the expectations to meet your child's changing ability level.

2. Reward good work.

Rewards for children do not have to be gifts or sweet treats. Rewards can be smiles and hugs and words of praise. Children who feel appreciated will want to work hard to follow rules, tell the truth, and follow through.

3. Model and discuss trustworthy behavior.

Your children will notice the way you behave. If you act in a trustworthy manner, your children will notice. If your children see you telling lies, then they will not learn the value of telling the truth. Think through the actions you model for your children and you will set them up to be trustworthy people.

Remember that building trust takes time. Your consistent interactions with your child and consistent modeling in front of your child will lead your child down a path toward trustworthiness.

Be loyal to yourself, your family, your club, your community, your country, and your world.

Character Critters 2: Learning to be trustworthy at home activity

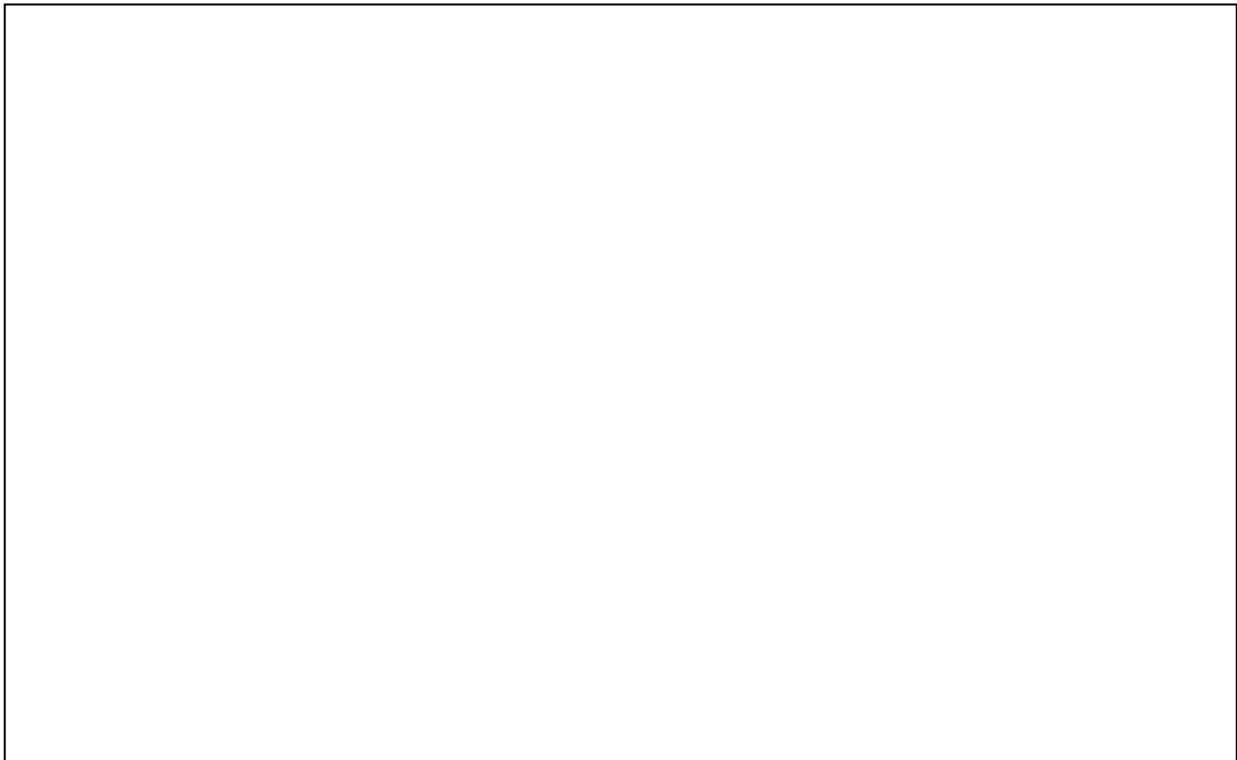
Trust is something that individuals can learn. It is also something that individuals can show to others. You can show others that you trust them through your actions. Letting someone do something for you can show that you trust his or her actions. There are several trust games you can play with your family. You will need a handkerchief or blindfold.

Object: to move from one end of the house to the other end while blindfolded with a scarf or bandana.

Tell your child that you need her help to get to a room on the other side of your house. Put on the blindfold and ask your child to guide you to the desired location. Tell your child that you will trust her to keep you from bumping into things. Your child can guide you by touch and/or giving you directions and keep you from bumping into things.

Your child can play this game to show his/her trust in you. Also you can carry or catch your child in a trust game.

Draw a picture or paste in a photograph of you and your parent playing a trust game or write a few words describing the game.



Child's Name _____

Older 4-H'ers and Teen Leaders may work on this activity with their Jr. 4-H Club. Many younger 4-H'ers notice and look up to teenagers for advice and attitudes. Use this opportunity to keep younger youth excited about all the fun 4-H really is!!!

Letter from the Educator:

Dear Caddo Co. 4-H Family,

I am sure everyone had a safe and fun holiday season! Now is the season for basketball, baseball, and TONS of 4-H Activities! How do we fit it all in?? Please take time to thank your 4-H leader for everything they do to keep school and 4-H calendars from conflicting. All the volunteer leaders in the county work very hard to keep all the 4-H Clubs as successful as they are, however they always need help! Parents are always more than welcome to assist with the 4-H program as much as possible.

This spring we have a lot of programs coming up! We already had the Jr. Share the Fun with over 200 youth participating!! It was a wonderful evening to see all the talent! The judges were mostly impressed with the way all the 4-H'ers acted during the show. Thank you to everyone who attended for their polite and fun attitudes!

The Cloverbud Speech Day will be February 5th. We expect around 50 Cloverbuds to participate! Candy Sales are currently underway, so don't forget to bring your dollars and buy some candy! The Oklahoma Youth Expo will be March 16-24. Please go to <http://www.okyouthexpo.com> for more information including all entry forms, rules, and schedules. Finally, Dress Revue will be at 9:30 a.m. at the Old Gym in Anadarko on March 25th.

Sincerely,

Todd Branson
Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development



News & Views

Jr. Share the Fun Results:

Lg. Group 1st Place

Binger-Oney with Responsibility

Lg. Group 2nd Place

Lookeba-Sickles with "The Baseball Game"

Sm. Group 1st Place

Ft. Cobb-Broxton with "Leader of the Pack"

Sm. Group 2nd Place

Hydro-Eakly with "The All Stars"

Individual 1st Place

Binger-Oney with "Let my Light Shine" by Michaela Loula

Individual 2nd Place

Lookeba-Sickles with "Honey" by Kaci Bohannon

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February – March 2003

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Time</u>
Feb 5	Cloverbud Speeches	10:00am
Feb 5	Tech Meeting – Caddo Co Ext.	4:30pm
Feb 10-15	Job Readiness – Within School	
Feb 17	Office Closed	--
Feb 26	Teen Leader's Anadarko Hospital	4:30pm
March 16-24	Oklahoma Youth Expo	--
Mar 25	Dress Revue	10:00am
Mar 29	Family Fun Fair	--
April 5	Volunteer Leader County Conference	TBA
April 8-9	Demonstration Contest	--

Please Read:
Other events may arise and scheduling may alter. For the most accurate information, please refer to: <http://countyext.okstate.edu/caddo/youth>