



that's what we're made of

Character Counts Fairness

"Fairness is never guaranteed, but a person of character will never fail to grant it."

Duane Hodgin

www.floresville.isd.tenet.edu

Does fair always mean being equal?

"That's not fair" has been said by every person sooner or later because everyone does not get the same thing. Help members learn how situations determine what is fair. Have members decide if the following situations are fair. Discuss each person's feelings about the statement:

At home:

- Your older brother has a later bedtime than you do
- Your sister has to do more chores at home because she is older

At school:

- A child with special needs has a teacher's aide to help them all day
- First graders get 10 minutes of homework a night and kindergartners don't have any

In 4-H:

- A beginning 4-H member has help fitting their animal for the show
- All members get to choose what type of treat they will bring to the 4-H club meeting

Source: SDSU Cooperative Extension Service CHARACTER COUNTS! Activity Quickies

Fairness in 4-H

4-H Club Activity

Introduce the club to these basic notions of fairness:

- Fairness is treating everyone the same according to the rules.
- Fairness is giving everyone the same chance to win.

Tell the members *Everyone who says, "Hello, it's nice to see you," will get a treat. Give everyone who says it a treat, and ask: Did I follow my rule and give everyone a treat?"*

Then say: *Everyone who puts their hand on their head gets a treat. Give a treat to only one child*

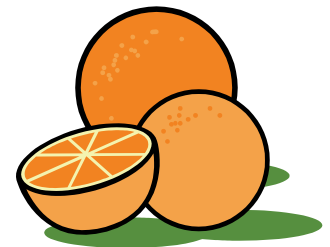
who has done this. Ask: *Was I being fair? Why?* When they answer, say: *You're right. I didn't play by the rules. Give everyone a treat.*

Next say: *Here's a treat for everyone with brown hair, because I like brown hair.* Hand out the treats and ask the members: *Was I fair? Why?* Get their answers and say *You're right. I goofed again! I didn't give everyone the same chance to win. I only picked people with brown hair. I'd better correct my mistake.* Give treats to the children who don't have brown hair.

Then tell the members: *Everyone who can say, "Six slimy slugs suddenly slid into the sludge," gets a treat.* Give a treat to all who can manage the sentence. Ask: *Was I fair? Why?* Get their responses. Ask: *What situations might exist that would make this expectation unfair?*

Ask: *What do we do in our 4-H club that makes sure everyone is treated fairly? What do we do that seems unfair? How could we change (fill in the blank) to make it fair?*

Taken from the CHARACTER COUNTS! Good Ideas Book



Clover Connection

Head

Think about what is fair before making a rule

Heart

Show you care by treating everyone fairly

Hands

Help one another by sharing responsibilities

Health

Do your heart good and be just to others