Don’t Stop Having 4-H Meetings When You Can’t Meet Face to Face

Host them virtually!

Continuing to provide opportunities for 4-H members to connect with friends and for families to connect with other families during this time is important. We are all in this together! It is important for children to: stay connected to others, keep up a routine, have an opportunity to talk about positive things.

Having a 4-H club meeting through Zoom can be challenging but also exciting and a great learning opportunity. Contact your Extension Office to set up a zoom time for you. You can also use the free Zoom option (limited to a 40-minute time frame). Make sure that you keep the link private so only the families or members in your group are invited and are aware of the link (we don’t want anyone outside the organization to invite themselves in and cause a commotion). With a Zoom, people may also call in if they don’t have a computer or adequate connection. The President may need to connect with those members and ask for voice vote, etc.

Ice Breakers: Just like with any meeting, an icebreaker is a great way to help everyone feel more comfortable.
- Have every member share a funny picture from their week or month and explain it.
- Have every member share a joke.
- Share your pet with the group – or tell about your favorite animal if you don’t have a pet.

Icebreakers for online meetings: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/icebreakers-for-online-meetings
65 icebreaker questions for online meetings: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/65-icebreaker-questions-for-online-meetings

Pledges: The President can still ask different members to lead the pledges.

Agenda: The President could share an agenda on the screen so everyone can follow along.

Getting Input: You can ask for suggestions or input using the chat box to get ideas from everyone participating.

Voting: Members could vote by raising their hands or by voting in the chat box.

Program: Screen sharing allows club members to continue to do their demonstrations and project talks.

Recreation/Activity: It’s important to still have fun.
- **Blind Drawing:** One person describes an image while everyone else draws it. Don’t use words to give it away. Compare the original to what everyone drew.
- **Scavenger Hunt:** (Prairie Dale 4-H Club did this at their meeting!) Give a list of household items the family needs to collect. Who can find them the fastest?
- **Two Truths and a Lie:** Each member tells the group 3 statements about themselves. The rest guess which of the statements is a lie.
- **Add to a Story:** Start with a simple sentence to set a scenario. Each group member takes a turn to add to the story. (Alternative – members alternate starting their sentence with either fortunately or unfortunately.
- **Riddle Me This:** Extraterrestrials now inhabit Earth and they are interested in 4-H. They don’t speak English (or any other language), so your members can only use imagines and symbols to describe 4-H and what it does. Have everyone share their images. Pick the top 5!
- **Charades!**
- **Hold a virtual project tour!**