## Consumer Judging Club Kit



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Our thanks to the Woodbury 4-H Volunteer example. The contents were researched and written by:


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## Consumer Judging Club Kit Teaching Outline

Welcome to Consumer Judging!
General Outline to share at a 4-H Club Meeting:

## Part I- about 20-30 minutes (need pencils, copies of Six Steps and Judge the Circles)

Opening- Page 3- Answers the What and How's of Consumer Judging. It can be read... or can be introduced in the form of asking the 4-H'er the question; getting a couple of responses and then clarifying with what is written in each category on page \#2.

4-H'ers Six Steps To Consumer Judging- Page. 4- This could be used as a "handout" for the 4 -H'ers to follow but it isn't necessary. Talk the 4-H'ers Through the 6 steps.

Judge The Circles- Page 5-Gives you, the leader, the background information and what to say as well as the official placing of 2-3-1-4.

Judge The Circles- 4-H'er Judging Sheet- Page 6- Gives each 4-H'er a sheet with 1) situation; 2) 4 product examples that happen to be circles; 3) a standards sheet to write down the criteria and whether the different circles meets the criteria; and 4) the number section of the official Score Card. The 4-H'ers won't get these for every class they judge, but it is hoped they'll keep this one and the Six Steps Handout to be a reminder and guide.

Part 2-30 minutes (need pencils and Copies of Placing Cards and Question Sheets) (allow 8-10 minutes for $4-H$ 'ers to judge a class and then allow reminder of time to share the placing)
The next 2 Judging Classes Could be done at the next Club meeting

## Situation: 4-H Meeting Snack <br> Situation: Beef Halters

## Part 3- 15-20 minutes (need pencils, products to compare \& copies of blank table)

The "Check Out The Choices Activity" could be done at the end or at a different Club meeting to practice and/or reinforce how to identify quality product criteria and decision making. Here's the web site for the leader portion (http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/SP81.pdf). There is also a "Check Out The Choices" Display available from Iowa State Extension. It could possibly be used as an additional teaching tool.

## Consumer Judging Club Meeting Guide

(Opening Comments) Today I'm going to lead you through a practice run of Consumer Judging. When we finish you will understand:

1) What is Consumer Judging
2) How to judge a class of four items
3) How to mark your score card

## What is Consumer Judging?

Judging is making a decision and telling why you made it. Seldom a day goes by that you do not have decisions to make. When your family buys groceries, you must constantly choose between brands while considering quality, size and cost in making a purchase. How carefully we select the apples from a grocery counter. Also consider the many decisions involved in the selection of a car. In $4-\mathrm{H}$, consumer judging is essentially a matter of comparing items and deciding which is better and why. Our goal is to teach 4-H'ers to make wise consumer choices.

Activity (optional) Have each 4-H member tell you the last purchase they made, (one that they had say or input into that purchase) and if they remember how many other products they had to choose from. (Leader Summary Statements) You can see that you are already making consumer choices and having to select from not just one product or kind but from several choices.

## How does the 4-H'er compete?

The key to successful judging is to read the class situation or story and to select the best choice based on the situation (a situation is just like a story that gives you clues) and criteria. A 4-H'er may or may not have specific knowledge of factors that make up the ideal choice. They need to be able to recognize the best choice for the given situation. The process is similar to Livestock Judging. The contest involves making buying or consumer choices from any 4-H project area.

## What Does Consumer Judging teach 4-Hers?

1. To observe closely
2. Consumer Decision-making based on a situation
3. To recognize quality products
4. The ability to reason
5. To present and defend decisions
6. To present ideas concisely

## What happens at a Consumer Judging event?

In a Consumer Judging event, 4-Hers can compete as a part of a team and/or as an individual. 4H'ers go to stations that have a situation card and 4 products for comparison. They rank order the products from best to worst and mark a judging card, and then go onto another judging station. There will be 5-6 different judging stations at a Consumer Judging workout or contest. 4 -H'ers receive points based on how their ranking compares to the official placing. Come and checkout the fun... and May the competition begin! We are planning to have a real judging contest during the County Fair.
(4-H Leader) We'll judge the \#1 circles together first and then there are 2 classes we can judge either individually or with a partner: \#2 4-H Meeting Snack and \#3 Beef Halters. Remember these are beginning "FUN" judging classes to introduce us to Consumer Judging.

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## 4-H'ers Six Steps To Consumer Judging

## Step 1. Study the Situation and Outline the Standards-

Before attempting to judge a product, study the situation and highlight the requirements or standards that are identified in the situation. In addition to the written situation, you will weigh factors like time, energy, price, quality and need based on prior knowledge or information you may have and/or what is made available for the consumer judging contest. 4-H'ers will learn over time standards of quality for goods and services and will then practice making comparisons. The more you judge and practice the easier judging becomes.

Consumer judging teaches the principles and methods of evaluating goods and services. These skills are used daily by any person who makes a purchase or chooses a service.

## Step 2. Judge a class of four items.

Judging is a comparative process using a set of predetermined standards.
A. Observe- Get an overall feeling of the class. Look for something that stands out - An easy top or bottom

- A class that divides itself clearly into a top and bottom pair

This helps narrow the class and gives a mental picture that will help as reasons are given.

## Step 3. Examine and compare.

Check each item in individually. Placings may be confirmed or changed upon closer examination. Handle the products to help discover the finer points or quality. Read the labels.

## Step 4. Answer the question WHY?

Take notes that help reveal "why" one item is ranked higher than the other.
Notes helps clarify and gives you a visual image of the product. A class of four divides itself into three pairs: a top pair, a middle pair and a bottom pair.

Look for the big things first, then judge the whole product and not just a particular part, keep the scoring card in mind. Notes should be brief. We're using a Scoring Sheet and Question Sheets for learning about consumer judging.

## Step 5. Decide.

Make a final decision on placing of the items.

## Step 6. Score-

Placing the class in the same order as the official gives you a maximum score of 50 points.
Points are lost depending on the order of the placing that is different from the official placing.

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## Judge the Circles- (For the 4-H Leader to Guide the Group)

Situation: A circle is needed to place a logo of the 4-H Clover Inside. Four different circles have been submitted by 4-Hers. The Extension Office is planning to use this circle around the 4-H clover in their 4-H Newsletter. It needs to be attractive and provide a clean balanced design.

## \#1- Outline the Standards (write these in on the left hand side of the table)

4-H Clover must fit inside
To be used on a 4-H Newsletter
Needs to be a circle
___ Needs to be attractive and clean and balanced design

| Standards | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4-H Clover Fits <br> Inside |  | x | x |  |
| Used in 4-H <br> Newsletter |  | x | x |  |
| Needs to be a <br> circle (equal <br> distance from the <br> center) |  | x |  |  |
| Needs to be <br>  <br> balanced |  | x |  |  |

## \#2- Rank order the four circles on the placing card

- Answer the question why one circle may be of higher quality over another circle
- What's best, $2^{\text {nd }}$ best, what's least satisfactory?
\#3- Score Your Class (Therefore, I placed this class of circles 2-3-1-4.) perfect 50!

Score card

| $1-2-3-4$ |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| $1-2-4-3$ |  |
| $1-3-2-4$ |  |
| $1-3-4-2$ |  |
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| $4-3-2-1$ |  |

\#4- Thinking Your Score Thru for Oral Reasons (for advanced judging)
Pairing Circles by Quality- Style \& Form

| Four Circles | General Statement | Compare | Grants |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Top Pair | The most important general <br> points for placing this pair. <br> "In the top pair I placed 2 <br> over 3 because it is a more <br> perfect circle." | Continue to bring in details <br> which will aid in their <br> comparisons. <br> "Circle 2 was more uniform <br> and balanced than circle 3. <br> Circle 2 was free of <br> irregular lines." | If second place is superior <br> in some aspects, indicate the <br> most important first. <br> "I will grant that 3 has a <br> more uniform color." |
| Middle Pair | "In my middle pair, I placed <br> 3 over 1 because 3 is more <br> rounded than 1." | "Circle 3 is uniformly <br> shaped." | I will grant that 1 has <br> smoother lines than 3, but I <br> criticize the oval shape of <br> number 1." |
| Bottom Pair | "I placed 1 over 4 because it <br> has smoother curves and <br> more nearly approaches a <br> circle than 4." | "I placed 4 last and at the <br> bottom of the class, because <br> it has sharp corners, uneven <br> lines, and approaches a <br> diamond in shape rather <br> than a circle." |  |

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## Judge The Circles-

Situation: A circle is needed to place a logo of the 4-H Clover Inside. Four different circles have been submitted by 4-Hers. The Extension Office is planning to use this circle around the $4-\mathrm{H}$ clover in their $4-\mathrm{H}$ Newsletter. It needs to be attractive and provide a clean balanced design.


| Standards | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
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Score Card

| $1-2-3-4$ |  |
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| $4-3-2-1$ |  |

My Score: $\qquad$

## Scoring the Circles Class

## 2-3-1-4

(Cuts 2-2-2)


Now that we have an understanding of the decision making, how to score a class and how a score is calculated for an individual or team we can try 2 other "FUN" consumer judging class examples.

## SITUATION

## 4-H MEETING SNACK

Terry is in charge of bringing snacks to the next 4-H Photography Project meeting that will be held after school in the local community center.

Terry has decided that the snack should not be messy since the $4-\mathrm{H}$ members will be handling pictures.

The snack should also be "satisfying" and large enough so no one gets hungry until suppertime.

Since Terry is using allowance money, the snack needs to be inexpensive. There are 10 members in the club so Terry figures that the snack should cost less than $\$ 5$.

In addition the snack should be as nutritious as possible.

## CRITERIA:

- Not messy
- Satisfying
- Inexpensive
- Nutritious


## Buddy Bars <br> Peanut Butter Crème-filled

1 package includes:
12 wafers - 12 oz .
Serving Size: 1 wafer


Cost: \$1.00 (8 cents/serving)
Nutrition Facts per serving:

| Calories | 150 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fat | 8 grams |
| Protein | 2 grams |
| Vitamin A | $0 \%$ |
| Vitamin C | $0 \%$ |

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# Welch's Fruit Snack 

1 package includes: 10-. 9 oz pouches
1 serving = 1 pouch


Cost: \$2.00 (20 cents/serving)
Nutrition Facts per serving:

| Calories | 70 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fat | 0 grams |
| Protein | 0 grams |
| Vitamin A | $25 \%$ |
| Vitamin C | $100 \%$ |

# 3. <br> Snickers 

## 1 package includes

10 bars -- 6.96 oz. each
Serving Size $=2$ bars


Cost: $\$ 1.00$ ( 20 cents/serving)
Nutrition Facts per serving:

| Calories | 190 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fat | 10 grams |
| Protein | 3 grams |
| Vitamin A | $0 \%$ |
| Vitamin C | $0 \%$ |

# 4. <br> Rice Krispies Treats 

Crispy Marshmallow Squares
Rainbow with Chocolaty Candy-Coated Pieces

## Each package includes: 8 Original Size Bars-6.2 oz. <br> Serving Size = 1 bar



Cost: \$2.00 (25 cents/serving)

## Nutrition Facts per serving:

| Calories | 100 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Fat | 3 grams |
| Protein | 1 gram |
| Vitamin A | $4 \%$ |
| Vitamin C | $0 \%$ |

## QUESTIONS \& Score Card FOR 4-H MEETING SNACK

1. Which snacks would be the least messy?
2. Which snacks would be the messiest?
3. Which snacks are the most "satisfying"? $\qquad$
4. List snacks in order from least to most expensive:
5. Which snacks are most nutritious?
(These are just like the standards table you did with the circles and are meant to help you discover what's important in the situation or story!)

| $1-2-3-4$ |  |
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# 4-H Meeting Snack Official Placing 

Placing: 4-2-3-1 ..... 1234 ..... 29
1243 ..... 32
1324 ..... 27
1342 ..... 28
Cuts: 1-2-4 ..... 1423 ..... 33
1432 ..... 31213435
I placed this class of snacks 4-2-3-1. I found that none of the items ..... 2143 ..... 38
met all of the criteria, so Terry had to compromise in some areas. ..... 392341
2413 ..... 4546
2431 ..... 49
3000 In the top pair, I placed \#4 over \#2 because it wasn't a very messy
snack, was one of the most satisfying snacks and could be classified as ..... 3124 ..... 31
being nutritious, as it provided some vitamins and minerals. Granted, \#4 ..... 3142 ..... 32
was the most expensive snack in the class, but it still fell within Terry's ..... 3214 ..... 37
\$5 limit. ..... 3241 ..... 44
3412 ..... 39
3421 ..... 45
In the middle pair I placed \#2 over \#3 because I felt it was the least ..... 4000 messy snack, was fairly inexpensive at 20 cents per serving and was ..... 4123 ..... 40
the most nutritious snack in the class. The fruit label boasts that it is ..... 4132 ..... 4132 ..... 38
"real fruit" and "fat free". It also provides 100\% Vitamin C and is an ..... 4213 ..... 46
excellent source of Vitamin A. However I do fault \#2 for not being as ..... 4231 ..... 50 ..... 42
satisfying or filling. ..... 4312
432148

In the bottom pair, I placed \#3 over \#1 because \#3 is more satisfying and the cost fits within Terry's budget. I find that both of these items are fairly messy with the chocolate and neither can be considered very nutritious-both are high in fat. Granted \#3 is less expensive.

I fault \#3 and leave it at the bottom of the class because it is messy, not very satisfying as one serving is only one wafer, and it isn't very nutritious.

For these reasons, I placed this class of snacks 4-2-3-1.
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## Answers for QUESTIONS FOR 4-H MEETING SNACK

1. Which snacks would be the least messy? $\qquad$ 2, 4 $\qquad$
2. Which snacks would be the messiest? $\qquad$ 1, 3 $\qquad$
3. Which snacks are the most "satisfying"? $\qquad$ 4, 3 $\qquad$
4. List snacks in order from least to most expensive. $\qquad$ 1, 2, 3, 4 $\qquad$
5. Which snacks are most nutritious? $\qquad$ 2, 4 $\qquad$


> Just lay out the Situation Page and the 4 product samples on a table as
> Renae has done here. Each 4-H'er needs a pencil, a question sheet with a score card on the side.

## Situation <br> 4-H Beef Halter

Mike would like to buy a beef halter to use in the show ring at the county fair. He prefers a leather halter, and would only like to spend $\$ 35$ or less.

Criteria:

- Halter suitable for the show ring
- Leather Halter
- Costs \$35 or less
- For a beef cow

1. 

## slack Beef Halte,

## Made of high-quality leather. $1 " \times 48$ " lead straps. Price--\$33.00



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## 2.

## Breaking, Training, 3-in-1 Halte,

Break 'em, lead 'em, and wash 'em all with just one halter!

Halter is rot-, water-, and mildew-resistant. Made of $5 / 8$ " solid braided polypropylene rope for extra strength.
Features a chain for maximum control.
Price--\$25.00


# 3. <br> <br> eather Sheep Halten 

 <br> <br> eather Sheep Halten}

For a professional show ring look, try our leather sheep halter.
Features a round strap noseband, $3 / 4$ " leather on top strap and lead, A 45" lead with snap and chain, And a bright nickel finish. Price--\$24.50


## 4. <br> Browband Horse Bridle

This browband bridle comes with a curb bit, Conway buckle reins, and an all-leather curb strap. Features doubled and stitched construction for strength and durability. Harness leather is tanned from heavy native steer hides. Price--\$27.60


## Questions for Halter Situation

1. Which halters are suitable for the show ring? $\qquad$
2. Which halters are made out of leather? $\qquad$
3. Which halters are $\$ 35$ or less? $\qquad$
4. Which halters are suitable for a beef cow? $\qquad$
5. Which halter is too small? $\qquad$

| $1-2-3-4$ |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| $1-2-4-3$ |  |
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| $1-2-3-4$ |  |
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## Solution

Placing- 1-2-4-3 ..... 1234 ..... 45 ..... 1243 ..... 50
Cuts 2-3-5
Cuts 2-3-5 ..... 1324
1342 ..... 34
1423 ..... 47
1432 ..... 39
I place this class of beef halters 1-2-4-3. ..... 2000
2134 ..... 43
2143 ..... 48
2314 ..... 33
I placed 1 over 2 because it is a beef leather ..... 2341 ..... 28
2413 ..... 43
halter and more suitable for the show ring even ..... 2431 ..... 33
though it is a little more expensive. All halters ..... 3000 ..... $3124 \quad 27$$3142 \quad 24$
were under the required amount. ..... 3214 ..... 25
3241 ..... 20
3412 ..... 19
I placed 2 over 4 because it is a beef halter even ..... 3421 ..... 17 ..... 4000
though it is not leather. ..... $4123 \quad 42$ ..... 413234421340
4231 ..... 30
I placed 4 over 3 because the horse halter ..... 4312 ..... 24 ..... $4321 \quad 22$would be big enough to fit the cow although itwould need some adapting.

I placed 3 last because a sheep halter is too small to fit the cow's head.

## Answers to Questions for Halter Situation

1. Which halters are suitable for the show ring? $\qquad$ $1,3,4$ $\qquad$
2. Which halters are made out of leather? $\qquad$ $1,3,4$ $\qquad$
3. Which halters are less than $\$ 35$ ? $\qquad$ 1,2,3,4 $\qquad$
4. Which halters are suitable for a beef cow? $\qquad$ 1,2 $\qquad$


## Part 3

## Check Out The Choices

Example of

1. Leaders Guide SP 81/Oct 1998
2. Youth Worksheet SP 81-Worksheet

## 3. Worksheet Example SP 81-Example

The "Check Out The Choices" Activity could be done at the end or at a different club meeting to practice and/or reinforce how to identify quality product criteria and decision making. Here's the web site for the leader portion (http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/SP81.pdf). There is also a "Check Out The Choices" Display available from Iowa State Extension. It could possibly be used as an additional teaching tool.


Rutgers Cooperative Extension, New Jersey, Fact Sheet \#FS 138 "Unit Pricing...What It Is and How To Use It" by
Burkart, Audrey C. http://www.rce.rutgers.edu/pubs /pdfs/fs 138.pdf
And the Food Marketing Institute's Unit Pricing Web Site
http://www.fmi.org/consumer/unit/


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|  | Woodbury 4-H Life Skills <br> Judging \& Club Kit | Woodbury 4-H Co. Youth Coordinator |
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