

Description of Learning Experience:

Cotton Boll and Consumer Judging is a competitive judging contest where 4-H'ers learn about cotton as an agriculture commodity in our state as well as to promote cotton through commercials or advertisements. 4-H'ers gain skills in making rational decisions when purchasing goods and services while maximizing resources.

The contest is made up of two competition areas: judging classes and advertisements /commercials. 4-H'ers are required to judge four classes of consumer items or services. Each class contains four similar items and has an accompanying situation statement. This statement describes a consumer and gives the needs to be considered when he/she makes a decision to purchase the item. Factors influencing these needs may include the person's age, gender, available money, lifestyles, school or job status, preferences or other requirements that depend on the item given and the individual in the situation.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the importance of cotton as an agricultural commodity
- Promote cotton in communities
- Make knowledgeable, rational decisions when purchasing goods and services
- Select, use, maintain and dispose of goods and services in ways that maximize resources
- Obtain clothing, goods and services to meet needs and reflect lifestyles, personal values and goals
- Act as responsible consumer-citizen with an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of the consumer, business and government
- Learn to communicate reasons for choices made

Georgia Performance Standards:

Elementary School: SS5E1 -The student will use the basic economic concepts of trade, opportunity cost, specialization, voluntary exchange, productivity, and price incentives to illustrate historical events; SS5E2 - The student will describe the functions of four major sectors in the U. S. economy; SS5E3 - The student will describe how consumers and businesses interact in the U. S. economy; SS5E4 - The student will identify the elements of a personal budget and explain why personal spending and saving decisions are important.

Middle School: SS6E4 - The student will explain personal money management choices in terms of income, spending, credit, saving, and investing; SS7E4 - The student will explain personal money management choices in terms of income, spending, credit, saving, and investing. SS8E5 - The student will explain personal money management choices in terms of income, spending, credit, saving, and investing.

For more information, contact your local UGA Extension office at 1-800-ASK-UGA1.

The University of Georgia 4-H program is the largest youth leadership organization in the state.

High School: SSEPF1 - The student will apply rational decision making to personal spending and saving choices; SSEPF3 - The student will explain how changes in monetary and fiscal policy can have an impact on an individual's spending and saving choices; SSEPF4 - The student will evaluate the costs and benefits of using credit; FCS-CF-4 - Students will explain the processes involved in managing personal finances; FCS-CF-8 - Students will critique savings options; FCS-CF-11 - Students will analyze the need for financial management to meet goals.

Essential Elements:

Primary: Mastery; Secondary: Independence/Belonging

Mission Mandates:

Science, Engineering and Technology; Healthy Living, Citizenship

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