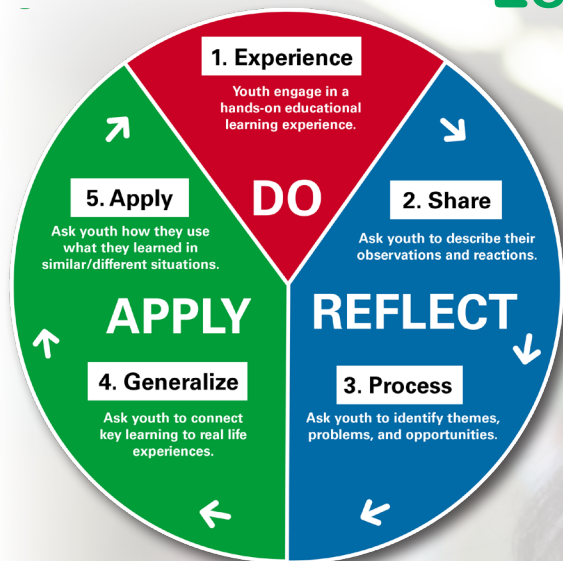




Learn By Doing



Experiential Learning Model, Based on the Kolb Learning Model (1975) and Bybee's Learning Cycle (1977). Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Since 4-H started in the early 1900s, it has been defined by youth learning by doing. This hands-on process allows youth to understand not only how to do something but also why they're doing it. This model is known as the Experiential Learning Model.

Failure is OK!

One of the biggest challenges (and benefits) of experiential learning is not always being successful immediately. It might be hard to sit back and watch your youth struggle, but it's a valuable lesson, and 4-H is supposed to be a place where you can fail in a safe environment.

Support your youth and encourage them! The first arrow in an archery lesson might miss the target, but you'll be amazed how your youth progresses after 10, 50, 100, or more attempts.

Car Ride Questions

It's pretty common for 4-H members to share what they learned with their peers and the adults leading a project. The learning doesn't once you leave the activity and head home! Take time with your 4-H member to reflect on their experience and ask some questions to see what they learned and to help them think critically about the activity they just did. Here are some questions you could ask!

- What was the easiest part of the activity? What surprised you?**
- What were some problems that came up over and over? How did you handle them?**
- What was the most challenging part of the activity? Why? How did you solve it?**
- What advice would you give to someone who wants to do this activity?**
- How can you use what you learned?**
- How can you use these skills in different situations?**

Source: Reflection Questions for Experiential Learning Activities, UW-Madison; Division of Extension (2015)

Encourage your youth 4-H member to try the origami activity on the opposite page and reflect with some of these questions!

Do you have special skills or knowledge that you would like to share with 4-H youth? Check with your local 4-H educator and ask about signing up as a Project Leader!





Origami Hearts

Have you ever tried origami before? Origami is the art of paper folding. Try to make a heart out of a square piece of paper by following these steps! If you have questions or don't understand a step, ask an adult for help!



Start with a 6" x 6" square piece of paper. If you're using origami paper, put the side with the color pattern face down on the table.

Fold paper in half on the diagonal, bringing top corner to bottom one. Unfold. Fold in half again, bringing right corner to left one. Unfold.

Activity: Amanda Kingloff, "Origami Heart How-To", *Parents*, September 2015



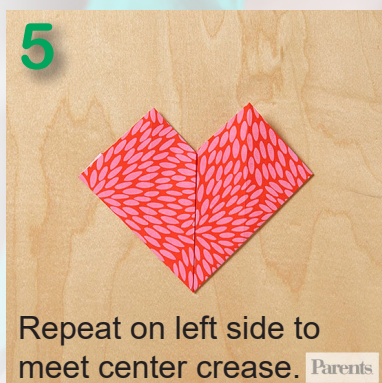
Fold top point of paper to meet center crease.



Fold bottom point up to meet top fold.



Fold right side up diagonally to align with center.



Repeat on left side to meet center crease.



Flip over folded paper; fold side and top points in 1/2".



Flip over and insert a slip of paper with a message into pocket of heart.

How did it go?

Did you get it right the first time? If you did, great job! If you didn't, try it again! It's normal to not get an origami fold perfect on the first try. Try to see if you can perfect the skill. Once you have this one down, try to create some other new folds!