





4-H VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SERIES

Nebraska 4-H Youth Development

Club Activity Idea: Individuality & Diversity

Outcome Area: __ SET __ Healthy Lifestyles <u>X</u> Life Skills <u>X</u> Career Development

Curriculum Area: Leadership

Specific Project (s): Step Up to Leadership 1, 2, & 3

Description of Activity: The focus of this lesson is based on the concept that our individuality helps make America a wonderful and diverse nation. Youth will gain an appreciation for their own

individualities and differences.

Age Level: Any

Group Size: 10 or more

Time Involved: Preparation time: 15 minutes Activity time: 30 to 45 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Standard pieces of red, white and blue construction paper for each youth
- Large butcher block paper
- Markers and crayons

Activity:

Introduction

- Begin by holding a discussion on the topic of diversity. Questions may include:
 - ✓ What is diversity?
 - ✓ What are some differences we have in this group? (eye color, hair color, skin, religion, favorite food/music/sport, etc.)
 - ✓ What kind of diversity can be found in your school? In this city? In this state? In this country?
- Next, discuss how diversity relates to individuality. Emphasize the point that differences
 make us who we are. Our differences make us unique, and we are going to celebrate
 them today.



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Directions

- Distribute one sheet of red, white and blue construction paper to each youth. Instruct
 them to decorate the sheets with words and pictures that reflect their own individuality.
 Suggest they include such things as favorite food/music/sport, hair color, family heritage,
 language spoken at home, etc.
- When complete, have students work cooperatively to tape their red, white and blue sheets to the large sheet of white paper to form a large American flag. You may need to use filler sheets to fill in the gaps to make a complete flag. When this happens, you can choose to write the name of the group, year or other key words such as "diversity" and "individuality."
- Conclude this activity by explaining the concept that each person in America contributes to its diversity just like each of them contributed to making this flag.

Discussion Questions

- Allow each youth to come up and share his/her contribution to the flag. What did they
 include on their paper within the flag? How does that make them diverse from fellow
 students?
- How are your family members diverse? How are they similar?