

# ***This I Believe***

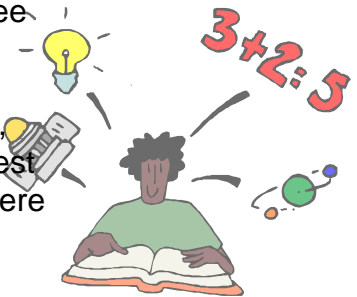
*It's not only what we know but what we believe  
that determines what we do.*

1. The 4-H boys and girls are more important than the 4-H project.
2. 4-H is not trying to replace the home, the church, and the school - only supplement.
3. 4-H'ers should be their own best exhibit.
4. No 4-H award is worth sacrificing the reputation of the 4-H member or leader.
5. Competition is a natural human trait and should be recognized as such in 4-H Club work. It should be given no more emphasis than other fundamentals in 4-H.
6. Learning how to do the project is more important than the project itself.
7. Many things are caught rather than taught.
8. A blue ribbon 4-H member with a red ribbon pig is more desirable than a red ribbon member with a blue ribbon pig.
9. To "learn by doing" is a fundamental in any sound educational program and characteristic of the 4-H program.
10. Generally speaking, there is more than one good way of doing most things.
11. Every 4-H member needs to be noticed, to be important, to achieve and to be praised.
12. Our job is to teach 4-H members how to think, not what to think.

# HOW CHILDREN LEARN

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The first question that most leaders have when they think of working with youth is: “How can I plan an experience that is fun, exciting and educational for kids?” To answer that question, it is important to see how children learn, so you can understand what types of activities stimulate kids. Research on learning conducted by the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company Studies and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (Klein, 1974) has shown that youth learn best by doing. Active involvement of the learner is the key. Learners were found to have the ability to retain:



- 10 percent of what they read.
- 20 percent of what they hear.
- 30 percent of what they see.
- 50 percent of what they see and hear.
- 70 percent of what they say as they talk.
- 90 percent of what they say as they do a thing.

Methods of instruction and ability to recall:

	<u>Recall 3 hrs. later</u>	<u>Recall 3 days later</u>
Telling (when used alone)	70 percent	10 percent
Showing (when used alone)	72 percent	20 percent
When a blend of telling and showing is used	85 percent	65 percent

Basic knowledge is learned through one of the 5 senses. Here is how we learn:

- Seeing ..... 83 percent
- Hearing ..... 11 percent
- Touching ..... 3½ percent
- Smelling ..... 1½ percent

The message is clear. Youth learn by doing. The youth leader must challenge himself to plan activities that actively involve youth. Youth should be involved in every meeting from planning, decision making, and project development to evaluation. This gives youth ownership and a feeling of belonging: “our 4-H club,” not “your 4-H club.”