

TEACHING TECHNIQUES

The teaching techniques that follow are only suggestions. Feel free to choose those best-suited to your kids.

You may use these techniques with or without a formal project. Most boys and girls will want to choose an organized project, such as gardening, plan it and carry it out. (All 4-H projects are listed in [EM2778, 4-H Projects and Publications.](#)) However, some youth, particularly older ones, will prefer self-determined projects. (See EM2957, *Working with 4-H Members in Self-Determined Projects.*)

ACTUAL EXPERIENCE (4-H PROJECTS)

Learning by doing is important. Members can gain hands-on experience with their projects at meetings, at home, at workshops, and clinics, shows, and fairs. 4-H members learn the most when they do the work themselves.

WORKING WITH MODELS

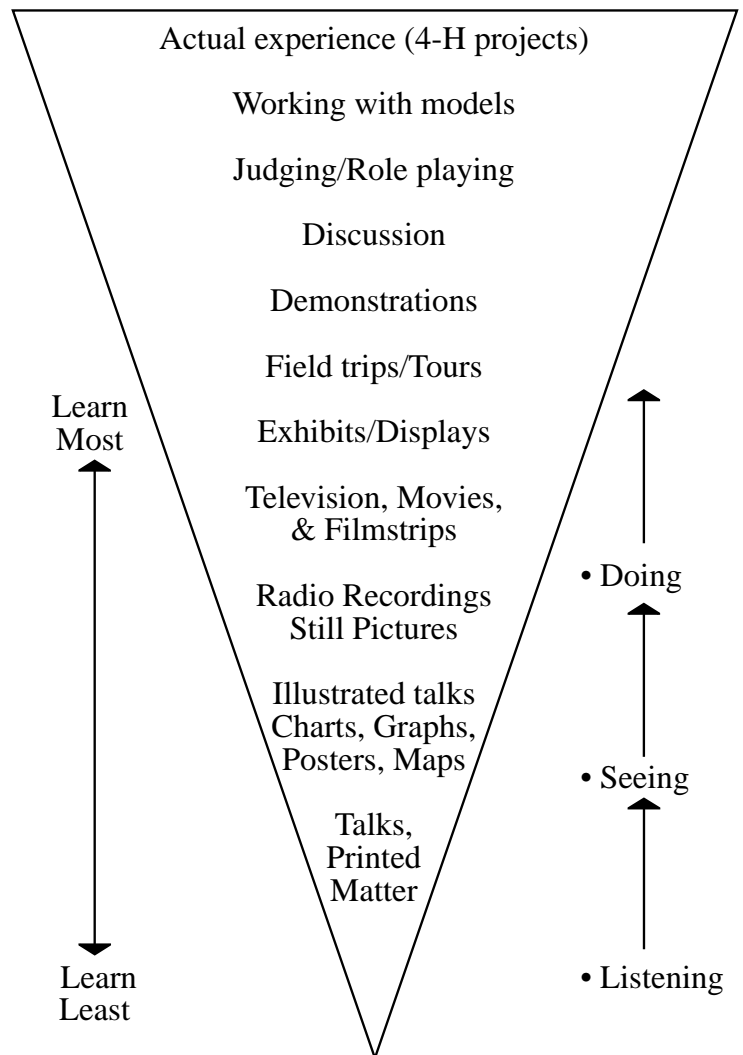
Members can learn by doing by using models. We retain about 10% of what we hear, 50% of what we see, and 90% of what we do. These numbers show why it is important to work with real items or with models.

4-H patterns to make stuffed, cloth animal models are available through your county extension office for the following animals: lamb, rabbit, horse, dairy goat, chicken, pig, and calf. You may want to ask clothing and textile advisors or members in the 4-H clothing program to make these models.

Food models are available from the Dairy Council. You or your members could also make models for other projects.

Members may enjoy making their own models such as dioramas. Models work well in science projects.

Teaching Methods Cone of Experience



Effectiveness of learning increases as one moves up the cone.