

Ohio 4-H Cloverbud Connections

For 4-H Cloverbud Volunteers Working with Grades K—2

October - December 2014 Issue

“No Time for Flash Cards” Fun Activity Website

By Dr. Bob Horton, Extension Specialist, 4-H Youth Development (OSU Extension).



BROWSE
by age

BOOKS
we love

ACTIVITIES
for kids

CRAFTS
for kids

No Time for Flash Cards (or *NTFFC* for short) is a fun blog that features tons of activity ideas for babies, toddlers, and kids. It has been around since 2008 and is run by a teacher/mom who loves to help others like herself. You can search for activities based on:

- › AGE — *infant, toddler (1-3), preschool (3-5), school-age (5+), big kid (8+) and parents*
- › CRAFT — *by theme and by age*
- › ACTIVITY TYPE — *cooking, fine motor, gross motor, math, pretend play, science, sensory, and songs*

The philosophy of *NTFFC* is to make learning fun at home and in school...without the flashcards!

The *NTFFC* blog is a great place to start for those who are looking for STEM-based Cloverbud activity ideas that will engage kids' brains and bodies without making them feel like they're in the classroom. The blog's writers have backgrounds in literature, education, and crafting, so those are the kinds of ideas you'll encounter. Though it's not a site geared specifically toward reaching developmental milestones or sharing how to playfully work toward specific age-appropriate skills (such as fine motor milestones or handwriting development), I think you'll find the ideas on *NTFFC* useful and practical, especially the page that outlines [basic must-have craft supplies](#).

Here are some examples of activities featured on the *NTFFC* website that are tied to STEM learning: <http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2013/08/15-easy-science-activities-for-kids.html>

I hope you'll stop by [No Time for Flash Cards](#) and try out some of the many fun ideas it has in store for you. Hopefully you'll discover some new favorites.

(Permission to use granted by <http://notimeforflashcards.com>; Allison McDonald)



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Click it, Print it, Do it!



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Corny Polymer Balls

Looking for easy to teach resources for your next meeting? Check out the most recent Click it, Print it, Do it activity for your Cloverbuds!

Fitness and Bar Graphing

A Fun Cloverbud Activity

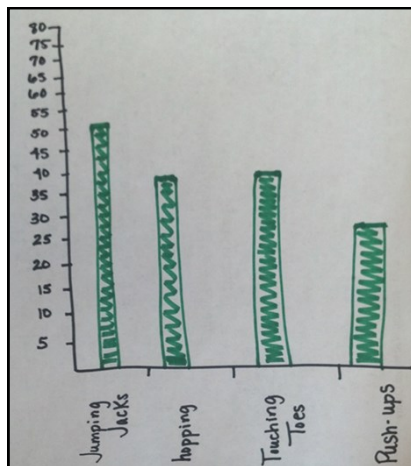
By Allison Baker, 4-H Youth Development Educator,
Washington County (OSU Extension).

Cloverbuds have a lot of energy. Encourage your Cloverbuds to use that energy while having fun and learning. To complete this activity, you will need: graph paper, paper, or poster board, markers, a timer, and energy filled Cloverbuds.

Start by having the kids decide on 4-5 exercises they would like to do. Examples: jumping jacks, touching toes, push-ups, sit ups, jumping rope, hopping, etc.

Let the kids start drawing their bar graph on the paper. Create a line to list the exercises and a line for the number completed in 30 seconds by the group. For the number line, it's recommended to write them in sets of 5. The more kids in your group the more numbers they will need to list.

Once the graph is started, get the kids ready to do the exercises they chose. Explain to the kids they will count their own exercises they chose to do. Then, they will add up everyone's to get a total to put on the graph. Set a timer for 30 seconds and have the kids do an exercise. Each child should write down how many they did. Next, have the group add the total. Once they have a



total, graph it on the bar graph. Do this for each exercise. Once all the exercises are completed the kids can see which one they were able to do the most. Be prepared, the kids will likely want to do this again and try to get higher numbers. With a different color marker you can make a second bar and they can talk about the difference between the first attempt and the second.

The activity gives kids the opportunity to get their bodies moving while learning math and bar graphing.

Campus Connections

By Scott Scheer, Ph.D., State Extension Specialist,
4-H Youth Development (The Ohio State University).

Hello again! Great to make this 4-H Cloverbud Connection with you!

Have you heard of STEM? Science, technology, engineering, and math are the buzz words around education and skills needed for our youngsters to be successful in the careers of tomorrow. When you are planning your 4-H Cloverbud activities don't forget about our STEM activities. We have the bioenergy education curriculum that is free on the state 4-H web site (www.ohio4h.org/BioenergyEducation). In the 4-H Cloverbud curriculum Series I and II there are a number of curriculum pieces to choose from such as Making Air Work and Weather Fun (both in Series I) and Science of Sound and The Wonder of Water (both in Series II). Check with your county 4-H professional for these activities.

Social skills are also essential to do well in life. And of course, 4-H Cloverbuds provides an excellent program for children to make decisions together, work with each other, and figure out the STEM activities.

Thanks for your commitment to the 4-H Cloverbud program as we enhance the healthy development of children throughout the state!



Cloverbud Connections is published four times annually by OSU Extension in Monroe and Hocking Counties, providing volunteers and teachers working with kindergarten through second grade access to unbiased, research-based information.

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