Knowledge Is Power
Instructions

This is a simple, inexpensive, and fun demonstration activity that coincides with the essential 4-H element of Skill Mastery. It can be conducted with any size group and provides a means for youth who are shy and self-conscious to acquire and share knowledge of value with a group. It can also make for an introduction to discussion about knowledge and decision-making, especially in the area of peer pressure and tobacco, drug and alcohol use.

Equipment Needed

The easiest way to present this activity is on poster board.

Space should be allotted on the poster so that five lines with up to sixteen numbers can be posted as below. The lines and numbers can be presented vertically or horizontally.

Line 1:   1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31

Line 2:   2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, 31

Line 3:   4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31

Line 4:   8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

Line 5:   16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

Begin by asking a participant the day of the month his or her birthday falls on but **DO NOT** have them state it aloud. Ask them to give a YES or NO response to whether or not their birthday falls on the dates listed on the lines above. If the answer is NO to line 1, go to line 2, and so forth. If they answer YES to any line, remember the first number in the line. Once they have responded to all five lines, add the first numbers of each line that contained their birth date, i.e., YES answers. The sum of all the first numbers in the YES lines equals their birthday.

Example for someone whose birthday falls on the 26th

➢ They should have answered NO to line 1. (There would be nothing to add).

➢ They should have answered YES to line 2. (There would be a 2 to add).

➢ They should have answered NO to line 3. (There would be nothing to add to the 2).

➢ They should have answered YES to line 4. (There would be an 8 to add to the 2).

➢ They should have answered YES to line 5. (There would be a 16 to add to the 8 and the 2).

➢ Therefore 16 + 8 +2 = 26

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4-H Toolkit for Success