

SKILLATHON



ACTIVITY

SENIOR

Current Events

Instructions: Choose one topic that you would like to present to the skillathon facilitator at this station.

Option 1

Recently a new virus called Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea has been found in the U.S. What are the symptoms of PEDV? How is this virus spread? Explain how you can protect your animals from PEDV.

Option 2

Over the past few years there have been numerous budget cuts within the agriculture education field, particularly extension positions within the 4-H program. How do you think that the recent budget cuts and position cuts will affect youth development in agriculture in the coming years? Do you see any alternative solutions or programs that would help alleviate the loss of agricultural educators?

Option 3

Biosecurity helps maintain the health and safety of the pork we produce for consumers, especially in large commercial swine production operations. How do you justify the importance of swine exhibition when comingling and interstate travel are often frowned upon as a biosecurity hazard? What practices do you implement that ensures the health of your hogs as you travel from one show to another? What do you do to ensure that any sows at your farm are kept safe from any potential diseases that you carried home from a show?



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Many of these are opinion-based questions. See answers below, but use your discretion.

1

Symptoms include Diarrhea or soft feces. Spread through fecal-oral transmission. Biosecurity: washing and sanitizing; isolation; cleaning all equipment, trailers, etc. Limiting visitors. Working with veterinarian.

2

Lower budgets decrease resources for education programs such as Youth Pork Quality Assurance® Plus (Youth PQA Plus®) training.

3

- Increasing biosecurity requirements, use of animal tracking or identification system.
- Work with a veterinarian; sanitize/wash equipment, don't share items like show sticks, keep pen clean.



INSTRUCTIONS

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Senior Current Events Instructions

- There are three topics that each participant can choose from.
- The purpose of this station is to evoke conversation with the participant and see how much they know about the topic that they chose, how well they present their ideas, and how well they communicate their ideas.
- Each participant will have 4 minutes maximum to discuss their topic. Please be sure that the participant speaks quiet enough that the next individual cannot hear the conversation.

Scoring: Below is a guide to aid in scoring each participants presentation.

<i>Categories</i>	<i>Point Values</i>
Knowledge of the Chosen Topic	5
Communication Skills – Eye Contact, Verbalization & Composure	10
General Effect of the Presentation	10

Total Points Circle the total on the participants score sheet

****This station has a total of 25 points.****

Thank you very much for volunteering to help with the skillathon. Please remember to complete the skillathon facilitator information sheet and leave it on your stations table at the end of the competition. Thank You!



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STATION # _____

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