Meeting & Greeting

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Being around people is always more fun if everyone knows everybody, whether it is a meeting, school event, or a family function. Remember that you only have ONCE to make a good first impression. To make a good impression, you should stand tall, have good posture, and seem alert and interested. It’s great to meet new people, but it’s even better when someone introduces you.

INTRODUCTIONS: THINGS TO REMEMBER:

1. Introduce the More Important First!
   a. Most important Person Gets the Gold! It is polite to introduce someone to the more important person or younger people to older people or boys to girls. That means that you say the more important person or older person’s name first.

   For example:
   Governor Deal, I would like to introduce TO YOU my brother, Casey Smith.
   Casey, this is our honorable Governor, Nathan Deal.
   Grandmother, I would like to introduce TO YOU my friend, Sally Jones. Sally, this is my grandmother, Susan Smith.

   b. Say, “I would like to INTRODUCE TO YOU” .. like Happy Birthday TO YOU…..
      This is preferred over “I would like to introduce you to” …..

   c. Give them something to talk about… 4-H event, sports, a book, where they are from, etc. Be an active listener.

2. Always, repeat their name after you have been introduced to someone: “It is nice to meet you, Mrs. Jordan.”

3. Introduce yourself if needed. “Hello, I am Courtney Jones. It’s great to meet you, Coach Gaines.”

4. Name Tag On the Right: When you shake hands, your eye goes up the arm to the name tag which will help you remember their name.

5. Firm Handshake: Not to soft or too hard, 2 quick shakes, web to web. That means the web of your right hand should be touching the web of the other person’s right hand.

6. Keep eye contact, be interested!

7. Be Respectful. Do not interrupt others while people are talking. Give compliments. Remember to say Please and Thank you when appropriate.
FIRST IMPRESSIONS:
What should you say when you meet someone?
It's nice to meet you, Mrs. Jones. Remember to repeat their name.
Where do you look while you are being introduced to a new person?
Have eye contact with the person.
What do you say to introduce two people to each other?
I would like to introduce TO YOU........

PRACTICE INTRODUCTIONS:
In a group of 3 people, practice the following introductions:
1. Introduce a 4-H’er to your County Extension Agent
2. Introduce your Extension Agent to a Community Leader
3. Introduce your friend to your Grandmother
4. Introduce your neighbor to your teacher
5. Introduce yourself to a new classmate
6. Introduce your sister to your teacher
7. Introduce your friend to your mom
8. Introduce your dad to your coach.

RESOURCES include:
University of Florida Extension, 4-H Afterschool, “Table Talk”.
University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, “Manners Worth Millions” 1984, Diane G. Smathers, State Program Leaders, Human Environment.
University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, “Manners Matter” 1998, Coordinated by Doris Hall, Extension 4-H Faculty.
University of Tennessee Extension , “Mind Your Manners”, 2013, Lori Gallimore and Amy Gallimore, Tennessee 4-H.

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