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Foodways A 4-H Folkpatterns Project – Collecting Foodways Information on Short-Item Cards

Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service

4-H Club Bulletin

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Collecting Foodways Information on Short-Item Cards



Food in Folklore

PURPOSE: To become aware of how short-item cards can be used to collect folklore, to introduce new members to a group, and to find out a little about other people's folklore

YOU'LL NEED: Short-item cards (see example on next page)
OR use index cards (5- by 8-inch) to make your own short-item cards
Pen or pencil

TIME: 20-30 minutes

HOW TO DO IT: Invite new friends to a club meeting. Fill out short-item cards as a way of introducing each other and learning about foodways. Each person should choose a partner to ask one of the following foodways questions, or you can make up your own. Fill in as much information about your partner as possible on the short-item card. Share this information with the rest of the group.

- What home remedy do you use for a bee sting?
- What food do you like to have when you are sick?
Why?
- Tell me a proverb or saying about food (like “An apple a day . . .”).
- Tell me a nursery rhyme or game that refers to or uses food (like “One potato, two potato . . .”).
- How do you keep bugs from damaging your vegetable garden?

NOW WHAT?

1. Make a booklet of your collected items. Write a story on them for a local or school newspaper.
2. Make a poster display of your group's collected folklore.



FOLKLORE ITEM:



- Where Collected _____ • Date _____
- Informant's Name (Person Interviewed) _____ • Age _____
 - Address _____
 - County _____
- Collector's Name (You) _____ • Age _____
 - Address _____
 - County _____



• Tell Us More

Your space for more information on the informant's background (culture, religion, occupation, etc.) and the situation where you collected the information.



Permission granted to deposit this card in the MSU Folklore Archives for educational use:

Collector's Initials _____ Informant's Initials _____

Send completed cards to:

4-H FOLKPATTERNS

The Museum
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48824