# Introduction to Judging

DON'T FOGET TO BRING: Clipboard, pencil, or pen

#### WHY JUDGE:

- Judging helps you develop decision-making skills as you gain knowledge, apply decision-making processes, & recognize standards of quality.
- Develop self-confidence & skills in verbal expression as you identify reasons for choices.
- Develop consumer skills that carry over into other projects & everyday living.

## HOW TO JUDGE:

## **INFORMATION:**

 Read and understand your class, what you are judging. Scenarios contain many details. Pay close attention to what you read.

## **OBSERVATION:**

- Look for strong and weak points of each item. An honest appraisal of the differences between items and a decision based on sound reasons are the heart of judging.
- Taking notes is often very helpful.

#### COMPARISON:

- Try to visualize the ideal item or animal, then compare your class. Break items into pair's top, middle, bottom.
- Do not try to compare the little things, look for big differences.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

- Arrive at a logical ranking for the items based on the merit of usefulness to the situation given.
- Rank items assigning them 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> places in the order you feel best meets criteria given in the situational statement.
- Taking notes is a must when giving oral reasons

#### **COMPLETION:**

- When marking your scorecard double check for accuracy. Make sure personal information is complete and thorough.
- Talking is NEVER allowed when participating in a judging contest.
- Pay attention to instructions from group leaders. When leaders are available you may ask questions if uncertain of something.