



## SPIN VOLUNTEER QUICK GUIDE TO MASTERY

Mastery is at the heart of 4-H SPIN clubs. Young people demonstrate mastery when they are able to competently use new knowledge and skills in real-world situations. As a SPIN volunteer your goal is to help the members in your SPIN club master the knowledge and skills they need.

Best Practices for Mastery	Ways Volunteers Can Promote Mastery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Young people learn best through hands-on learning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Plan learning activities that actively engage them in learning – build, create, explore, make, discover, test, plan, cut, estimate, experience, measure, draw, etc.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ When young people successfully solve problems or meet a challenge, they develop confidence in themselves – they believe they are capable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Present them with a challenge or problem to solve. Encourage and support them, but allow them to discover the solution.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Young people demonstrate leadership skills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide leadership opportunities such as, leading an activity, helping others who need assistance, or planning a family event to showcase what members have learned.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Young people demonstrate their mastery to others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide opportunities for members to share what they have learned, created, and mastered at a family event, competition, or community gathering.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Young people learn from their mistakes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ When things don't work out as planned, talk with the young person and ask what s/he thinks went wrong, what s/he could do differently, and how to avoid the mistake in the future. Allow the young person to reflect on the experience, share his/her thoughts, and identify a solution.</li> </ul>

Adapted with permission from University of Illinois Cooperative Extension

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