

How to Organize an Aviation Rally for Youth



The material which follows is for organizing an event for youth to learn about aviation in a half day setting, preferably at an airport. Here are the key steps.

- **DECIDE TO HOLD AN EVENT AND SET A DATE**

- What age group or range?
- How many kids are you willing to handle?

Our experience suggest 30 to 40 youngsters total who could be divided up into smaller groups of 5 to 10 each.

- **DECIDE ON ACTIVITIES FOR THE EVENT**

The AOPA PATH (*Pilot and Teacher Handbook*) **lays out about 10 different activities which could be presented in module form.** (*Refer to AOPA Path Handbook*)

- **LINE-UP ADULT LEADERS**

Once the learning activities are determined, you'll need one or more leaders for each activity.

- **DETERMINE LOCATION OF EACH ACTIVITY**

(Hangar floor, conference room, lobby etc)

- **RECRUIT PARTICIPANTS**

You may have a connection with a teacher where you could take a whole class. Boy Scouts have an aviation merit badge so the rally could be designed to meet scout merit badge requirements. Posters could be designed to recruits youngsters from the public at large.

- **PRE-REGISTER YOUNGSTERS USING AN REGISTRATION FORM**

(See sample registration form)

- **HAVE A PRINTED SCHEDULE OF ROTATION BETWEEN AVIATION ACTIVITIES**

(See sample program schedule)

- **END THE EVENT WITH A LUNCHEON, IF THE EVENT BEGINS IN THE MORNING**
Pizza and soda are easy choices. Award certificates, present T-shirts, hand-out bags of take-aways such as balsa wood airplanes, AOPA pamphlets, and the like.