Purpose: To teach youth how to read a medication label and calculate dosages so they are better able to understand how to store and administer medications to different livestock species.*

Materials Needed
• One copy of the activity worksheet per youth or pair of youth.

Steps
1. Have youth complete the activity worksheet by themselves or in groups of two.

Remembering What Is Important
Reading labels on medications is crucial in order to ensure that medications are given in the proper locations and in the proper amounts to effectively help the animal. It is also important that the medication is stored properly to guarantee maximum effectiveness. Labels help make certain that medications are not given to a species they are not approved for.

Walk through some of the questions on the activity sheet with the youth, asking thought-provoking follow-up questions so they understand why it is so important to read and follow the instructions on the label. Questions might include the following:

• What might happen if you give your animal too much medication? Not enough?
• What could happen if the medication is stored at a temperature that is too high?
• What could occur if the withdrawal time listed on the label is not followed?
• What might happen if you administer the medication to a species it is not approved for? What if you administer the medication in a location not listed on the label?

*This activity has been developed to supplement the information that can be found in the National Pork Board Good Production Practice No. 6: Properly store, label, and account for all drugs and medicated feeds.
Using the medication label and insert below, answer the following questions.

**Reading and Understanding Medication Label for Beef Cattle**

1. What is the name of this medication? __________________

2. What is the withdrawal time on this medication? ______________

3. List two cautions you should be aware of when using this medication. ____________________________________________ _________________________________

4. Judging by the temperature listed for this medication, where should it be stored? ____________________________________ __________________________

5. How should this medication be administered? ______________

6. Using the medication label, how much would you administer to an 800-pound steer? _______________________________ ____________________________

7. Can the entire dosage calculated in question 6 be administered in the same location? __________________________

8. How many separate injections would be needed to administer the proper amount of medication to the animal in question 6? ___________________________________________

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**Using the picture below, circle the location where you would give this medication.**

**Answer Key to Questions**

1. Tylan 200

2. 21 days for beef cattle

3. (a) Do not give with other injections because it could cause the active ingredients to precipitate. (b) It can be deadly to equine.

4. It should be stored in a cool, dark room that does not exceed 72 degrees Fahrenheit.

5. Intramuscular (IM)

6. 32 mL (800 lb/25 lb = 32 lb; 32 lb x 1 mL per lb = 32 mL)

7. No, only 10 mL per injection site

8. Four injection sites

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