

Adding Machine Tape Demonstration for Adult Recruiting

Supplies: 10 foot long piece of adding machine tape

Preparation: Place marks on the tape in 10 year increments. Make sure the numbers are large enough for parents to see. Placing 100 in the center, roll the tape back up.

Presentation: You'll need two people to help you.

Script: "It's likely that your son will live to be 100 years old given the advances we're seeing in medical technology.

(Have your helpers unroll the tape in front of you, so the entire timeline is visible.)

"Here's a timeline of his life."

"Let's say that you're 35 now. You're likely to live until you're 75 when your son will be about 50."

(Rip the tape off at the halfway point and hand the end to your helper. Hold the latter half up and very dramatically, let it fall to the floor.)

"This represents the years you and your son have together in his lifetime."

"He's probably about 8 or 9 now."

(Rip off the tape slightly below 10, hand the end to your helper, and let that piece fall to the floor.)

"So, here's the time you have left together."

"Your son will probably be out of your house when he's 18 or 20—whether he goes to college or moves out on his own."

(Rip off the tape at about the 18-20 mark and repeat the process of dropping it on the floor.)

"This is the amount of time you have left with him at home."

"When he's about 13, his friends start to become a bigger influence in his life."

(Rip off the tape at about 13. Take the very short piece of tape from your helpers and hold in it front of you.)

"This is the time you have left to be the major influential force in your son's life. You can show him how important he is to you by becoming involved in Scouting with him. Scouting is a remarkable opportunity for you and your son to share a variety of fun, exciting and positive experiences. Use these adventures to help your son grow into the type of adult you want him to be."