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THE
WONDERFUL
WORLD OF
4-H



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4-H

4-H is a program for boys and girls ages 9 to 19. Younger children can also participate in a pre-4-H program called Partners in Learning at the age of 6. 4-H programs have exciting club and special interest programs, activities and events that support "learning by doing."

An agent from the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service gives leadership to the 4-H program.

4-H is as strong as its connection to North Carolina State and North Carolina A&T State universities. By law, the Cooperative or Agricultural Extension Service is part of this land-grant university system. University subject-matter specialists write projects and conduct statewide project activities.



Volunteers Run the Program

Community volunteer leaders are necessary for a 4-H program. They are organizational leaders, project leaders and activity leaders in a community 4-H club.

Volunteer club leaders are selected by peers who know their skills and abilities to relate to young people. Other volunteers give to 4-H as advocates, trainers, etc.

Communities provide resource people, financial assistance, facilities and other resources. Community leaders identify service projects for clubs.

The 4-H Club

4-H clubs usually meet once a month. 4-H'ers plan and conduct a business meeting. Volunteers guide an educational program for about 30 minutes.

4-H'ers, volunteer leaders and parents determine what happens in a club. Each club develops a calendar that identifies the educational program. The educational program should be a "hands on" experience. Program experiences include tours, special interest programs, picnics and parties, 4-H'er demonstrations or presentations, resource speakers and club planning.

Member expenses are minimal and determined by the club itself. Club activities are usually covered by money-making projects conducted by the club.



What 4-H'ers Experience

A 4-H'er joins 4-H to have fun with friends and to learn new things. The club meeting, project groups, activities and events are the ways 4-H'ers fulfill both desires.

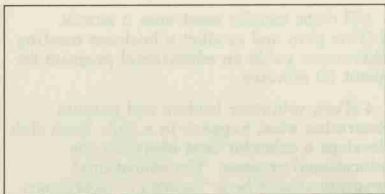
The club meeting also develops leadership and citizenship skills. Club membership, serving as an officer, voting and decision-making help the 4-H'er learn by doing. 4-H'ers practice leadership when planning and conducting money-making or community service projects.



4-H and the Family

4-H is a family program. Usually 4-H'ers and parents have similar interests. 4-H'ers and their families can work together on projects.

4-H provides excellent opportunities for parents to spend "quality" time with children. Sharing, communicating, understanding, and mutual respect occur while working together to achieve a common goal. Many families turn 4-H events into family outings.



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