

A 4-H Project: More than a Fair Entry

4-H project-based learning provides a place for youth to explore their interests and passions — or what we like to call their sparks! Youth learn from caring adult volunteers, or in some cases through self-guided study, in projects in areas such as science, health, agriculture, and citizenship. Screened adult volunteers provide a safe and positive environment where youth learn by doing. Young people thrive through 4-H participation, finding their way to success in life and career.

Careful consideration should be used when selecting a 4-H project to enroll in for the year. A 4-H project has five components: Learning Experiences, Leadership, Citizenship, Exhibition, and Record Keeping. An explanation of each component can be found below. These five components can all be found along the Kansas 4-H Learning Pathway (4H1131).



Learning Experiences	Citizenship	Leadership	Exhibition/ Showcase	Record Keeping
Curriculum-guided activities Project meetings Kansas Clover Classroom Educational tours Workshops/clinics State project events KSU Junior Producer Days Judging contests Public presentations Interviewing the experts Educational presentations Quiz bowl contests Skill-a-thon How-to shows and online videos	 Helping your community or others outside your family Helping others without financial compensation Examples may include: Food drives Sew and donate lap quilts to nursing home Knit caps for newborns Assist in community garden Volunteer with Story Walk, featuring a book related to project work Launch rocket with daycare or elementary grades 	 Teaching skills or information to others outside your family Organizing or coordinating an event or activity Examples may include: Teach a workshop Facilitate a group activity Assist a Project Leader with project meeting Plan a tour Serve as a Junior/Teen Leader Serve as a Junior Superintendent Create project-related videos for use on social media 	Contest (foods show, photography contest, wheat show, etc.) 4-H Club Days 4-H Project Displays Livestock show Educational presentation County Fair Kansas State Fair	Record of project work, income, expenses, and skills learned, etc. Leadership and Citizenship Project reflection Pictures documenting learning and engagement

Local Contact Information



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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