

WELCOME TO 4-H!

We are so glad you've chosen to join 4-H! We hope this guide helps you learn everything you need to know about the Vanderburgh County 4-H program.



4-H began over 100 years ago, and has since grown into the largest youth development program in the nation. 4-H prepares young people to be leaders in their community and around the world through hands-on experiences alongside their peers and caring adults. Backed by a network of more than 6 million youth, 540,000 adult volunteers, 3,500 professionals, and more than 60 million alumni; 4-H delivers research-based programming around positive youth development. 4-H is delivered through America's 109 land-grant universities and the Cooperative Extension Service —reaching every corner of our nation. In Indiana, 4-H can be found in all 92 counties as delivered through Purdue Extension. Community clubs, afterschool programs, school enrichment, camps/workshops, and special programs are all ways youth across Indiana can be involved with the 4-H program.

INDIANA 4-H MISSION:

The Indiana 4-H Youth Development mission is to provide real-life educational opportunities that develop young people who will have a positive impact in their communities and the world.

INDIANA 4-H VISION:

Indiana 4-H Youth Development strives to be the premier, community-based program empowering young people to reach their full potential.



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THE 4-H BASICS

4-H Emblem:

The national 4-H emblem is a four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf.



4-H Colors:

Green and white are the colors of 4-H. The white background of the flag symbolizes purity; the green 4-H emblem is nature's most common color in the great outdoors and is the color of springtime, life and youth.

The 4 H's:

The four H's stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. These represent the four-fold training and development in which members participate. This meaning of the four H's is clearly given in the pledge.

4-H Slogan: "Learn by Doing."

4-H Motto: "To Make the Best Better"

The 4-H Pledge:

"I Pledge my Head to clearer thinking,
My Heart to greater loyalty,
My Hands to larger service, and
My Health to better living,
For my Club, my Community, my
Country, and my World."

WHO'S INVOLVED?

4-H MEMBER: Anyone in grades 3-12 who participates in a local 4-H group.

MINI 4-H MEMBER: Anyone in grades K-2 that participates in the Mini 4-H Club.

JUNIOR LEADER: A 4-H member in grades 8-12 and is a part of the Junior Leader Organization. They take an active part in helping the younger members in the clubs.

4-H CLUB OFFICER: Youth elected to serve in leadership roles in a 4-H club, such as president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, and more.

4-H SUPERINTENDENT: An approved volunteer who specializes in a project, then helps 4-H members through answering questions regarding the project.

4-H ADULT CLUB LEADER: An approved adult volunteer who is responsible for organization of the club.

4-H COUNCIL: The Vanderburgh County 4-H Council is the 4-H policy-making and advisory group for the county 4-H program.



4-H ADULT LEADERS: This organization for all 4-H volunteer leaders in Vanderburgh County provides training opportunities and fundraisers to support 4-H.

EXTENSION YOUTH ASSISTANT: Extension staff member that creates, promotes, and teaches 4-H school enrichment programs, supervises Mini 4-H program, and assists with 4-H programming in the county.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION EDUCATOR: Extension Educators are professionals who guide, teach, and administer Extension programs and oversee all aspects of the county 4-H program.

PROJECTS

ANIMALS

Animal Education

Aquatic Science

Beef

Cat

Dairy

Dog

Goats

Horse & Pony

Llama/Alpaca

Pets

Poultry

Rabbit

Sheep

Swine

Veterinary Science

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Beekeeping

Crops

Forestry

Floriculture

Garden

Plant Science

Strawberry

Tractor

Wildlife



HOBBIES

Americana

Barbecue

Bicycle

Collections

Family Camping

Fire Safety

Genealogy

Government

Shooting Sports

Sport Fishing

Sports

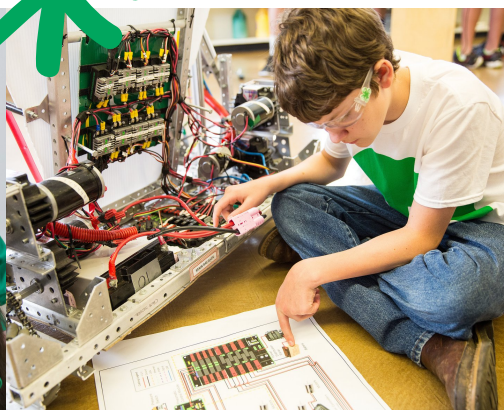
PROJECTS

CREATIVE ARTS

Basic Crafts
Cake Decorating
Construction & Architectural Replica
Creative Writing
Fine Arts
Gift Wrapping
Model Craft
Needlecraft
Photography
Scrapbook
Woodworking

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH

Aerospace
Automotive
Computer/ Robotics
Digital Craft
Electric
Entomology
Geology
Small Engines
Soil and Water Science



FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Child Development
Consumer Clothing
Consumer Education
Creating with a Mix
Foods

Genealogy
Health / Safety
Home Environment
Microwave Cooking
Sewing

4-H TERMS

PROJECT: What a member completes in a specific area to demonstrate his/her knowledge of the subject area.

COMPLETION: The completion of a 4-H experience may include a variety of options and must not be misinterpreted solely as exhibition of a project at a local, county, or state fair. There are a number of ways that a young person may participate in the 4-H Youth Development Program in addition to the club-based option. Participating in these 4-H opportunities enable the youth to build skills that will serve them well throughout their adult lives.

EXHIBITION: 4-H'ers are encouraged to exhibit their completed projects at the Vanderburgh County Fair. Exhibition is not required for completion.

THE LINK: The Link is the Vanderburgh County 4-H Newsletter. It is emailed monthly to all 4-H families. In this newsletter, you will find information about upcoming events and updates related to 4-H.

CLUB RULES/ BY-LAWS: 4-H clubs have a set of written rules for the operation of the club. Be sure you become familiar with your club's rules early in the year.

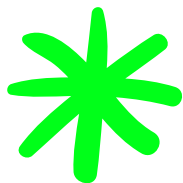
ENROLLMENT: 4-H'ers must complete enrollment each year they participate at <https://V2.in.4honline.com>

ENTRY TAG: Entry tags are attached to each project you are exhibiting at the county fair. Entry tags list your club name, 4-H'ers name, project name, and division and are provided by the Extension Office.

4-H HANDBOOK: The book that lists the 4-H projects and guidelines for entry and exhibition. A new book is published annually. The Handbook is the authority on all project matters. Your Handbook can be obtained from your club leader or the Extension Office.

PROJECT MANUALS: Written by university specialists, manuals serve as suggestions of areas to study in your 4-H project work. Manuals can be obtained from your club leader or the Extension Office.

MY RECORD OF 4-H ACHIEVEMENT: On this form, you record all 4-H activities you've participated in, projects you completed, and community service projects. An example and directions for completed are found in the 4-H Handbook. This record is used to choose winners for awards and trips.



TRIPS & ACTIVITIES

- **4-H TRIPS**: Several trip opportunities are available for older youth and include 4-H Round-Up at Purdue (grades 7-9), 4-H Academy at Purdue (grades 9-12), Citizenship Washington Focus to Washington DC, (grades 9-12), State Jr. Leader Conference (Jr. Leaders), and more! More information on trip opportunities can be found at <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/>.
- **ACHIEVEMENT BANQUET**: The 4-H Achievement Banquet is held in November each year. All 4-H member awards and trips are presented at this time.
- **4-H CAMP**: 4-H Camp consists of three fun-filled days in June. Any member in grades 3-6 may participate. Camp activities may include crafts, sports, swimming, boating, nature, and much more.
- **CLUB COOK-OFF**: The Club Cook-Off takes place during the Vanderburgh County Fair. Clubs choose a theme, plan a menu, and prepare their menu items to be judged.
- **SPEECH & DEMONSTRATION CONTEST**: This contest encourages youth to show others how to do something while gaining self-confidence, leadership, and public presentation skills. 4-H members are encouraged to give demonstrations at local club meetings to teach others. Winners can advance to the State Contest.
- **FASHION REVUE**: Do you like to strut your stuff? The Fashion Revue is an educational activity that places emphasis on constructing, accessorizing, and modeling a garment that compliments the participant. 4-H members enrolled in Sewing or Consumer Clothing may participate. Sewing Grade 8-12 winners advance to the State Contest.
- **CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS**: These are competitive events that allow youth to showcase their knowledge on a specific topic. Most contests offer individual and team entries. Area contests include Crops, Forestry, Entomology, Dairy judging, horse & Pony judging, Livestock judging, Livestock Skillathon, and Soil Judging. Participants can advance to the state level. Additional state only contests included Milk Quality and Products, Hippology, Horticulture, Wildlife Habitat, and Consumer Education.
- **MINI 4-H**: This exciting program is for youth in grades K-2. This non-formal program encourages the development of feelings of self-worth and specific life skills through positive relationships between adults and youth.
- **ROBOTICS CONTEST**: This contest is an opportunity for 4-H members to develop and refine their engineering and computer programming skills while learning about robotics.
- **PERFORMING ARTS**: Do you like to sing or dance? This contest provides an opportunity for youth to perform for an audience where the performer and the audience both have fun. It also helps youth identify talents that they may choose to develop, share 4-H with others in the community, and learn to work as team members for a coordinated activity. Winners advance to the Area Contest.
- **SHOOTING SPORTS CONTEST**: This contest is an opportunity for 4-H members to develop their skills in archery, firearms, and safety.
- **TRACTOR'S OPERATOR CONTEST**: This contest is an opportunity for 4-H members to develop and refine their agricultural tractor and lawn and garden tractor safety and operation skills. Winners advance to the Area Contest.
- **COUNTY GARDEN CONTEST**: Each club can nominate two gardens in the small garden or large garden category. All gardens will be judged and a champion and reserve champion garden will be selected in each division.

