A fellow 4-H Specialist from Northeast Missouri, Don Nicholson shared this with staff recently and I thought it was very valuable. Some clubs have a similar contract, but I think it is important to realize that in order to be successful each of us have responsibilities. They differ depending on our role in our organization. If you as a member, parent or volunteer is going to be successful you know what your responsibilities are and are able to meet the expectation. Take a chance to go over the below expectations, maybe even hang it up on your kitchen refrigerator.

**4-H is like a buffet:** You have to get up out of your chair, get a plate and a tray, and then go through the line if you're going to get anything good out of being there. (Can I get this on a t-shirt? Please!)

### Responsibilities of a 4-H member:

- Know the pledge and the motto. Be able to explain it.
- Come to the meetings. Come to the meetings ready to roll. Be an active member, not a passive one.
- Help other members—be supportive, encouraging, and helpful.
- Be aware of deadlines and rules and observe them.
- Stay in touch with your Club leaders and Project leaders—don’t wait for them to call.
- When a project leader holds a meeting, BE there.
- Actively look for opportunities to help out and to lead.
- Do at least one well-prepared speech or demonstration or presentation at the club level every year. And, since you have it done, take it to the County Achievement Day.
Urgent advice:

- Take part in at least one non-fair 4-H function outside of the club every year. As we are talking about non-fair activities, I encourage you to attend Achievement Day, on May 19th. Please go to your calendar and mark out the morning of May 18th, because you are going to be busy. There is a contest or event for you, including memorized speeches, judging contests and demonstrations. I hope to see you there! If you have any questions about preparing, registering or the event please give the office a call and we can help you through the process. Also, Achievement Day is the starting place for participation in Regional Achievement Day held in the middle of summer.

Happy Spring!

Mike Coffey
4-H Youth Development Specialist

Farmfluencer

Change the future of farming and you could win up to $5,000. Have you ever wondered who’s behind the food you eat? Or how it gets to your plate? Farming is in a constant state of change. It’s rapidly evolving, with innovation and technologies. And with a rising population, agriculture faces new challenges such as helping solve the problem of hunger and increasing farm productivity. But with new challenges come endless opportunities to reinvent the industry. Introducing Farmfluencer, a global video contest. By making a two-minute video about where the future of farming is going, you’ll get to share your point of view with the world, enter for a chance to win $5,000, and become an official global Farmfluencer. Want to know more about the contest, rules and guidelines, important dates, and our sponsors?

Submission deadline April 24.

For more information visit:

https://www.farmfluencer.com

County News

County Achievement Day
Mark your calendars—Saturday, May 25th will be County Achievement Day. 4-H members from Newton and McDonald County will come together and compete in Public Speaking, Judging, Demonstrations and Personal Development. Practice giving a speech or a demonstration at your club meeting and get practice before the big day. This is a good way to hone a skill you will use your whole life, and it definitely gets easier each time you participate. This event will be held at the Neosho H.S. with registration starting at 8:00 AM in the cafeteria. See YOU at Achievement Day on Saturday, May 25.

4-H Camp
Heads up on Southwest Regional 4-H Camp for all our potential campers. This year’s theme is “4-H Goes Global.”

Counselor’s Training June 8-9
Members Camp 1 June 9-12
Members Camp 2 June 12-15
Clover Kids Camp June 15-16
Teen Camp June 16-20

Camp is a warm spot on the horizon. It’s place to have fun, learn leadership, make friends and experience new things. Applications will be sent to you in April with a May 15 deadline to enroll. Hope to see everyone there!

Camp Counselors
If you have been to camp, and would like to serve as a camp counselor, you are invited to apply for this job. We need counselors 12 and over for Clover Kids Camp and 13 and over for Members Camps. You must pay for camp and attend either Teen Camp or Member’s Camp (depending on your age). The camp you work at as a counselor is no charge. Camp Counselors must show good judgement, the ability to work with a variety of different personalities, and be ready to work to assure that each camper has a safe and fun experience. If you would like to be a camp counselor this year, watch for an application. They will be available soon and will be sent to all teens in the SW region. The counselor applications are due to the camp director by May 1st.

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4-H Summer Camp
County Fairs
The Newton County Fair will be held July 10-13 2019. Fair-books will be available later this month.

McDonald County Fair will be July 19-20. McDonald County fair-books should be available in May.

Ozark Empire Fair will be July 25 to Aug 3. For more information visit: https://www.ozarkempirefair.com

Missouri State Fair will be Aug. 8-18. For more information visit: http://www.mostatefair.com

Other activities for youth, leaders and families include fish demonstrations and hands-on activities. Events usually end by 3 p.m.

State 4-H Congress
The 74th Annual State 4-H Congress will be held on May 29-31, 2019 at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri. Congress is designed for 4-H’ers ages 14-19. The Missouri State 4-H council plans and implements the event that is held on campus. Here are just a few of the things you do at State 4-H Congress:

♦ Learn the life skills of a super leader, connecting with experts in quality workshops.
♦ Experience campus living—residence halls, classrooms...
♦ Elect your representatives on the State 4-H Council,
♦ Get to know other 4-H youth from across the state.
♦ HAVE FUN!
Registration deadline is April 15 and is done through 4-Honline.

State Poultry Day
June 8 at the Animal Science Building, MU, Columbia, MO. Hone your skills and learn everything poultry. This is for project leaders and 4-H’ers age 14 and over. Register through your 4Honline profile after April 15. Deadline is June 1.

Public Speaking Academy
June 12-13, 2019 at CMU Campus, Fayette

Youth who participate at this exciting invitational event are guided through the basics and finer points of writing and delivering a speech, in a non-competitive setting. The Public Speaking Academy is open to all youth ages 11-13 years of age who are interested in learning more about public speaking. One does not have to be a 4-H member to attend, but academy spaces are limited to a maximum of 20 and will be filled on a "first come" basis. The academy takes place at the Central Methodist University campus, with caring adult chaperones there to help every step of the way. Registration is due May 1st and can be accessed at http://www.4h.missouri.edu/public-speaking-academy

R.A.T.T.
The Regional Action-Packed Trip for Teens will be held on April 13th. This years trip will be a one day trip to Kansas City, MO. A flyer and registration will soon be posted to the Extension website and our county 4-H Facebook page. Registration will be due April 1st.

Overview of the day’s events

Check in and orientation
Event Check-in will take place between 7:30 and 8 a.m. at the Conservation Area Shelter

All registered participants will receive a gift card from Bass Pro Shops and a goodie bag.

Orientation will begin at 8 a.m.

Activities
Fishing derby (8:30-11 a.m.) includes both a shore and a boat class

Casting contest

Skill-a-thon (skills and knowledge-based activities)
Topics included are from the 4-H Sportfishing curriculum and might include a variety of topics:

♦ Fish identification
♦ Knot tying
♦ Missouri fishing regulations
♦ Terminal rigging

♦ Tackle identification
♦ Matching tackle to fish
♦ Basic fish biology (Habitat preferences, Identify fish parts, etc.)
♦ Aquatic ecology
♦ Fishing safety
♦ Sportsman ethics
♦ Fish species conversion chart
Clover Kids Corner

Easter Sock Bunny

Materials:
- a small sock
- felt
- large pom pom
- moveable eyes
- ribbon
- clear rubber bands
- rice

Instructions

1. Fill your sock with about a cup of rice, depending on the size of your sock. Tie clear rubber bands twice to create a head, one on the neck and one on top of the head.

2. Cut a contrasting piece of felt to create a “belly” for the bunny, glue onto sock using tacky glue or hot glue.

3. Glue eyes, teeth (a tiny square piece of felt cut down the middle that resemble teeth), pom pom on the back, and a nose (small rounded triangle piece of felt). Tie a bow around the sock bunny.

4. Cut the top of the sock in half to create ears on the sock bunny. Snip off the corners to make the ears slightly rounded.

For pictures and instructions go to: https://apumpkinandaprincess.com/sock-bunny-easter-crafts-for-kids/