

4-H Is a Family Program

All 4-H members need the support and encouragement of their family. Parents and other family members can contribute in many important ways to the 4-H program.

Here are some ways to help your children get the most out of their 4-H work:

- Learn what 4-H is all about—its purposes and the work required of members.
- Help your children select projects they will like, will have the ability to do and ones for which you can furnish the needed material.
- Give encouragement and guidance in their project work by showing enthusiasm and interest. Help them understand what to do, but give them the responsibility for the actual work.
- See that when a project is started, it is also completed.
- Inspire and encourage them to keep 4-H records.
- See that they have a way to 4-H meetings and attend regularly (51% attendance is required to be a "member in good standing").
- Help them participate in special events, such as achievement days, 4-H camps and trips.
- Promote an attitude of good sportsmanship by maintaining a fair attitude yourself.
- Attend club functions and offer your support to the 4-H leaders.
- Volunteer your services as a leader or advisor to special committees. You have knowledge and skills that are needed in 4-H.
- Provide your home as a meeting place if it is needed.
- Show appreciation to local 4-H leaders. Remember they give their time and talents to your children and provide opportunities youth would not otherwise have.
- Make 4-H club work FAMILY work—but let the boys and girls do their own work and carry their own jobs to completion. You be their guide only.

Remember that the real objective of 4-H is to develop your sons and daughters into finer citizens. The way they do their work—projects, meetings, their conduct at competitive events, and so on will help to set work and character standards for the remainder of their lives.