

Welcome to 4-H!

A guide for new 4-H club members



What is 4-H?

4-H is boys and girls getting together to learn new things, meet new friends, and have fun!

What is a 4-H project?

A topic that a member chooses to work on in a 4-H club. Different clubs offer different kinds of projects, such as rocketry, food and nutrition, gardening, and dog obedience. A 4-H project is something a member learns to do with the help of advisors and parents.

Some facts about 4-H

4-H Emblem:

A green four-leaf clover, with a white 'H' on each leaflet

4-H Colors: Green and White

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.

4-H Motto: To Make the Best Better

4-H Slogan: Learn by Doing

4-H is worldwide with over 10 million members!

Adapted from the Ohio State 4-H Program

My 4-H Club Name:

Club Meeting Time & Place:

Club Leaders:

Name: _

Phone: _

Name: _

Phone: _



Learn more about the Missouri 4-H Program

<http://4h.missouri.edu>



A 4-H Club Member's Responsibilities



- 1. Attend all of your club meetings.** You can't be an active member if you're not around. Be on time and plan to stay until the meeting ends. If you have to miss a meeting for an important reason, let your advisor or an officer know in advance. Find out from the advisor or an officer what you missed and stay informed.
Don't be afraid to ASK QUESTIONS!
- 2. Remember** that in 4-H, meetings are to:
 - Get things done
 - Bring up new ideas
 - Build leadership skills of all members
 - Be a change of pace from everyday activities
 - Get to know other members
 - Learn and have fun
- 3. Follow an agenda** during each meeting and don't get off the subject.
- 4. Go to meetings with your ideas**, and share them with others.
- 5. Raise your hand** and be called on before speaking. Only one person should talk at a time.
- 6. Listen** to what others have to say. Even if you don't agree with their opinions, it lets you hear other points of view. No matter what, you should respect their freedom of speech.
- 7. Be a friend.** Get to know other members. Help out when needed. Not all members are the same, but no one is more important than another. Be a friend, and you'll have a friend!
- 8. Tell your parents about important dates** in advance so they can get you to the meeting or event.
- 9. Know how to run a good meeting.** "Parliamentary procedure" is used to make sure that..
 - One thing at a time is discussed
 - Courtesy is given to everyone
 - Rules of the majority are followed
 - Rights of the minority are protected

The "official" way to suggest something in a meeting is to "make a motion." This is done by being called on (recognized) by the president and then saying, "I move that the club does..." Another club member seconds your motion. Then there is discussion, and the club votes on the motion. That's really all there is to it. It just takes practice.
- 10. Read your county 4-H newsletter, and visit your county website** (<http://extension.missouri.edu/countyname>) It is written for you. There is news about upcoming 4-H events for you and your club. Keep your newsletter and other materials in a safe place. This will help you be a better member.

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