Shelby County 4-H New Families Guide

2026-2027 Shelby County 4-H Clubs

- Heartland 4-H Club
  - Meets the 4th Sunday at 2:00 pm
  - Heartland Christian Academy Gym
  - Leaders- Robert Hambelton and Daniel Ballard
- Lentner Pioneers 4-H Club
  - Meets the 1st Sunday at 3:00 pm
  - Clarence Faith Family in Christ Church
  - Leader- Maggie Watson
- Leonard Caring Clovers 4-H Club
  - Meets the 1st Sunday at 3:00 pm
  - Leonard Community Building
  - Leader- Jenny Bradley
- Lucky Charms 4-H Club
  - Meets the 3rd Sunday
  - Shelby County Extension Office
  - Leaders- Shannon Otto and Rachael Bichsel
- Prairie 4-H Club
  - Meets the 1st Wednesday at 7:00 pm
  - Prairie 4-H Club house or Shelbina Library Basement
  - Leaders- Holly Totten and Laura Latchford



What is 4-H?

- The largest youth-serving organization in the world
- A positive youth development program offered by the University of Missouri
- Membership (ages as of 12/31/2026)
  - Clover Kids- ages 5-7
  - 4-H Members- ages 8-18
- The 4-H Year runs October 1st to September 30th
- State Dues are $25



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Shelby County Extension Office

106 E. 3rd Street
PO Box 230
Shelbyville, MO 63469
573-633-2640

Open Monday- Friday
8:00 am-12:00 pm and 1-4 pm

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Equal opportunity/ ADA Institution

4-H Club Meetings

- Most clubs meet once a month.
- Club meetings are comprised of business, education, and recreation.
- Most clubs do some fundraising and participate in community service projects.

4-H Club Officers

- President
  - runs the meetings, keeps order, and informs the club of upcoming events
- Vice President
  - runs the meeting in the absence of the President, introduces guest speakers, and keeps the flags and banners for the club
- Secretary
  - keeps a record of member attendance and keeps the minutes in the Secretary's book
- Treasurer
  - keeps financial records for the club and reports at each meeting
- Reporter
  - submits monthly club meeting reports to the Extension Office and articles to the local papers about 4-H events
- Song and Game Leader
  - leads a song or recreation at each meeting

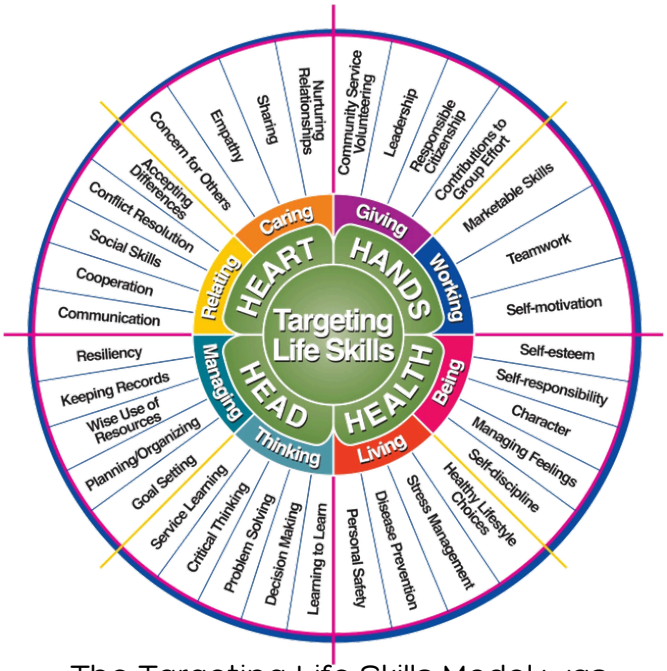
4-H Projects

- 4-H projects are where youth get to select something that interests them.
- First year members are recommended to select no more than three projects. After their first year, members may select up to fifteen projects.
- The goal is to complete 6 hours of learning in each project, which should occur with or under the direction of a 4-H Volunteer.
- All projects available can be found in the 4-H Clover Catalog either in print or online.



4-H: Targeting Life Skills

4-H's slogan is "Learning by Doing". We are focused on experiential learning or learning through our experiences. The Targeting Life Skills Wheel shows you how we take the four areas of the 4-H Pledge (Head, Heart, Hands, and Health) and focus on the development of life skills.



The Targeting Life Skills Model was developed by Patricia Hendricks of the Iowa 4-H Program.

Did you know?

THE 4-H NAME & EMBLEM IS A FEDERAL MARK.

It is protected by Public Law 18 U.S.C. 707. That is why the 4-H Clover has those numbers and letters attached. The word "4-H" is protected under the same law as the Clover.

It is important that we protect our name and image.

You can help!

4-H

- Always capitalize the H
- Make sure you include the hyphen: 4-H
- Use the Clover correctly.
- Pass the word! When you see the Clover or 4-H used incorrectly, speak up. Let the user know about 4-H's federal mark.

4-H Project Selection

Remember as you select projects:

- Time-Consider the time you have to devote to your projects.
- Space- You can't have a horse in your bedroom!
- Money- We all have limited amounts of money to devote to our projects and the supplies they may require.
- Available 4-H Project Leaders
  - Talk with the leader of your club or potential club



2026-2027 Missouri 4-H Project List

Expressive Arts

- Arts and Crafts
  - Drawing, Fiber Arts & Sculpture
  - Painting and Printing
  - Graphic Design
  - Scrapbooking
- Cake Decorating
- Clothing
  - Sewing
  - Shopping in Style
- Clowning
- Crochet
- Filmmaking
- Interior Design
- Knitting
- Photography
- Quilting
- Theater Arts

Plant & Animal Science

- Agronomy
- Beef/Bucket Calf
- Cats
- Dairy/Judging Dairy Cattle
- Dogs
- Goats:
  - Dairy
  - Meat
- Horses
- Horticulture:
  - Floriculture
  - Gardening
  - Landscape Design
- Livestock Judging
- Meats:
  - Bacon
  - Hams
  - Meat Evaluation
- Pets
  - Guinea Pigs
- Poultry
- Rabbits
- Sheep
- Swine
- Veterinary Science

Environmental Science & Natural Resources

- Amphibians and Reptiles
- Entomology
  - Beekeeping
  - Butterfly Wings
- Exploring Your Environment
- Forestry
- Geology
- Outdoor Adventures
- Soil & Water Science
- Sportfishing
- Weather & Climate Science
- Wildlife

Leadership & Personal Development

- Career Pathways
- Youth Futures
- Civic Engagement
- Communications
- Consumer Savvy
- Entreprenuership
- Financial Literacy
- Global Education
- Leadership
- Public speaking

Shooting Sports

- Archery
- Air Rifle
- Smallbore Rifle
- Air Pistol
- Shotgun
- Smallbore Pistol
- Hunting & Outdoor Skills
- Shooting Sports Safety
- Muzzleloading
- Western Heritage & Cowboy Shooting

General

- 4-H Clover Kids
- Exploring 4-H
- Self-Determined

Healthy Living

- Breads
- Foods
- Food Science
- Food Systems
- International Foods
- Food Preservation:
  - Freezing
  - Drying
  - Boiling Water Canning
  - Pressure Canning
- Health/Fitness
  - Bicycle
  - Bowling
  - Golf
  - First Aid
  - Sports Nutrition
  - Staying Healthy
  - Square Dancing
  - Soccer for Success
- Mental Health
  - Healthy Feelings
  - Healthy Thoughts

Engineering & Technology

- Aerospace
- Agricultural Tractor
- Computers & Programming:
  - Scratch
  - Alice
  - Other
- Electricity
- Energy
- Geospatial
- Robotics:
  - Junk Drawer
  - EV3N
  - Other
- Small Engines
- Welding
- Woodworking

PICK YOUR PROJECT

Project Resources

- Project Briefs
  - Most of our projects have a project brief that will give you more of an idea of what a project is about.
  - Project Briefs are available on the state 4-H website.
  - Project Briefs contain:
    - Learning objectives
    - Fair project ideas
    - Demonstration ideas
    - Field Trip ideas
    - Speech topics
    - Critical thinking
    - Community service ideas
    - Connections to Science and Technology
    - Connections to Show-Me Character
- Project literature is available through the 4-H Mall and linked on the state website.
- 4-H Project Record
- We encourage our members to keep a project record on each of their projects. This will help to set goals, which can help shape what they will do within their projects and capture experiences.


Missouri 4-H
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4-H Center for Youth Development

Clover Kids Project Brief

Learning Objectives
- Explore many different interests
- Build self-confidence
- Practice communication skills
- Practice getting along and sharing with others
- Learn how to be a part of a group
- Learn basic living skills

Short Term Projects
- Dream Catchers
- Clay pots (decorate and plant seeds in them)
- Garden stones
- Stationary (decorate plain stationary and write thank you notes to people)
- Spaceship (build one out of refrigerator boxes and decorate)
- Sewing (learn how to make hand stitches)

Ideas for Group Activities
- Bowling
- Cloud Watching
- Music - singing and dancing
- Physical activity
- Cooking (i.e., bread, ice cream, snacks, etc.)
- Science experiments (i.e., taste test different varieties of apples, etc.)

Field Trips
- Take a trip to a local farm
- Hold a meeting at a local park
- Visit a local conservation area
- Take a trip to a pool
- Visit a local airport
- Visit a music store

Presentation Ideas
- Stand up and say your name
- Recite the Clover Kid Pledge
- Say the Pledge of Allegiance at a regular meeting
- Give the Clover Kid report at the regular 4-H meeting
- Brown bag demonstrations (i.e., assemble lunch sacks that contain items for a table setting, ingredients and supplies for a PB&J sandwich, etc. Ask Clover kids to demonstrate the task they've been given and tell others about it.)

Critical Thinking
- Did you enjoy working on your project? Explain.
- What were the best parts?
- What was hard?
- Who helped you?
- What did you do to be successful?
- What would you do differently, if anything, if you did this project again?

Community Service
- Collect food for a family in need
- Donate gifts to Toys for Tots program
- Visit a local nursing home
- Volunteer at a food pantry
- Pick up trash at a park or playground
- Participate in club service activities

Science & Technology
How have you used science and technology in this project area?
Examples:
- Practice measuring in cooking activities
- Make comparisons in taste testing activities
- Use a computer to play age appropriate software games

Missouri 4-H Rev 7/10


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4-H Project Record

Please complete both sides of this form for **each** project at the completion of the project year. Use with all projects **including** animal projects.

A story is to be submitted with the 4-H Project Record. (A one-page story, accompanied by two pages of pictures, may help in describing your project.) If forms Y2000, Y2100 or Y2200 are submitted, a story is not necessary.

Project	County	Year
Name	4-H age (as of Jan. 1)	Birth date
Address	City	State / Zip
Name of 4-H club	Years in project	Years in 4-H

Goal Setting

Project goals (What would I like to learn this year?)	Date accomplished/Comments
1.	
2.	
3.	
Overall 4-H goals (What would I like to learn this year?)	**Date accomplished/Comments**
1.	
2.	
3.	

Learning and Leadership Experiences

List your learning and leadership experiences in the project area and tell what you have learned. Designate level of participation with the appropriate letter: Local or club (L), County (C), Regional (R), State (S).

Experience	What was learned	Level

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Demonstrations



- Most clubs require members to present a demonstration through the year in order to be a member in good standing.
- Demonstrations should last from 5-10 minutes, with a few minutes for questions from the audience.
- Chose a topic you enjoy! Demonstrations tied to your projects are great!
- Remember- a demonstration is just like show and tell.
  - Tell us what you are going to do
  - Show us and explain the steps
  - Tell us what you told us (basic review)
- Check out the state website for LG744 and Y745 to help you.

Community Service

All Clubs participate in community service projects throughout the year. In Shelby County, Clubs help with trash pickup, along with other community events and causes. These are great ways to give back to our community, our country, and our world.



4-H Events in Shelby County

- Shelby County Youth Fair
  - Usually the first week of July
  - Open to all 4-H Members, Clover Kids, and FFA Members
  - 4-H Members must have attended six 4-H club meetings between October and June
  - Meet your club's requirements
  - Members can participate in Fair Shoots, Building Exhibits, and Livestock Shows

4-H Events Beyond the County Line

- 4-H Camp
  - Usually held in June or July
  - Each year camp counselors set the theme for camp and decide on the activities

- 4-H Regional Energizer/ Round Up
  - A regional events for Clover Kids, Members, and Volunteers
  - Usually held in November and March
  - A great opportunity to meet other 4-H members from our 19 county region and learn more about 4-H

- State Meats Judging
  - An opportunity to compete in meats grading and identification.
  - Usually held in February

- The Mane Event
  - Usually held in late February and early March
  - Members compete in Horse Judging and Horse Bowl

- State 4-H Teen Conference
  - A fun-filled, two day event for 4-Hers ages 11-13 planned by 4-H State Ambassadors
  - Usually held in late May/early June on the University of Missouri- Columbia campus

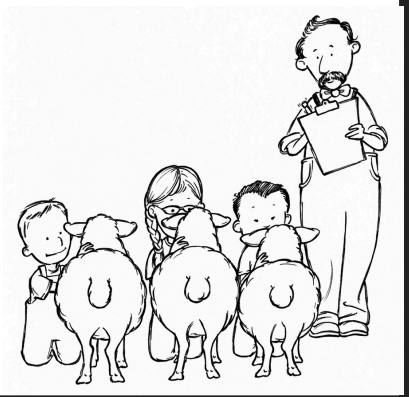
- State 4-H Congress
  - A three day event for 4-H members ages 14-18 planned by State 4-H Council members, and held at in late May/early June on the University of Missouri- Columbia campus

- State Fashion Revue
  - An opportunity to model attire you have made or bought
  - Qualified during Fashion Revue at the County Fair
  - Usually held in September/October

- State Livestock Judging
  - An opportunity to judge classes of beef, sheep, swine, and goats and present oral reasons for your placings
  - Held in June in Columbia

- State Public Speaking
  - Held in September/October in Columbia

- State Shoot
  - A great opportunity for members enrolled in a shooting sports discipline
  - Held mid-August through mid-September at various locations



4-H Pledge

The 4-H Pledge is recited at all 4-H Club meetings and major events. The pledge reflects the values of the 4-H program.

4-H Pledge

Learn the 4-H pledge with Truman!

Stand up and say I pledge



Touch your head with your right hand and say

my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,

Put your hand over your heart and say

my **HEART** to greater loyalty,





Slightly bend your arms with your palms up and say

my **HANDS** to larger service, and



Put your arms down to your sides and say

my **HEALTH** to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

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4-H Volunteers

4-H Volunteers are the heart of the 4-H program. They work directly with youth as club leaders and project leaders. 4-H is a family affair and parents are asked to consider serving as a 4-H Volunteer. Volunteers must enroll annually, complete an orientation, and background screening.



Records and Recognitions

At the end of the 4-H year, members have the opportunity to be recognized for their accomplishments. Using the state recognition forms gives members the opportunity to share with others their achievements in leadership, learning (especially through your 4-H projects), citizenship, and community service. In August/September, a Recognition-Prep Night will be offered to guide you through completing the forms that will be due to the Extension Office in September.

- State Level 1 Recognition Form- ages 8-10
- State Level 2 Recognition Form- ages 11-13
- State Level 3 Recognition Form- ages 14-18

Recognition Ready from the Start

How can you prepare to complete these forms at the end of the year?

- Have a 4-H notebook. After every 4-H event, write down what you did and what you learned.
- Take photos! Pictures of project work, community service projects, club activities are great to use in your recognition form.





4-H Newsletter

You may be asking yourself, how do I know all about these events and committee meetings and keep up with current information about 4-H? The answer is simple-- the 4-H NEWSLETTER! At the beginning of each month, a copy of the Marion County 4-H Newsletter will be emailed to you. Please take the time to read the newsletter as a family. The information in this guide is just hitting the highlights of what you need to know to be successful in your first few years in 4-H, but the monthly newsletter provides all the latest details and opportunities.

4-H Resources

Here are some handy links for resources that may be of help to you throughout the year!

- Missouri 4-H
- 4-H Mall
- Shelby County Extension
- Shelby County 4-H on Facebook
- 4-H Online Enrollment System

