

4-H

FAMILY GUIDE



Your Guide To
4-H In
Clark County

What is 4-H?

4-H is an extracurricular, volunteer led, family-oriented program.

4-H is activities for boys and girls in grades 3 through 12.

4-H is for urban as well as rural youth.

4-H helps young people develop life skills. A life skill is an ability that one can use in everyday life. The basic life skills are:

1. Building self-confidence.
2. Developing an inquiring mind and making decisions.
3. Setting and meeting goals.
4. Relating to other people.
5. Developing a concern for the community.
6. Developing leadership skills.

MOTTO

"To make the best better."

EMBLEM

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf. The Hs stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.



COLORS

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature's most common color and represents life, springtime, and youth. White symbolizes purity.

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.

MEMBERSHIP

More than 7 million boys and girls are 4-H members throughout the United States. In Indiana, there are over 285,000 boys and girls who are 4-H members. Clark County currently has a 4-H enrollment of about 580(minis and regular members)

4-H YEAR

A new 4-H year starts January 1 of each year and ends December 31 of that same year.

AGE FOR MEMBERSHIP

4-H membership is open to all boys and girls in Clark County who will be in grades 3 through 12. Youth may participate a maximum of ten years in traditional 4-H.

All young persons in kindergarten, first and second grades may participate in the Mini 4-H program.

4-H PARENT (HOME HELPER)

Purpose: Provide support to your child in 4-H.

Responsibilities:

1. Help your child enroll in the 4-H Club and meet the 4-H requirements.
2. Help your child select one or more suitable 4-H Projects to complete.
3. Make sure your child attends the 4-H Club meetings. Post and help your child use the club calendar. Provide or arrange for transportation.
4. Help your child to complete any 4-H responsibilities he or she may have volunteered for, been elected to, or selected for.
5. Attend at least three Club meetings (the first and two others).
6. Help with at least one 4-H club activity during the 4-H year. Volunteer, don't wait to be asked.
7. Support your child's 4-H project work.
 - A. Make sure your child attends any project workshops. Provide or arrange for transportation.
 - B. Help your child gather any materials needed.
 - C. Help your child complete one or more articles for exhibit and make sure he/she can exhibit them at the County 4-H Fair. Provide transportation and encouragement.
 - D. Help your child complete, and turn in on time, 4-H project records.
8. See back side of this sheet for other ways that you can help as a 4-H Parent.

Assistance Available:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. 4-H Club Organizational Leader | |
| 2. 4-H Project Leader | |
| 3. Experienced 4-H Parents | |
| 4. 4-H Project Manuals | |
| 5. 4-H Project Records | |
| | 6. Purdue University Cooperative
Extension Service Office - Clark County
812-256-4591 or www.clarkcounty4h.com
Or email Bob Allen rallen1@purdue.edu |

Time Commitment:

One 4-H year includes about 1.5 hours per month for club meetings and time each week for 4-H project work. A total of 15-30 hours per year is expected.

Benefits:

Help your child learn and grow, share experiences with your child, improve relationships with your child, make a contribution to youth in your community, and develop a sense of accomplishment.

Qualifications:

- Interest in child's activities.
- Commitment of time and energy to 4-H members.
- Ability to assist, but still allow the member to do his/her own work.

OTHER WAYS THAT 4-H PARENTS CAN HELP:

1. Learn about 4-H: what it stands for, how it operates, how it is funded.
2. Advise your child in selecting 4-H projects.
3. Show your interest and enthusiasm for the projects selected. Find out what is suggested for the members to do and learn.
4. See that when a project is started, it is also completed.
5. Encourage your 4-Her when he/she succeeds and provide even more encouragement when he/she fails.
6. Be an example! Help your 4-Her to be a good sport, and appreciate the successes of others.
7. Keep informed about 4-H through information that comes to members of your family. Be a 4-H booster in your community.
8. Make 4-H Club work FAMILY work, but, let the boys and girls do their work and carry their own jobs to completion. Be their guide only.
9. Provide transportation to local meetings and county events in which your child and others of the club are interested. Or, provide refreshments for meetings or special functions. Don't wait to be asked; just volunteer this help!
10. Attend 4-H meetings and other special events.
11. Help your 4-Her find a way to participate in special events that interest him/her such as county contests, camps, Fairs, displays, or shows.
12. Support your local 4-H leaders. Get acquainted with them. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.
13. Offer your services to assist the local leaders. You have knowledge and skills that are needed in 4-H.
14. If the need arises, help find local leaders for your 4-H Club. Several kinds of leaders are needed: organization, project, and activity leaders. Consider helping in one of these ways yourself. Volunteer applications are available in the Extension Office.
15. Remember that the real object of 4-H is to develop your sons and daughters into finer citizens. The way they work on projects, participate in meetings, and conduct themselves at competitive events, etc., will help set work and character standards for the rest of their lives.

WHO'S WHO IN 4-H

4-H member	Any child currently in grade 3 through grade 12 who fills out an enrollment form and meets the club requirements. Membership is open to all youth throughout the county regardless to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or disability.
Club Leader	An adult volunteer who is responsible for the organizational aspects of the club.
Project Superintendent	A volunteer who answers questions a 4-Her may have about a project. This person is often a 4-H parent with special expertise in a particular subject area. The Project Superintendent names and telephone numbers are found in the 4-H Handbook under each project area.
Junior Leader	A 4-H member who is grade 7 through 12. The Junior Leader year runs from September through August. The group has monthly meetings, performs community service projects, and sponsors various events.
Parents	Important to the success of the child in 4-H. Parents are Strongly ENCOURAGED to attend club meetings as well as county-wide events with their child. Opportunities always exist for parents to serve on various committees that support the 4-H effort and/or to form new 4-H groups/club in their immediate area.

COUNTY LEVEL

All 4-H volunteers go through a stringent screening process which includes a background check before being allowed to work with 4-H members.

4-H Corporation	This is the short name for the Clark County 4-H Club Corporation. The 4-H Corp meets monthly and is the policy-making organization for Clark County 4-H. There are thirteen volunteers on this board. There is representation servicing the twelve townships, directors are elected to three-year terms by the 4-H families at the annual meeting on Thursday evening of the summer 4-H Fair in July. In addition, there are representatives from 4-H Club Adult Leaders Organization, and 4-H Junior Leaders.
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Purdue Extension Educators are who help to carry out the 4-H program and serve as a source of research-based information. Our county has 3 educators - a Consumer & Family Science, 4-H Youth Development Educator, and an Agriculture & Natural Resources Educator. Clark County CES also has a 4-H School Enrichment/ program assistant. This team of professionals work with the county's 4-H program. The Extension Office is located at the Clark County 4-H Fairgrounds near Charlestown on Hwy. 62. The telephone number is 256-4591. Office hours are 8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. The office is closed on county holidays.

Website: www.extension.purdue.edu/clark/

STATE LEVEL

Purdue University	Purdue is a land grant college that has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H program is part of that directive in the Youth Development & Agricultural Education Department.
State 4-H Program Leader	The State 4-H Program Leader has the responsibility for 4-H programming at the State Level. The 4-H Program Leader is based at Purdue University, Department of Youth Development and Agricultural Education.
State Specialist	State Specialists have responsibility for the 4-H program on a statewide basis. Each one has a specific part of the total 4-H program. They are based at Purdue University and are under the direction of the State 4-H Program Leader, Renee McKee.
Indiana 4-H Foundation	This non-profit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H program. They sponsor scholarships, funding for county and state programs, finance the State 4-H Leaders recognition, trips for outstanding youth to National 4-H Congress, as well as underwrite the cost of many 4-H trips offered on the state level. Forms for donation are available at the County Extension Office. They also sponsor the 4-H license plate program. Contact the Extension Office for information about license plates for your vehicles.

4-H CLUBS

There are twenty nine (29) 4-H Clubs in Clark County. Each club has at least one leader. The names of the clubs and their leaders and locals are available by calling or emailing the

Extension Office -256-4591. Teens may also enroll in the Clark County 4-H Junior Leaders Organization that meets in the Food Center, the second Monday of every month at 6:30pm.

4-H clubs meet once or more each month, from January, February until the Fair in July.

4-Hers may belong to any 4-H Club in the county. Residence does not restrict club membership. However, most 4-Hers belong to the club closest to where they live or attend school. There is no 4-H Membership fee; however, many clubs have yearly dues of no more than \$5 per member. Dues vary by club.

4-Hers may change membership to another club if they wish. It is important to notify the Extension Office (256-4591) and the leaders of both clubs (the one you are leaving and the one you are joining).

Each club elects officers from the club membership. The officers conduct the business portion of the club meeting.

The Clover Patch

This monthly newsletter is sent to every 4-H home in Clark County. It is called **the Clover Patch**. **Please** read your **Clover Patch** to find out about club meetings, project workshops, and other timely 4-H news! One copy is mailed bimonthly to each 4-H family that we have enrollment forms on file in the Extension Office.

4-H PROJECTS

4-H projects are learning experiences for the 4-H members. 4-H members must sign up for at least one project each year and complete the records for that project. A member is encouraged to exhibit at the Fair as part of their project completion.

Some projects are divided by grade, while others are divided by the number of years of participation in that project. Grade is determined by the grade the member was in at the time of enrollment, or the school year preceding the Fair.

4-H members are strongly encouraged to enroll by the April 15th County deadline and may add or drop projects until May 15th at 4:00 p.m. To add or drop a project, call the Extension Office at 256-4591. Livestock and other companion animals projects will have different required enrollment dates. Example- Beef Steers (February).

4-H EXHIBIT HANDBOOK

Each 4-H family will receive a 4-H Handbook/CD from their Club Leader. The Handbook has the information members need to know about what their Fair exhibit should include. Handbook Supplements are also used to communicate project updates in the years the 4-H Handbook is not revised and reprinted.

Members may also ask the project superintendent about the project and the completion and Fair exhibit requirements for that project.

4-H PROJECT MANUALS AND RECORD SHEETS

Most 4-H projects have manuals that give in-depth information for that project. There is a record sheet for each project. Project manuals and record sheets are handed out by the 4-H Club Leaders. Completed record sheets are required and are used to verify completion in a project. These are turned in at the time of fair exhibit entry.

4-H PROJECT SELECTION

In choosing a project, a member will consult with his or her parents and 4-H leader(s). After considering all the projects available and the requirements of each, he or she should select one based on:

1. Interest, needs, and capabilities
2. Family situation
3. Suitability of the area in which he or she lives

Members enrolling for the first time will take a minimum of one project. As a member gains knowledge and experience, the scope of the project may be increased and additional projects selected. A brief explanation of each project is included in this 4-H Family Guide. Members may also ask the project superintendent about the project and the requirements for that project.

Early in the 4-H career, a member needs to consider developing a tentative project plan to guide him or her until he/she is past 4-H age. Some projects should be continued each year, with increases in the size of the project when possible. Members should also try to enroll in additional projects which are related to his or her other project work. For example, an electric project member may want to enroll in home improvement, woodworking, safety, or automotive projects. If possible, an older member should consider expanding project work to develop a complete farm, ranch, business, or home management program.

The project work is the core of the 4-H member's experience. Successful project completion results in member satisfaction and expansion of future project work. The learning experiences one obtains through his or her project could even lead to career/vocation possibilities.

FAIR JUDGING

Projects exhibited at the 4-H Fair will be judged. Non-livestock exhibits will be checked in and judged on the opening Saturday of the Fair between 9:00 and 11:00 am. Check-in and judging stations are placed throughout the Exhibit Building and 4-H Community Building. Door signage will determine which building your child enters an exhibit. The judging method we use is "community judging". We have early exhibit entry Friday evening 6-8pm if members are not able to attend on the following morning and prefer not to talk to the judge during their critique of the exhibits. Fair Livestock are entered on Sunday.

Community judging means that your Fair exhibits will be judged in your presence, as you check in. Here are some questions that you may be asked in a community judging setting.

- ✓ What new things did you learn?
- ✓ Have you taken this project before?
- ✓ How much time did you spend on this project?
- ✓ What were your goals for this project?
- ✓ What would you like to change about your exhibit?
- ✓ Tell me something about this exhibit that you want me to know.
- ✓ What did you like best (or least) about this project?
- ✓ Did you do this exhibit at school or was it in a workshop setting?
- ✓ Did you have any difficulty with this exhibit or do you have any questions that I may be able to answer?

COMPLETING THE FAIR ENTRY TAG

How to complete the Fair entry tag
The Fair entry tag is to be securely attached to the exhibit in a visible place.
The Fair entry tag is to be placed in the lower right hand corner of poster exhibits.

RIBBONS

ENTRY TAG	
PROJECT NAME	Electricity
DIVISION/LEVEL	Division 1
ENTRY	Parallel Circuit Board
AGE/GRADE	9 years/3 rd Grade
NAME	Chris Clover
CLUB	Classy Clovers

4-H uses the Danish system of ribbon awards. In this system, the ribbon placings are defined as follows:

PurpleOutstanding work
BlueAbove the average of the group
RedAverage
WhiteBelow the average of the group

AWARDS & TRIPS

Fair Awards are given to 4-H members at the Annual Achievement Program held in September.

Some 4-H members are eligible to apply for trips taken during the summer. Most of the trips take place between June and July. The trip and award application is mailed to all 4-H members in the March/April issue of **Clover Patch**. Eligibility information is included in the Trip Application. Science Trips and 4-H Roundup at Purdue University are popular.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Each club will have special activities for their club members throughout the year. In addition, there are county-wide events in which a 4-Her may participate.

Project Workshops- A variety of workshops in different project areas are offered each year. Be sure to read your bi-monthly Clover Patch newsletter to learn what workshops are being offered.

4H Club Officer's Training- This is held for current officers of 4-H Clubs to give them ideas and helpful hints about their jobs and responsibilities. It is held in late March or April.

Achievement Program- The 4-H Achievement Program is held on evening in September and is a time to recognize the accomplishments of 4-H members and volunteers.

Share-the-Fun- This annual talent show is an event of fun and learning for 4-H Clubs as well as individual 4-H members generally held in mid to late April her at the Fairgrounds. Winners are invited to share their expertise at the Area Competition held in May.

4-H Camp

This three day, two night camp takes place each summer and is open to 4-H members in grades 3-8. The 4-H members participate in many outdoor activities as they learn by doing. We camp at Country Lake Christian Retreat Center with 4-Hers from seven other Area 2 counties. 4-Hers in grades 9-12 may apply to be Counselors and attend four trainings during winter and spring, preparing them to assist youth educators with program implementation at the camp.

SUMMARY OF COUNTY PROJECTS

The following is a listing of the projects which you may take if you enroll in a 4-H club in Clark County. For additional information contact one of the 4-H Club leaders or the Clark County Extension Office.

Please note that the descriptions listed below are general descriptions of the beginning divisions and are not intended to serve as an overall description of the entire project.

AQUATIC SCIENCE - Learn to care for and raise tropical fish. Bring your fish to the Fair!

ARTS & CRAFTS - Make and exhibit a craft item in one of these areas: Fine Arts, Needle Craft, Other Craft, or Model Craft.

AUTOMOTIVE - Learn how to safely operate a motor vehicle. You will exhibit a poster and notebook.

AVIATION - Learn about airplanes and how they fly. Your exhibit will be a poster.

BEEKEEPING - Explore more about bees and beekeeping. Your exhibit will be a poster.

BEEF - Learn how to care for your beef animal and to keep records. Bring your calf to the Fair!

BICYCLE - Learn how to safely ride your bike. Participate in the Bicycle Rodeo! You will exhibit a poster at the Fair.

CAKE DECORATING - Learn how to decorate cakes. You will exhibit a decorated cake at the Fair!

CAT - Learn how to care for your cat. You will show your cat at the Cat Show.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT - Learn how to care for children. You will exhibit a toy or game you made and a notebook.

CLOTHING CONSUMER EDUCATION - Learn to make good decisions when you buy clothes. You will exhibit your purchase(s) and notebook, and participate in the 4-H Fashion Revue.

COMPACT TRACTOR - (Lawn & Garden) Learn to operate and care for compact tractors. You will participate in the Tractor Operator Contest. You will exhibit a poster.

COMPUTER SCIENCE - Learn about computer operation and programming. Your exhibit will be a poster.

CONSUMER EDUCATION - Learn about the wholesale and retail cuts of pork, beef and/or lamb. Your exhibit will help you learn more about the livestock industry.

CROPS - Raise one or more of the following: Alfalfa, Corn, Soybeans, and Wheat. Exhibit your green crop(s) at the 4-H Fair.

DAIRY - Learn how to care for your dairy animal and to keep records. Bring your animal(s) to the Fair!

DOG - Feed, train and care for your dog. Show your dog at the Dog Show.

ELECTRICITY - Find out what electricity is and how to use it safely. You will exhibit something you have made.

ENTOMOLOGY - Collect different bugs, learn their names, and exhibit them at the Fair.

FARM MAPPING - Learn to draw a detailed sketch of a farm including soil types and drainage problems.

FLOWERS - Learn all about growing indoor and outdoor flowers. Exhibit what you have grown at the Fair.

FOOD PRESERVATION - Learn the most up-to-date methods of preserving food. Exhibit what you have preserved.

FOODS - Find out about nutrition and how to make things your family will love to sample! Exhibit what you have baked.

FORESTRY - Learn all about trees, wood and its uses, and much more. Exhibit a poster.

GARDEN - Grow and exhibit vegetables from your garden.

GENEALOGY - Trace your family history and learn more about your ancestors. Your exhibit is a notebook.

GEOLOGY-Learn more about different rocks and minerals. Prepare a collection for the Fair!

GIFT WRAPPING - Find out how to wrap gifts in new and different ways! Exhibit a package you have wrapped.

GOAT - Learn how to care for your goat and to keep records. Bring your goat(s) to the Fair.

HEALTH - Explore health practices and careers and make a poster for the Fair showing what you have learned.

HOME ENVIRONMENT - Explore ways to make your living area more attractive through color and texture. Exhibit something you have created.

HORSE & PONY - Learn to care for your horse or pony and to keep records. Bring your horse or pony to the Fair.

HORSE POSTER- Do you want to learn about horses but don't have a place to keep one? Join this project and be paired with a Horse & Pony Member!

LAMAS/ALPACAS - Learn how to care for llamas & alpacas and how to keep records. Exhibit a llama or alpaca at the 4-H Fair.

MICROWAVE COOKING -Learn how to prepare everything from simple snacks to complete meals. Exhibit at the Fair!

PERSONALITY IMPROVEMENT - Get to know yourself and those around you better. Your exhibit will be a poster.

PHOTOGRAPHY - Learn to take great pictures. Your exhibit will be a display of pictures you have taken.

PLANT SCIENCE - Learn about plant development and environment. Your exhibit will be a poster.

POULTRY - Care for your chickens and learn to keep records. Bring your chicken(s) to the Fair!

QUAIL & GAME BIRDS - Care for your birds and learn to keep records. Exhibit them at the Fair!

RABBIT - Care for your rabbits and learn to keep records. Bring your rabbit(s) to the Fair! Try to participate and become active in the County 4-H Rabbit Club.

ROCKETRY - Construct and exhibit a model rocket. Participate in the rocket launch during the Fair.

SCRAPBOOK - Preserve your memories in an organized and creative way. Your memories might include family, school or 4-H. Exhibit ten pages of your scrapbook.

SEWING - Learn to Sew! Make something to wear or for your room. You will also participate in the 4-H Fashion Revue.

SHEEP - Care for your sheep and learn to keep records. Bring your sheep to the Fair.

SHOOTING SPORTS - Participate in these disciplines: Pistol, Rifle, or Shotgun. Prepare an exhibit for the Fair.

SMALL ENGINES - Learn how to care for and repair 2-, and 4-cycle engines. Your exhibit will be a poster or display.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION - Learn about problems and conservation of our (soil & water) natural resources.

STRAWBERRY - Grow and exhibit berries from your strawberry patch.

SWINE - Care for your swine and learn to keep records. Bring your pig(s) to the Fair!

TRACTOR MAINTENANCE - Learn to care for and safely operate tractors and machinery. Participate in the Tractor Operator Contest. Exhibit your poster.

VETERINARY SCIENCE - Learn about animal health and disease. Your exhibit will be a poster.

WATERFOWL - Care for your ducks and/or geese and learn to keep records. Exhibit them at the Fair!

WEATHER - Learn how to observe the weather and record what you observe. Your exhibit will be a poster.

WEEDS - Collect and identify common weeds of Indiana. Exhibit your collection at the Fair.

WELDING - Learn to weld safely and correctly. You will exhibit welds you have done.

WILDLIFE - Learn about animals, their habitat and diet. Exhibit a poster.

WILDLIFE HABITAT - Identify food and shelter habitats. Observe and keep a log. Exhibit a poster or log book.

WOODWORKING - Learn to build things with wood while using the tools safely. You will exhibit an item you have made (a birdhouse or tool box).