

WHAT ARE RECORD BOOKS?

Record keeping is an important part of the 4-H experience. Record keeping is encouraged so that members and leaders may assess the progress of each member in their projects. These records are also used to determine county and national awards. 4-H records are not required. Some 4-H'ers are not interested in awards. These 4-H'ers should be encouraged to remain in 4-H. Some 4-H'ers have difficulty in putting their thoughts on paper. Don't let a 4-H record book prevent a youngster from having a great 4-H experience.



Winning Ribbons is only one way to shine in 4-H!

4-H IS:

The youth component of the Cooperative Extension nationwide educational network. The program is conducted by the Cooperative Extension System through the USDA, The University of Delaware and Delaware State University.



OBJECTIVES OF DELAWARE 4-H

To Help Youth Develop:

- Personal standards and values, positive self concept and effective communication skills
- Inquiring minds
- Leadership capabilities
- Decision making skills
- Concern for and involvement in community, national and international affairs
- Career and lifelong planning and learning
- Skills needed to compete in a high-tech global society
- Lasting relationships

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE NEAREST YOU!

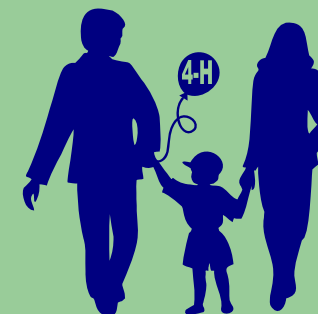
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SUSSEX COUNTY 4-H

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**NOW
YOU ARE
A
4-H
PARENT**



SUSSEX COUNTY 4-H

4-H is a community of young people across Delaware who are learning leadership, citizenship and the life skills under the guidance of caring and supportive adults.

Parents: The First Step to Success

Parent support in 4-H is just as important as parent support in school. Friends and volunteer 4-H leaders get youth interested in joining 4-H, but it is up to the parents to keep their children interested and encouraged. The attitude of your child toward 4-H will be a reflection of your attitudes - the more excited and encouraging you are, the more excited your child will be.

WHAT ARE 4-H LEADERS?

4-H leaders are volunteers who organize and coordinate the functions of a 4-H club. They work with members to run meetings and activities, teach projects and more. Without these volunteers, 4-H could not function.



Being a 4-H Leader is an interactive and rewarding way to spend time with youth

HOW CAN I HELP THE 4-H LEADER?

You can help the 4-H leader in many ways by:

- Hosting meetings in your home
- Volunteering your skills
- Providing transportation
- Work with your child as a part of the local 4-H team.

WE ARE A BUSY FAMILY. HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE?

The time commitment for 4-H members varies. Most clubs have one club meeting a month plus several project meetings. There are also other local and county 4-H activities as well as community service projects. You can spend as little time as you want or as much time as you want. But remember, the more time your child invests in 4-H, the more he or she will get out of it.

WHAT IS A 4-H PROJECT?

Some 4-H projects are learning experiences for 4-H members. Some projects are done at project meetings with project leaders and some are done with the help of parents. There are a wide variety of projects; the traditional agricultural areas such as livestock, small pets, horticulture, and vegetables. Other popular project areas are in food preparation and safety, textiles and clothing, computer, safety, wood science, aerospace, citizenship, arts and crafts, theatre arts...you name it, there is a 4-H project for everyone's interest !

WHAT DO 4-H PROJECTS COST?

Some 4-H projects are very inexpensive and can be done with materials around the home. Food projects are a good example of this. Other 4-H projects such as livestock or horse projects can be very expensive and time consuming. It is important for you as a parent to help your child select the most appropriate project for your family.

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON IN 4-H?



4-H has over 200 project areas from which your child can choose!

Knowing what your child is doing in 4-H is very important if you as a parent want your child to have the best experience possible. First talk to your child about what he or she is doing in 4-H. Another way is to attend meetings or training sessions with your child. Also talk to other parents and leaders. Once a month your child will receive a newsletter which lists all the major county events coming up for that month plus coming months.

MY CHILD WANTS TO TAKE A PROJECT BUT HIS/HER 4-H CLUB DOES NOT OFFER THAT PROJECT. WHAT CAN I DO?

Not all 4-H clubs can possibly offer all 4-H projects. There are several ways your child can have the experience he/she desires. First ask your club leader to direct you to someone who is knowledgeable in this area. Sometimes another club may offer that project. If no one is available, work with your child to complete that project. Also, call the county 4-H agent. Sometimes he/she knows of activities going on that would be appropriate for that project and provide you with easy to follow project guides.