WORLD OF WORK

Get Involved with a 4-H Club — It's Easy!

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Development Program is open to all youth ages 5–18. Through learning-by-doing, youth gain practical skills and develop life skills.

Families are encouraged to join 4-H — which is a lot easier than you may think! Starting a 4-H club now gives plenty of time for members to work on projects for next year's county and state fairs.

Club Organization

Clubs range from 5 to 60 members and are led (or co-led) by club leaders — often club members' parents. Parents are encouraged to attend meetings.

Volunteers are the heart of 4-H. Adult leaders partner with youth members to complete projects.

Club leaders — Also known as organizational leaders, club leaders coordinate meeting times and agendas. They also are responsible for club enrollment information.

Project leaders — Clubs may or may not have project leaders who provide leadership for specific projects.

Parent Volunteers — Also known as assistant leaders, provide valuable guidance to youth.

Club officers — Youth members choose officers to run their meetings.

Hands-on Projects

Nebraska 4-H has numerous hands-on projects. Age-appropriate project manuals are written by experts. Most project manuals have accompanying leader guides. In most clubs, members complete several projects a year. Some 4-H clubs focus on one particular project area, such as rabbits. Many youth exhibit their projects at the county and state fairs.

4-H staff provides guidance and resources to club leaders.

Resource materials available to members and leaders include:
• The 4-H Newsletter
• Knox County Web site at knox.unl.edu
• Nebraska 4-H web site at http://4h.unl.edu
• Mailings to club leaders
• County and State Fair can provide numerous ideas and inspirations for projects!

To Get Started

If you would like help getting started with a 4-H club, call the UNL Extension Office in Knox County at (402) 288-5611.