

K-State Research & Extension
River Valley District
(Clay, Cloud, Republic and Washington Counties)

New Family Guide to
4-H and

LIFE'S LITTLE
QUESTIONS 

Life's little questions aren't meant to be answered alone. Join 4-H — the club of families who share in teaching kids practical things like pet care, growing gardens or identifying rocks — and important values like responsibility. Whether you live in the city, in a small town, in the country, or on a farm, join 4-H and we'll tackle life's little questions together. Think 4-H might be for you? Then -


JOIN THE CLUB

What Is 4-H?

- ✿ 4-H is one of the world's largest youth organizations with a membership of around five million youth across the United States. It was established, along with the Cooperative Extension Service, when Congress passed the Smith-Lever Act in 1914. The 4-H program in Kansas is delivered through K-State Research & Extension at the state level and by the River Valley Extension District #4 at the local level. Local educational programs are carried out by trained 4-H volunteers.
- ✿ Kansas 4-H Youth Development programs are open to all youth who are residents of Kansas and between the ages of 7 & 18. Youth who turn 7 before January 1 of the current 4-H year may enroll. Youth who turn 19 before January 1 of the current 4-H year are ineligible to enroll.
- ✿ A 4-H club is a group of youth organized with officers and one or more leaders. Most clubs hold regular monthly meetings.
 - A community Club is organized around a social unit such as a neighborhood, a school, a church, a business area. The size of the club should be suitable to the age of the members, meeting place and leadership available.
 - Also, youth are 4-H members by taking part in project clubs (one subject), special interest groups, and school enrichment programs.
- ✿ There are no dues or initiation fees. The only cost to 4-H members is incurred in purchasing materials needed for individual projects.
- ✿ 4-H is a high-quality, structured, out of school educational program designed to develop the "five Cs" of competence, confidence, character, caring, and connection. The philosophy of 4-H is to strengthen the mental, physical, moral, and social development of youth.
- ✿ 4-H develops "life skills" through the use of research based project materials and experiential learning (hands-on experiences).
- ✿ 4-H membership benefits more than just the 4-H member. 4-H is older 4-Hers sharing experiences and teaching younger members things that they've learned. 4-H members have the support of older 4-Hers as well as caring and trained adult leaders. 4-H projects and activities can involve the entire family: siblings, parent(s), grandparent(s), relatives or other caring adults.
- ✿ 4-H is having fun and learning with friends. Youth join 4-H because they want to belong, they want to learn, they want to achieve, and they want to become independent.

The KS 4-H Life Skills are to develop:

A Positive Self-concept
An Inquiring Mind
A Concern for the Community
Healthy Interpersonal Relationships
Sound Decision Making

4-H Motto "To Make the Best Better"

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 Colors

Kelly Green & White

Green symbolizes nature's most common color and represents life, spring-time and youth.
White represents being fresh, clean or pure.

4-H Emblem



4-H Family News Sources

Newsletters-The River Valley 4-H newsletter is sent to each 4-H family in the River Valley District. Our mailing list is made from the 4-Hers' enrollment cards. This newsletter is to keep families posted on upcoming events. It includes dates and activities in which 4-Hers and their families may want to participate.

Website-River Valley 4-H members and their families can check out 4-H and other Extension education programs on the River Valley website, www.rivervalley.ksu.edu
The Kansas 4-H website is www.Kansas4-H.org. 4-H members may also find youth livestock information at the website www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu.

Facebook-For those older members, parents and leaders on facebook, information is posted on our River Valley 4-H facebook page. Just click "Like" on the River Valley 4-H page and get regular updates on 4-H activities on your facebook page.

What Are 4-H Club Meetings like?



A meeting includes business, educational program and recreation.

A 4-H meeting normally lasts 1 to 1½ hours.

4-H Meetings may have:



Opening/Closing - This includes a fun roll call to help 4-H members get better acquainted. Roll call might be to name your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite 4-H project, or your favorite cartoon character. Meeting opening/closing might include such things as the 4-H pledge, the flag salute, or a song.



Business Meeting - The business portion of the meeting should be short and snappy. It is a small democracy in action. It presents the opportunity for group consensus and parliamentary procedures to be learned and practiced. The officers of the club and 4-H members are the ones responsible for conducting the meeting. Adult leaders of the club serve as advisors when needed by the 4-Hers.



Demonstrations - 4-Hers demonstrate things they've learned in projects. Most consist of three parts:

Introduction - explains the purpose of the Demonstration

Body - outlines subject step by step

Summary - reviews important points & gives opportunity for questions



Illustrated talks - Differ from demonstrations in that they tell how rather than show how. Charts, models and other visuals are important for illustrated talks.



Project Talks - Project talks are given about the member's projects. The project talk can relate things experienced in the project, or give information relating to the project.



Recreation & Refreshments - Most likely your recreation leader(s) will have an activity or game planned. Some clubs serve refreshments at meetings. Most often different families are host each month. The learning experience for the members who select, prepare and serve the refreshments is the prime concern.



Community Service - Clubs regularly participate in community service projects to help improve the community. These projects might be done during a regular meeting or held at a special time.

Who's Who In 4-H?

- 4-H Member** Any child age 7 but not yet 19 years of age by January 1 of the current year who fills out and submits an enrollment card & participation form.
- Community Club Leader** An adult volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club.
- Project Leader** A volunteer who helps to teach kids the projects. This person is often a 4-H parent, Jr. Leader, or a person from the community who agrees to help with a project in which they have knowledge.
- Jr. Project Leader** 4-H member who is 12 years-of-age or older and enrolled in the leadership project. They take an active part in helping the younger members in the club and project work. Younger 4-H members and Jr. Leaders both learn, grow, mature, and develop leadership skills all while developing close personal friendships.
- Parents** The important ingredient to the success a child will have in the 4-H program. Parents are encouraged to attend monthly meetings and project meetings with their child. All 4-H activities and events are open and parents are encouraged to attend.
- 4-H Ambassadors** Members 14 and older are eligible to serve as 4-H Ambassadors that promote 4-H in the community.
- 4-H Council** 4-H Clubs each have two youth representatives and two adult representatives to this group. The council meets six times a year to plan 4-H activities and events that take place on a county-wide basis and to organize fund-raising efforts.
- Extension Board** The River Valley Extension District #4 elects 16 members (four from each county) to four-year terms to the Extension Board. Elections are held with the spring general election in odd years with two members from each county up for re-election every two years. The Extension board is responsible for budget of the district, employment of the staff and volunteers, and the general overall operation of the district, including educational programs.

4-H PDC	The 4-H Program Development Committee (PDC) is a group appointed by the RVED Board who is responsible for providing input and assistance to the Extension staff in improving existing programs, as well as the development & implementation of new educational programs for 4-H in the district.
Extension Agent	The River Valley District may be staffed by as many as 8 District Extension Agents. They are the professionals who help carry out the educational objectives of K-State Research & Extension, the Kansas 4-H program, and the River Valley District Board. The River Valley agents all share 4-H responsibilities while specializing in subject matter areas such as aging, community development, crops, family life, farm management, foods & nutrition, horticulture and livestock.
Program Assistant	The 4-H Program Assistant works with the Extension Agents to provide leadership for the 4-H youth activities on a county level basis. They are the primary source of day-to-day information to the clubs. The 4-H Program Assistant is available to answer questions you might have concerning the 4-H activities. The River Valley District employs a full-time 4-H Program assistant in each of the four offices.
Office Professional	The River Valley Extension District employs a full-time office professional in each of our four offices. Although 4-H is not their primary responsibility, the office professionals are experienced and available to assist 4-H families in finding the person or resource needed to address any educational need.
County Fair Board	Board members are appointed locally for the purpose of planning and carrying out the County Fair each year. The fair board operates independently of Extension with the sole purpose of organizing and conducting the county fair.
Area 4-H Specialist	The NE Area 4-H Specialist assists Extension Agents in developing and carrying out 4-H & Youth programs and is based out of Manhattan.
State 4-H Specialists	These people have the responsibility for the 4-H program on a state-wide basis. Each specialist is responsible for a specific part of the total 4-H program. They are based at Kansas State University, Manhattan.

Where Can I Go For 4-H Information?

Local Extension Office This is the Office that is located in your county seat. The Extension Office is where you will go to get information, turn in forms and other 4-H items. This is also the place where the Extension Agents work. In the River Valley District the local offices are found at:

Belleville Office
1815 M Street
Belleville, KS 66935
785-527-5804
RP@listserve.ksu.edu

Clay Center Office
322 Grant Ave
Clay Center, KS 67432
785-635-5335
CY@listserve.ksu.edu

Concordia Office
811 Washington, Suite E
Concordia, KS 66901
785-243-8185
CD@listserve.ksu.edu

Washington Office
Courthouse, 214 C St
Washington, KS 66968
785-325-2121
WS@listserve.ksu.edu

Area Extension Office This office is located in Manhattan. It contains an Area Director and several subject matter specialists, including a 4-H Youth Development specialist.

Kansas State University This land grant college has the responsibility for taking education to the people of the state. The 4-H program is part of that mission.

Rock Springs 4-H Center The KS State 4-H Camp located near Junction City, Kansas. River Valley District goes camping with the Pioneer Trails Camp group each June at Rock Springs. It is also the site for many other 4-H camps and conferences available to 4-H members.



Community clubs in the River Valley District:

<u>Clay County</u>	<u>Cloud County</u>	<u>Republic County</u>	<u>Washington County</u>
Cloverleaf	Clyde Roadrunners	Discovery	Busy Bees
Countryside Crusaders	Hill & Dale	Eager Beavers	Farmington
Lincoln Creek	Hollis Hustlers	Merry Meadowlarks	Hanover
Sturdy Oak	Hopewell Corners	Pathfinders	Happy Spirit
Washington Headliners	Miltonvale Hustlers	Republic Pioneers	Happy Workers
	Republican Valley	Sherdahl Boosters	Linn Livewires
			Lucky Four
			Mahaska Merrymakers
			Stick-To-It

What Are Some Things I May Need To Know About 4-H?

- 4-H Year** A new 4-H year starts October 1 each year and ends September 30 of the following year.
- Enrollment** Any youth who meets the 4-H age requirements may join 4-H at any time during the 4-H year, however specific dates must be met for participation eligibility in the County Fair and other 4-H events. New 4-H member enrollment is required by May 1 to participate in County Fairs. Some livestock projects require animal identification at an earlier time. Please check with the local Extension Office for project specific deadlines.
- Re-enrollment** Each year, re-enrollments for continuing members are due in the Extension Office by November 1. If re-enrollment is not completed by that time, the 4-H family is dropped from the Newsletter mailing list.
- Residence** Kansas youth typically enroll in 4-H in the county in which they reside. However, individuals living in one county may join 4-H in another county. Although, a 4-H member may choose to participate in another county, they can only enroll and exhibit in one county. Final decision regarding 4-H membership in a non-resident county (a county you do not live in), rests with the Extension Board in the receiving county/district. Provisions are also available for 4-H members who may live in two different counties for parts of the 4-H year. Contact the Extension Office with questions regarding these issues.

DEADLINES! Submitting things on time and following the rules is part of the 4-H learning experience. Individuals not complying with these expectations may lose awards and privileges. Members not complying with the established and published dates and deadlines for exhibition may be denied participation privileges as well as premiums or awards for the project. Read your 4-H Newsletter carefully and follow these deadlines. Deadlines are absolute in River Valley District 4-H.

Add and Drop Project Deadline: May 1 is the last day to add or drop projects for the 4-H year.

What Are 4-H projects?

Other than age, the only requirement for 4-H membership is that 4-Hers enroll in at least one project (learning opportunity). There are many projects to choose from. Projects include hands-on experiences that teach many basic skills.

Here are some of the areas you can learn about through 4-H.

Beef	Fiber Arts	Plant Science
Citizenship	Foods and Nutrition	Poultry
Clothing & Textiles	Geology	Rabbits
Communications	Goats-Dairy & Meat	Reading
Dairy Cattle	Health and Wellness	Self-Determined
Dog Care & Training	Home Environment	Sheep
Energy Management	Horse	Shooting Sports
Entomology	Leadership	Space Tech
Environmental	Performing Arts	Swine
Science	Pets	Visual Arts
Exploring 4-H	Photography	Wildlife
Family Studies		Woodworking

Self Determined: Can be anything that interests the 4-Her, but doesn't quite fit into another category such as clowning, computers, collecting, any other hobby.

Selecting Projects

- Members enrolling for the first time are encouraged to take only ONE or a very limited number of projects. As a member gains knowledge and experience, the size of the project may be increased and additional projects selected. This is an individual decision. Members may want to ask the project leader, if there is one, about the project and its requirements.
- Early in a member's 4-H career, a member should consider developing a tentative project plan to guide them until they are past the 4-H age. When enrolling in additional projects, a 4-H member should try to include those projects which relate to their other project work. For example, an electric project member may choose to enroll in home improvement, woodworking, safety or automotive projects.
- The project is the core of the 4-H member's experience. It is the center of many activities and experiences in which members are encouraged to participate.
- Members may also enroll in projects to explore potential interests. 4-H members often find that project interests turn into lifelong careers.

Guide to Project Selection Book

- The Guide lists guidelines and suggested learning experiences for the various projects. If you do not have a copy, check with your club's community leaders or the Extension Office. The State 4-H Office publishes these booklets in the August edition of the *Kansas 4-H Journal* each year.

How Are Projects Conducted?

Project work

Project work is conducted through various activities and events such as :

- Project meetings (in the local club or county-wide)
- Regular club meetings (demonstrations, project talks, etc.)
- Tours - to visit projects of members
- Field trips
- Family activity at home
- Projects at shows, fairs, etc.
- Participating in related educational activities

Project Materials

Project materials are a great resource for 4-Hers to use in learning more in their project work. They are available in many project areas. Check with your project leader or the Extension Office for materials that may help you with your projects.

Project Leaders

4-H Project leaders are people just like you and me. They have an interest in one particular project area. They are willing to share their time, talents and efforts with a small group of 4-Hers.

You can be a project leader too! It doesn't take an expert in photography to be photography leader, the same with most all projects. The one most important ingredient for project leaders is that they be sincerely interested in helping youth learn.

If you would consider being a project leader, visit with your club's community leaders or club parent committee members, or club project leader trainer if your club has one. A leader must fill out a VIP (Volunteer Information Profile) form at the Extension Office, complete a 2 hour training session and be approved through the VIP Review Committee & River Valley District Extension Board before working with the youth. Training meetings are conducted at the club level and county level for project leaders. Also most projects have leader guide booklets to assist. Many of the clubs have policy that unless more than 2 or 3 members are enrolled in a project, no project leader will be obtained. Parents will be expected to help the member with their project as well.

What Records Do I Need To Keep In 4-H?

Members will be encouraged to keep a record book. Completed record books must be signed by the member's parents and leader at the end of the 4-H year.

A good record book will reflect accomplishments and therefore serve as the basis for awards, trips, and other forms of recognition. A good record book will teach a desirable habit. Modern day society demands that each and everyone, no matter what vocation, keep track of financial and business matters. Former 4-H members often share what a great resource the 4-H record book was when it came time to complete job applications, fill out college scholarship and entrance applications, or just to take a trip down memory lane.

Members are encouraged to work on record books throughout the year as they complete project work. A completed record book is needed to apply for Achievement Plan Pins as well as to complete the Kansas Award Portfolio.

What Are The 4-H Record Book Guidelines?

Each year your record book will consist of:

4-H Personal Page: It contains personal information, a picture of the member, and a listing of projects enrolled in.

Permanent Record: The summary of all projects, exhibits made, offices held, events attended and other participation for the entire year is made on the permanent record. Only one such permanent record is necessary for all the years that a youngster may be a member.

4-H Story: Your 4-H Story is about you and your 4-H experiences.

When Should 4-H Records Be Completed?

4-H members are strongly encouraged to work on the permanent record and KAP forms throughout the year as they do their project work.

A Permanent Record should include all activities regarding the 4-Hers and their project(s) that occur during the 4-H year. A Permanent Record is for the purpose of self-information and for helping the 4-Her fill out a KAP.

Completed Record Books need to be turned in by a date determined by the community leader. The completed KAP forms should be submitted by the club leaders to the Local Extension Office for county champion and other awards and recognition consideration at the end of the 4-H year.

What is the Kansas Award Portfolio (KAP)?

4-Hers are asked to complete a Kansas Award Portfolio (KAP) to be selected for awards at the local, area, and state level.

KAP forms are used for each project a 4-H'er is enrolled in. The KAP form provides space for goal setting, knowledge and skills learned, work accomplished including expenses and receipts, leadership, photos, and other information about the project.

4-H members submit completed KAP forms to the local Extension office for county champion and other awards and recognition consideration.

What 4-H Awards Are Available to 4-H Members?

Achievement Plan Pins: 4-Hers need to fill out an application form for these awards. Details about what 4-Hers must do to qualify for these awards are available from the Extension Office and from your club leader.

Membership, Bronze, Clover, Emerald, Silver,
Silver Guard, Leadership, Gold, Gold Guard

Key Award: Given to 4-Hers 16 years and older. Special attention is given to leadership and achievement in all project areas. A special application form is required. The Key Award is the highest award given at the local level.

County Project Awards: Awards given to outstanding 4-Hers in each project area (Beef, Clothing, Foods, Electric, Visual Arts, etc.) based upon the completion of the KAP for that project.

Area Project Awards: The top Kansas Award Portfolios (KAP's) in most of the project areas from 4-Hers who are 14 years and older are sent to the area level, where they are judged against the top KAP forms from the other 21 counties in the Northeast Area.

State Awards: The top 2 KAP's from the area judging are sent to the State where they are judged against other top KAP's from the other 4 areas of Kansas. State Winners are honored at the Emerald Circle Banquet held each June in Manhattan in conjunction with 4-H Discovery Days.

What 4-H Scholarships are Available?

State & National Scholarships ranging from \$100 to \$1000 are available to outstanding 4-H members. Applications for these are due in February. Scholarships may also be available on the county level.

What Activities & Trips Are Available for 4-Hers?

4-H District Day - is rotated around the district and is generally held in February. Clubs can participate in such things as model meetings, gavel games, and dance. Members may give project talks, demonstrations, readings, or present musical numbers.

4-H Camp - Pioneer Trails 4-H Camp is a multi-county camp held at Rock Springs 4-H Center near Junction City, KS each June. Campers must be in 1st to 7th grade to participate. Counselors must be 16 years of age.

4-H Campference - is held each summer for 12-14 year olds who enjoy camp & building leadership skills.

4-H Discovery Days -Discovery Days is held at Kansas State University in early June. Members 13 years and older, leaders, and parents are invited to attend. The focus of the event is to help you DISCOVER more about a project area, strengthen what you are learning in the club and share with other 4-H members.

The County Fair - is held each July or early August. The guidelines and rules are listed in the County Fairbook. New members must be enrolled in 4-H by May 1 to enter at the County Fair. Check newsletters for details for fair.

The Kansas State Fair - is held in Hutchinson, KS in September. 4-Hers must be 9 years old by January 1 to participate at the KS State Fair. A member must have received a purple ribbon at county level to participate at the State Fair in most project areas. Pre-registration is due in August.

Citizenship in Action -This event is held in February in Topeka. It gives 4-H members 13 years and older a chance to meet with their area representatives and learn first hand how Kansas government works.

Citizenship Washington Focus - All 4-Hers 15-18 years of age are eligible to apply for this 11 day citizenship learning experience to Washington, D.C. 4-Hers from across the state travel together and see awesome sights along the way.

River Valley 4-H Junior Leader Educational Trip -This experience is available to River Valley 4-H Youth ages 14 and up who are enrolled in the leadership project and participate as Junior Leaders. Traditionally, each odd year the district sponsors this educational bus trip to such places as Nashville, Chicago, or Minneapolis/St. Paul.

National 4-H Conference - Six outstanding 4-Hers from Kansas are selected to represent the state at this conference. Participants must be high school students and excel in leadership, achievement and citizenship.

National 4-H Congress -This trip to Atlanta, GA is for Kansas 4-H award winners as well as a lottery of Centennial Delegates selected from current Key Award recipients.

What Does A 4-H Ribbon Really Mean?



In many activities including Club Day Judging the Danish Ribbon system is used. Generally the judging begins at the red ribbon level.

RED RIBBON - means the project has met the minimum standards. The exhibit shows effort has been put forth but there are needed improvements.

BLUE RIBBON - means the project has exceeded the minimum standards. The exhibit has only small areas where improvements can be made.

PURPLE RIBBON - means the exhibit is outstanding on all of the standards.

WHITE RIBBON - means the exhibit did not meet all of the minimum standards.

What it DOES NOT MEAN is that the exhibit isn't worthwhile! When 4-Hers see a white ribbon, the first question they should be asking themselves is, "What have I learned, and how can I make it better?"

Aside from any ribbon placements, what is most important is that the child was participating in an activity that will build his/her character in learning life skills that will be of benefit to them for life. What the child learned and accomplished is much more important than the ribbon placing.

Is 4-H For The Entire Family?

Few other youth programs allow children, their parents and other adults or family members to work and play side by side to develop life skills and talents like 4-H does. Along with this privilege, however, comes the responsibility on the part of all those people to be active participants in the success of the 4-H member.

So what might some of those responsibilities be?

- * Learn what 4-H is about, its purpose, its objectives.
- * Assist the 4-Her in selecting projects they like, that they have the ability to do, and one for which you can furnish needed materials.
- * Show interest in and encourage participation in 4-H activities.
- * See that you and the 4-Her attend club and project meetings regularly.
- * Provide transportation for both your children and others.
- * Volunteer for tasks that you can accomplish on the club and county level.
- * Familiarize yourself with project materials so you can help when needed.
- * Give encouragement and guidance in your children's project work by showing enthusiasm and interest in their work with record keeping, KAP forms, demonstrations, judging, etc. Help them understand what to do - but give them the responsibility for the actual work that is to be done.
- * Provide for ownership and growth. Make it possible for your children to own their projects and help them plan for expansion of their project work.
- * Share your talents & skills and become a VIP trained 4-H Project Leader.
- * Respond to correspondence from the Extension Office, or if the communication was to your children, see that necessary communication takes place.

What Things Happen Throughout the 4-H Year?

An outline for the main events that take place during the 4-H year (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30) is given below. Some dates may change, but this gives you an idea of what to expect each month. A 4-H calendar is included in the monthly 4-H newsletter so check the newsletter for dates and times of all events. In addition to these activities, there may be special committee meetings, leader trainings, tours, conferences or judging events planned by a project group or neighboring county in which 4-Hers can participate.

October

New 4-H Year begins October 1st
National 4-H Week is celebrated
4-H Council elects new officers

November

Enrollment forms/Participation Forms are due from each member to the Extension Office
Officer Training is held
4-H Achievement Banquet is held
Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF) - Teen 4-Hers from across the state gather to learn about their leadership potentials and have fun
KS delegates attend National 4-H Congress

December

Clubs are encouraged to do a community service project around the holidays

January

Clubs and individuals should start making plans for District 4-H Day
KAP forms are due from county champions that have been selected to go on to Area Screening

February

District 4-H Day - 4-Hers share their talents in music, drama, dance, project talks, demonstrations, public speaking, and model meetings. (Note: event may be held in January in some years.)
4-H Scholarship Applications due
Judging schools and contests are held throughout the District
Citizenship in Action
4-H Ambassador Training at Rock Springs 4-H Center

March

Beef weigh-in - All market beef must be weighed and tagged to be eligible for the County Fair.
Regional 4-H Day - Top winners from District 4-H Day compete against 7 other counties in the area
Applications to be an International 4-H Youth Exchange (IFYE) host family due

April

Spring Livestock Shows

May

May 1 - Last day for current 4-H members to Add/Drop 4-H projects for the year
Last day for New 4-H members to enroll and be eligible to participate in the County Fair.
4-H Horse Identification papers due
Market Swine, Sheep and Goat weigh-in and ear tagging to be eligible for the county fair
Spring Livestock Shows

June

Discovery Days- Held at K-State campus

4-H Camp

4-H Campference

Clubs hold tours or mini tours for club members to view the completed 4-H projects

Citizenship Washington Focus

July

District Horse Show

County Fairs

Judging contests held at the County Fair

Families may host LABO Japanese exchange youth

August

Enter your qualified State Fair exhibits with the Extension Office in early August

County Fair

Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes at KSU - livestock judging, meats judging, quiz bowl, skill-a-thon

Kansas 4-H Horticulture Judging

Junior Leader Educational Trip

September

Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, KS

- Individual exhibits and participation

- Crops Judging

- Family and Consumer Sciences Judging

KAP's are due to the Extension Office

Pin applications are due to the Extension Office

4-H Clubs elect new officers for upcoming 4-H year

Enrollment begins for the new 4-H Year and extends through October

Welcome to 4-H. As we begin the 4-H year, we remind ourselves of these important concepts:

- youth are more important than the project or exhibit,
- what the youth learned is more important than the project or exhibit,
- to "learn by doing" through useful project work is fundamental to any sound educational program and is characteristic of the 4-H program,
- there are generally several good ways to accomplish any goal or complete any task,
- our job as adults and 4-H leaders is to teach the 4-Her how to think, not what to think,
- winning isn't always measured by the results of the ribbon or judging event, but by the character of the 4-H member, parent, and leader,
- how we conduct ourselves as adults working with 4-H is an example for our youth,
- and finally, we remind ourselves that as we work with 4-H youth that the positive effect that we have on youth may not be fully realized for years to come.

We hope that the 4-H experience is a great one for you and your entire 4-H family. We wish you much success and are confident that if you put in great effort then you will receive great rewards!

The Staff of the River Valley Extension District

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact John Forshee., Director, River Valley Extension District #4, 322 Grant Avenue, Clay Center, KS 67432, 785-632-5335 or Clyde Howard, Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, (TTY) 785-532-4807.

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