



Oklahoma 4-H Youth Development

Teen Action and Growth

Developing 4-H Teen Leaders for our club, community, country and world

Through Teen Leader training you will be learning leadership life skills and then how to teach life skills to others. Understanding skills vs. life skills...

Skill	Life Skill
When an individual learns specific information or techniques for completing a task and that <i>skill</i> is used only in that situation.	When an individual learns specific information or techniques for completing a task and then learns to apply that information in other situations.
<i>Example of a Skill</i> - learning to apply nitrogen to cabbage so you can produce big cabbages.	<i>Example of a Life Skill</i> - When you understand that living things need to take in specific levels of nutrients to thrive and you know how to find out what a specific plant or animal needs. This means you have learned a life skill.

The 4-H Organization

In 1914, the Smith-Lever Act established the Cooperative Extension Service. The Extension Service was an organization which linked the United States Department of Agriculture and the Land-grant Colleges. The purpose of the Extension Service is to take research based information to the citizens of the state.

“Cooperative” refers to funding received from multiple sources: federal, state, and county government.

The land-grant colleges in Oklahoma include; Oklahoma State University and Langston University. A triangle is used to illustrate the three-fold purpose for Oklahoma State University:

1. Education – to teach students who enroll in college.
2. Research – the process of scientific investigation.
3. Extension – to extend information and assistance to people across Oklahoma through the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

In the beginning, 4-H was a means for reaching adults, through their children, with improved home and farm practices. In 1902, the first Boys’ Clubs were established, quickly followed by Girls’ Clubs. In 1914, the Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs became a part of the Cooperative Extension Service.



OSU EXTENSION
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The clover and H’s were adopted as the emblem in 1911. The four H’s represent Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. In the all-star emblem the fifth H represents *Home*. The following descriptions can be found in the 4-H club rituals. For what is the ____ trained?

Head: "To think, to plan, to reason."
 Heart: "To be kind, to be true, to be sympathetic."
 Hands: "To be useful, to be helpful, to be skillful."
 Health: "To resist disease, to enjoy life, to make for efficiency."
 Home: "By striving to train for a home life that represents true character, comfort, and contentment."

In 1927, the 4-H Club Pledge and Motto were adopted. In 1970, the words "and my world" were added to the 4-H pledge.



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.

THE 4-H MOTTO: *"To Make the Best Better"*

4-H is the youth development component of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service. Three other program areas include: Agriculture & Natural Resources, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Rural Development. Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service is open to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

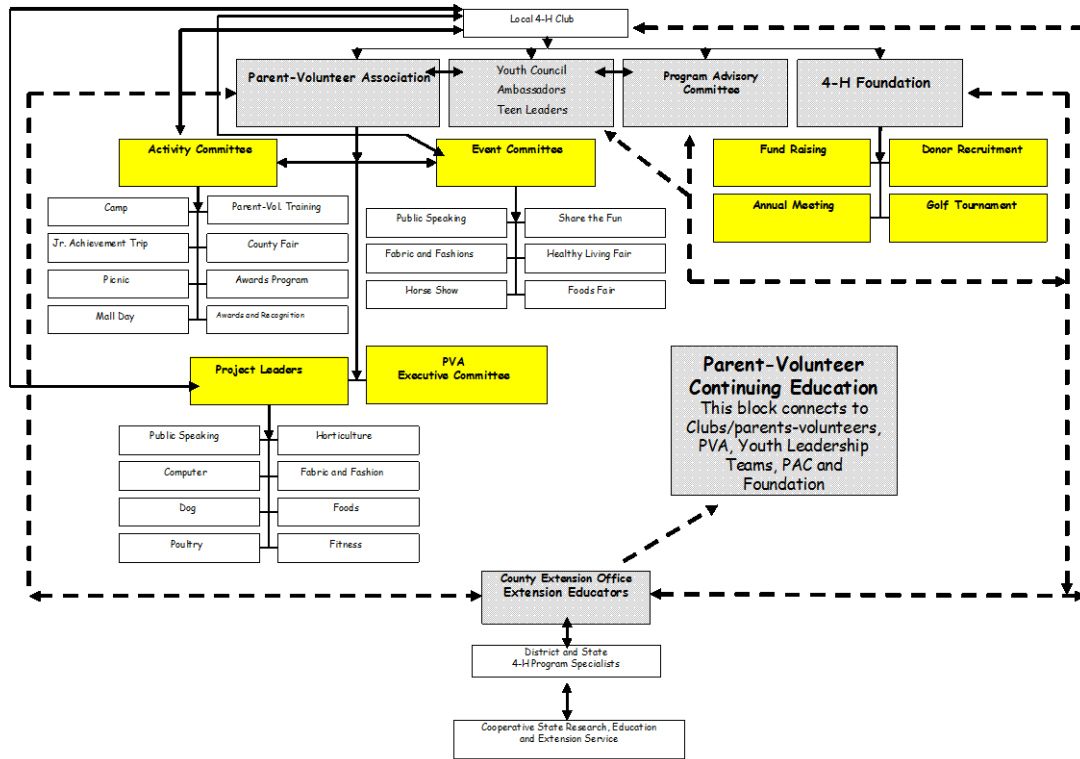
4-H is the largest youth serving organization in the world. 4-H is available in all 50 states and more than 80 countries worldwide.

Oklahoma 4-H members are youth between the ages of 5-19. Five to eight year olds are referred to as Cloverbuds. Cloverbuds is a non-competitive program. The primary purpose of 4-H is education and youth development.

Youth Development and education is achieved through Individual project work:

- Local clubs – groups of youth who meet on a regular basis for learning and social interaction (fun).
- County, district and state activities and events (includes educational programs and competitive events). The competitive events are conducted as a form of evaluation and motivation (goal setting) for an individual's project work.
- Short-term programs – directed at a specific need and interest for a specified period of time necessary to achieve its objective.
- School Enrichment – programs designed to supplement school curriculums.

Organizational Structure of the 4-H Program




County Leadership Management

Leadership Structure of a Local 4-H Club

- **Teen Leader** – Assists local leadership and serves as a mentor for younger members. As skills are acquired, and the teen completes Volunteer Certification they may serve as an activity, project, and/or organizational leader.
- **Activity Leader** – provide leadership for planning and coordinating an activity through a committee of youth and adults. (Share-the-Fun, Picnic, Service-Learning Project, etc.)
- **Project Leader** – Provides primary leadership educating and training members in a specific subject matter.
- **Organizational Leader** – provides the primary leadership for the 4-H club. Their most important role is to encourage, involve and develop volunteers and members through club meetings, programs and activities.
- **Membership and families** – actively participate in club meetings, committees, and activities. Share time, talents, and skills with the club.

Which do you want to be?

A Leader or a Boss



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A **boss** who drives his people, uses his authority, dominates, and lets no one forget who is running things.

or

A **leader** who obtains the willing confidence, respect and loyal cooperation of people to accomplish a task.

4-H...Developing Tomorrows'
Leaders Today

Develop Your Leadership Skills

Leadership Skills are developed by:

Observing Others

Listening to Others

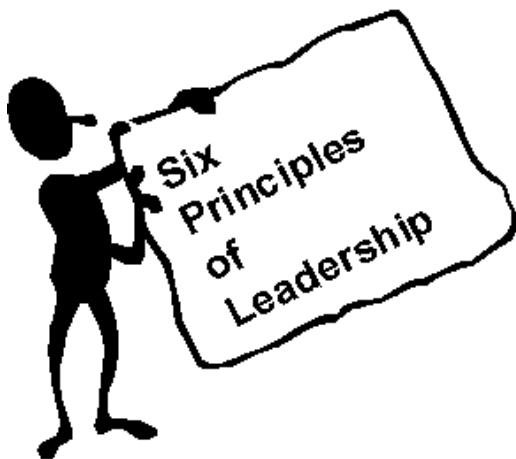
Learning about Yourself and Others

Practicing Leadership Behavior

Leadership behavior is practiced by:

- ✓ Learn to listen and follow directions. People who cannot follow directions have trouble leading.
- ✓ Concentrate on developing and performing leadership actions in specific situations.
- ✓ Later these actions will become more comfortable and a natural part of your behaviors. This makes these leadership skills - life skills because, you will naturally draw upon and use them throughout your life.

- ✓ Start out developing skills for working with individuals. Master your personal and interpersonal skills.
- ✓ Personal skills are the behaviors you exhibit when dealing with another individual. The skills could include gestures, facial expression, tone of voice, actions, and oral communications.
- ✓ An interpersonal skill is the application of personal skills in establishing and maintaining a positive relationship between individuals.
- ✓ With these skills mastered, expand to working with and finally giving guidance to groups of people.



1. People must always understand clearly what is expected of them.
2. People must have guidance in their work.
3. Good work should always be recognized.
4. Poor work deserves constructive criticism.
5. People should have opportunities to show that they can accept greater responsibility.
6. People should be encouraged to improve themselves.



Attitudes of Leaders

INTEREST IN AND RESPECT FOR PEOPLE – genuinely likes people.

PATIENCE – Patience is required in dealing with people. Practice restraining your emotions. When you lose your temper – you lose.

UNDERSTANDING AND CARING – A caring leader relates to the world and its people. They are sympathetic and tolerant. A leader is a good listener, one who pays attention to what people say.

LOYALTY – You must believe in your work and the purpose of 4-H. Loyalty includes allegiance, faithfulness, and devotion.

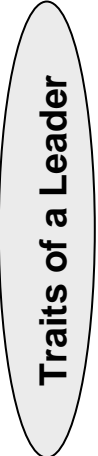
TACT – Communications should be truthful, accurate, straightforward and fair so no one is misled or deceived. Being frank does not mean you are cruelly blunt. Watch being flippant (facetious, joking, or dismissive) about matters.

IMPARTIALITY AND FAIRNESS – Go by the rules, treat everyone the same, and use the same rules for everyone, so no one has an unfair advantage. Be open-minded and show commitment to justice.

RESPONSIBILITY - Keep your word and do as you promise. Be accountable for the decisions you make or do not make.

TRUSTWORTHINESS – Trust is earned through the demonstration of honesty, integrity, promise keeping, and loyalty. A leader must be honest in conduct and communications.

DEMOCRATIC - Work with others as your peers and not as subordinates.



Traits of a Leader

SENSE OF HUMOR - quickest way to lower morale is to be unable to find humor in the situation.

ENTHUSIASM - be excited about what you are doing.

IMAGINATION - be creative.

COMMON SENSE - use your head and try not to be misled by custom, tradition, or other things that do not fit the situation.

INTEGRITY - traits of honesty, fairness, and trustworthiness.

Leadership is a relationship among people. It is the way we interact with others and our sensitivity to what others need.



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For Next Time

Interview three people you view as a leader. Ask them what leadership qualities they have found to be the most useful in working with people. After the interview compare their response to the materials covered in session 1. What are the similarities and differences?

Individual's Name: _____

Position or Leadership Role: _____
List characteristics and qualities of being a successful leader.

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