

## 4-H Project Work

Consider the following when guiding a child in selecting a 4-H project.

- Interests, needs and capabilities of the member
- Opportunity for sufficient challenge and growth
- Family situation
- Availability of adequate financing
- Availability of equipment and space
- Availability of leadership for the project

4-H Projects provide opportunities for:

- Developing Subject Matter Skills
- Life Skills Development
- Participation
- Developing Communication Skills
- Keeping Records
- Sharing Ideas
- Productive Leisure Time
- Recognition



4-H provides a world of opportunity.

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## 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 Parents Pledge

*I pledge my **Head** to give my child the information I can, to help him/her see things clearly and to make wise decisions.*  
*I pledge my **Heart** to encourage and support my child no matter whether he/she has success or disappointments.*  
*I pledge my **Hands** to help my child's club; if I cannot be a leader, I can help in many equally important ways.*  
*I pledge my **Health** to keep my child strong and well for a better world through 4-H, for my child's club, our community, our country and our world.*

Georgia 4-H, 1982



OSU EXTENSION  
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Being a 4-H Parent



Oklahoma  
4-H Youth Development

## Your Role

### Parent's Role in Project Work

- Aid in selecting, financing and managing
- Guide and support work without doing it for them
- Encourage follow-through and completion
- Give praise and encouragement
- Assist in gathering tools and supplies
- Encourage record keeping
- Provide support and transportation
- Assist organizational, project and activity leaders
- Become a project or activity leader
- Serve on committees to plan and implement club activities or project meetings
- Become a certified 4-H volunteer

### Family's Role in 4-H

Encourage participation in 4-H programs at the local and county level and to assist in the development of the 4-H member.

Support local and county 4-H program through time, talent and financial support.

Work cooperatively with other families and 4-H volunteers.

Participate in Parent-Volunteer Training to enhance personal knowledge of 4-H, as well as, to assist and guide your child.



*Guide 4-H project work.  
Doing it for them does not develop life*

## BEING A 4-H PARENT

### 4-H is a family affair.

4-H helps develop family unity by providing an opportunity to do things together.

4-H families become part of a larger extended family.

### Members benefit when parents are involved in 4-H.

Parents and volunteers who take time to learn about and understand 4-H are of greater assistance to their child and the 4-H program.



*Your time, talent and assistance strengthen the total 4-H program.*

Members need parental encouragement to see project work through. Keep members focused on what they are learning, not just *winning*.

### Parents are important people.

The time, talent and assistance provided by parents strengthen the total 4-H program.

### Parent participation

#### strengthens the local 4-H club.

Parents are needed to chaperone and provide transportation for local and county 4-H events. 4-H members may need your assistance to provide refreshments at club meetings.

### Parents are needed to assume leadership roles.

A healthy club requires more than one organizational leader providing leadership for everything and everyone. As a vital link in the 4-H leadership team, parents will be asked to serve on local and county committees. The committees will plan and conduct activities and events. Adults are encouraged to create healthy youth-adult partnerships within the committee structure.

A parent may be asked to share subject matter knowledge with a project group. The subject matter could include a hobby or occupation. It may even include scheduling a tour or field trip. This may eventually lead to a parent serving as project and activity leaders for other 4-H members.

### Parents must stay informed.

Communication is vital in supporting your child's 4-H experience.

It is the family's responsibility to read and respond in a timely manner, to the newsletter, yearbook and written correspondence received from local and county programs.

Don't hesitate to ask questions of local and county volunteers and Extension Educators.

### Parents receive many levels of satisfaction from 4-H.

They enjoy seeing their children and other children grow and develop.

Parents grow personally through new experiences and challenges.

Parents also have the satisfaction of serving the community through 4-H.



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