



· NATIONAL 4-H ·  
HEADQUARTERS



*The mission of National 4-H Headquarters is to advance knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well-being, and communities by creating opportunities for youth.*

We seek to promote positive youth development, facilitate learning, and engage youth in the work of the Cooperative Extension Service, Land-Grant Universities and USDA to enhance their quality of life.

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## Mission Mandates

### Citizenship:

Since its inception, 4-H has placed emphasis on the importance of young people being engaged, well-informed citizens. By connecting to their communities and leaders serving their communities, youth understand their role in civic affairs and expand the role of youth in decision-making processes. It's clear that civic engagement provides the foundation that helps youth understand the "big picture" of life and find purpose and meaning.

4-H is dedicated to creating a world where youth have a voice and provides opportunities through hands-on learning and community service projects to affect change in their communities. Youth learn that they do not live in a secluded world, but instead it is indeed a global community, which requires awareness and compassion for others.

- National 4-H Conference
- John Deere Leader's Academy
- Civic Engagement and Service-Learning

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4-H is the premier youth development program of the United States Department of Agriculture. Originating in the early 1900's as "four-square education", the 4-H's (head-heart-hands-health) seek to promote positive youth development, facilitate learning and engage youth in the work of their community through the Cooperative Extension Service to enhance the quality of life. For over a hundred years, 4-H has been dedicated to creating opportunities for youth that broaden skills and aspirations nurturing the full potential of youth.

The educational foundation for 4-H lies in three mission mandates:

- Science, Engineering and Technology - tied to agricultural and environmental issues
- Healthy Lifestyles - tied to human health and well-being
- Citizenship - tied to the activities of people with institutions and government for the common good



### Science, Engineering and Technology:

The need for science, engineering and technology (SET) education is essential for today's young people. 4-H's science, engineering and technology programs prepare youth for the challenges of the 21st century by engaging them in a process of discovery and exploration. 4-H's direct tie to the nation's land-grant university system gives it direct access to the latest technological advances in agriculture, life sciences, family and consumer resource management, human development and nutrition.



4-H conducts a wide variety of science, engineering and technology programs throughout the nation:

- Global Positioning System (GPS)/Global Information System (GIS)
- National 4-H Technology Team
- 4-H Explores with NASA
- 4-H Growing in the Garden

### Healthy Lifestyles:

4-H has become a national leader in health-related educational issues including chemical health, mental and emotional health, foods and nutrition, physical health and safety. After more than 100 years of experience delivering useful and practical healthy lifestyle information to our young people, 4-H continues to embrace the need for healthy lifestyles.

- Health Rocks!
- Healthy Lifestyles Grant
- 4-H Community ATV Safety Program

