

4-H Focus

DECEMBER 2024



4-H Holiday Activity Guide

We know how important meaningful family time is during the holidays, and how it may be a challenge to come up with ideas on how to spend that precious time together. That's one of the very reasons why the national 4-H program has published a holiday activity guide.

The Holiday Activity Guide has great ways to spend quality time with people, and we can learn so much from our family when we see them at the holidays.

The Holiday Guide contains an array of fun activities, such as decorating gingerbread houses, making ornaments, family story time, visual art projects, and many food recipes.

For a lot of us, holiday memories and experiences happen in the kitchen. Within the Holiday Guide is a "cookie book" - listing more than 20 sweet holiday recipes to make together. One recipe you have to try is the no-bake cookies, a recipe from a Kansas 4-H member. They just might be a perfect gift for your neighbors.

In the holiday guide, there are several activities that are STEM and math-focused. That's one of the things we pride ourselves on in 4-H - to have those experiential, fun learning activities. Food and STEM are both project areas you may already be involved in, and the activity guide includes an additional area important during the holidays: service. It shares how you might put together a winter coat drive for your community or how you might make fleece scarves by hand for the homeless.

To begin one of the many fun and educational projects offered by 4-H, [go online to find the complete Holiday Activity Guide.](#)

(<https://4-h.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/08094637/4H-at-Home-Holiday-Activity-Guide-and-Cookie-Making-Recipes-2020.pdf>)

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Youth Leaders Canned Food Drive

Leavenworth County 4-H Youth Leaders are collecting non-perishable food items for our local food pantries.

You can simply bring your non-perishable items to the Extension Office from now until December 17th. Please contribute if you can.

The goal is to exceed the 1501 items we collected last year. Also, Leavenworth County 4-H is donating a \$50 cash prize to the club that donates the most items.

A flat of 12 cans of soup counts as 12 items, but a box of granola bars counts as 1 item, not 10 and a bag of potatoes counts as 1, not 20 - (please don't break open packages meant to be one thing).

If you have questions, please contact the office or Gretchen Manus.

**I PLEDGE
MY HANDS TO
LARGER SERVICE**



4-H Enrollment - Add/Drop Deadline February 1, 2025

Thank you to those 4-H families who have already enrolled for the 2024-2025 4-H year. If you have not yet enrolled, please do so as soon as possible. 4-Hers should not be participating in 4-H events without being enrolled. The add/drop deadline is fast approaching. What does this mean? After February 1st, if you are not enrolled in 4-H, you will not be able to participate in the 2025 Leavenworth County Fair under 4-H. You are also not able to add any additional projects after February 1st. If you are already enrolled, I strongly encourage you to log in to your 4-H profile in 4-Honline and check your projects. You can do this by clicking on projects on the left hand side of the screen. If you would like to add or drop a project, you must contact the Extension Office to do so. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call at the office. We are here to help!!

Have you enrolled in 4-H yet?

**ENROLL
TODAY!**





Leavenworth County
4-H Council Presents

BREAKFAST WITH THE GRINCH

December 15, 2024
9am - 12pm



Leavenworth County
Fairgrounds Administration
Building



\$7 ages 6+
\$3 ages 5 and under

4-H CLOVERBUDS



Kansas State Research and Extension and 4-H Youth Development offers an educational program specifically designed for youth ages 5 and 6 called Cloverbuds. Children of this age have distinctive learning characteristics and developmental needs that are different from older youth who participate in 4-H. That is why the 4-H Cloverbuds program is designed with specific educational objectives and policies focused to benefit 5- and 6-year-old children.

4-H Cloverbuds may not participate in any competitive 4-H events, but they may showcase their exhibits at county fair and public events. 4-H Cloverbuds are allowed to showcase a pet from the approved list in accordance with 4-H Cloverbuds pet policies. 4-H Cloverbuds may not own and/or show *4-H* livestock.

Most of our community clubs in Leavenworth County have youth this age who are enrolled members of that club. Some clubs have separate activities for Cloverbud youth while others have them engage during their regular monthly meetings. Leavenworth County 4-H also offers a countywide Cloverbud meeting every quarter.

The next Countywide Cloverbud meeting will be hosted by Grown Right and held on January 5th at 3pm. Contact the Extension Office for more information or to RSVP.

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF)

It's not too late to apply to be a delegate for Citizenship Washington Focus trip in 2026. Delegates must be 14 by January 1, 2026 to participate. Applications are due December 15th. Please contact the Extension Office for more information. Don't miss out!



CALLING ALL ADVENTURERS CLIMBERS FLIPPERS & BUG CATCHERS!

Registration for 4-H camp at Rock Springs Ranch is now open!

At Rock Springs Ranch, campers unplug, make friends, learn lifelong skills and have fun in the Flint Hills of Kansas.



**ROCK
SPRINGS
RANCH**

ESTD 1946



Register Now!

Visit us online to learn more about 4-H camp!

**ROCK
SPRINGS
RANCH**

ESTD 1946



Mini-Camp

Rising 1st-3rd graders

Session #1: July 14-18

Half-Week

Rising 3rd-12th graders

Session #1: June 2-6
Session #2: June 9-13
Session #3: June 16-20
Session #4: June 23-27
Session #5: June 30-July 4

Week-Long

Rising 3rd-12th graders

Session #1: June 9-14
Session #2: June 23-28
Session #3: July 7-12

LIT

(Leaders In Training)
Rising 10th-11th graders

Session #1: June 9-14
Session #2: June 23-28

CIT

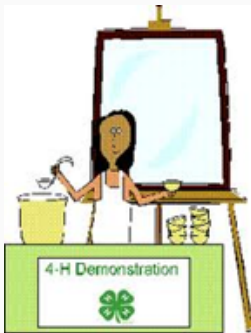
(Counselors In Training)
Rising 12th graders

Session #1: June 9-14
Session #2: June 23-28
Session #3: July 7-12

4-H County Club Day

What?

What is 4-H Club Day you ask? 4-H Club Day is an opportunity for youth to show off their talents and practice public speaking. Youth will present or perform in front of a judge and then receive a little feedback and a ribbon. If you like to sing, dance, play an instrument, do a demonstration or talk about a favorite subject or act out a skit then 4-H Club Day is the place for you.



Why?

Participating in Club Day helps youth work on public speaking skills, builds confidence and allows them to show off their amazing talents. Participating in events like this one will help youth develop communication skills, boost critical thinking and increase self-esteem.

When & Where?

Leavenworth County Club Day is always held in February. This year is no different. We will start a little later to help accommodate those who attend church on Sunday mornings.

Tentative Date: Sunday, February 2, 2025

Where: Lansing Middle School



How?

How do I register? You will receive a link via email in early January. Please fill out the registration form no later than January 17th. You will also be able to access the registration form on our website once it is emailed out. Please remember to fill out a separate registration form for each participant. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 913-364-5700.



Citizenship in Action

Have you attended Citizenship in Action, also known as CIA? This is a great opportunity for youth aged 13-18 to travel to the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka to get a first-hand look at how our state legislation functions. This event takes place on a Sunday and Monday over the President's Day holiday weekend. This year, Citizenship in Action will be held on February 16-17, 2025. One main goal of this conference is to educate our youth about the government system. CIA is designed to help 4-H members understand that they have a voice when it comes to current issues, and to teach them how to participate in making important decisions. Youth who attend this event will have the opportunity to meet with State Representatives and Senators from the communities that they live in. They will get to tour the Capitol building and watch parliamentary procedure in action. Transportation and chaperoning for Citizenship in Action will be provided by the Extension Office. Registration opening soon. Check your email for more details.

Junior Producer Days

Save the Dates!! Plans are underway for the K-State Junior Producer Days in the spring. These are one-day educational events, hosted on the K-State campus in Weber Hall, through which families can learn about the selection and management of youth livestock projects. Youth, parents, extension agents, ag teachers, project leaders, and other interested parties will be invited to register and attend. These events are designed as family learning opportunities. We host two a year – beef and sheep in even years and swine and meat goat in odd years. Therefore, next spring is the year for junior swine producer day and junior meat goat producer day. The dates are below to get on your busy spring calendars. Stay tuned for the tentative program and registration details to be released in the next few weeks!

K-State Junior Swine Producer Day – March 1

K-State Junior Meat Goat Producer Day – March 22

Horse Panorama

Calling all horse lovers! Mark your calendar and make plans to attend this year's 4-H Horse Panorama.

When: February 22-23, 2025 at Rock Spring Ranch

Who Can Attend: 4-H Members 7-18 (as of January 1st, 2024) and Adult Volunteers

Why Should I Go: Youth will gain knowledge about the 4-H horse project through educational activities for 4- Hers of all ages. Horse Panorama is made up of a variety of contests that are specifically designed for the horse project. The list of contests includes Horse Quiz Bowl, Hippology, Public Speaking Presentations, Photography, and Educational Posters. If you aren't already, be sure to get enrolled in the horse project on 4-H Online so that you will get emails and updates on 4-H Horse events.

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K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the event contact (Sonya Murphy) two weeks prior to the start of the even at (913-364-5700). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.