

The 4-H Mission in Arkansas

The goal of 4-H is to meet the basic needs of youth and help them acquire essential life skills through planned “learn by doing” experiences. A necessary outcome of the youth development goal is that development of volunteers as individuals and leaders in the 4-H program.



4-H is . . .

4H is one of the educational programs of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service involving youth and adults. It is a family and community effort supplementing and complementing the mission of the home, church, and school for the development of youth. 4-H is:

- An informal educational program.
- Community based and locally determined.
- Primarily group focused and family oriented.
- Volunteer operated.
- Coordinated by Extension professionals.

4H Methods

4-H uses knowledge to help individuals meet basic developmental needs and acquire essential life skills.

- 4-H emphasizes subject matter related projects and activities using Extension and land grant university resources.
- 4-H structures the learning environment using knowledge from the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities to promote the acquisition of life skills.

- The mix of subject matter and educational methods in a democratic environment provides for the personal development process.

4H Management

4-H is operated by volunteers under the supervision of 4-H Extension professionals.

- Some volunteers use subject matter as a means of interacting with youth and adults in 4-H.
- Other volunteers structure groups and learning experiences for youth using the social and behavioral sciences.
- And, other volunteers render services to youth and adults in support of the 4-H program.
- 4-H Extension Professionals teach volunteers to use subject matter, educational methods, and the democratic process to achieve human development objectives.

4H Support

4-H is publicly supported by county, state, and federal governments. Private resources, both human and material, are used to enrich the learning experience of youth and adults.

See **4H.UADA.EDU** for more information