Who can be a 4-H member?

4-H is a youth educational organization for boys and girls 5 to 19 years of age. 4-H is open to all youth regardless of race, color, sex, handicap, religion, or national origin.

How do you join 4-H?

To join 4-H, call the local 4-H office to locate 4-H club in your area. If there is not a club in your area the several interested youth with an adult or two to help them can start a club. Your 4-H office can help you with this.

How often do they meet?

Some clubs meet once or twice a month all year long, some meet for an hour or two after school, some in the evening, or on a Saturday or Sunday. This depends on the club and what they want to do. 4-H clubs may organize any time of the year. Some times members have to be enrolled in a project by a certain time to be eligible for specific activities.

How big should a 4-H club be?

This depends on the age of the members, the places that they meet and the leadership available. The ideal club is big enough to have fun together, but small enough for everybody to feel a part of the group. The average club is likely to have 10 to 20 members.

Who names the club?

The members of the club do.

What do 4-H members do at a club meeting?

4-H members select educational topics from a wide array of possibilities. The Cooperative Extension Education system develops materials and trains 4-H volunteers who work with 4-H members in their own counties and support the direct “learn by doing” experience. 4-H members learn to keep records, develop decision-making skills, learn public speaking and leadership skills and become involved in community service projects. Through 4-H, youth make friends with kids and adults in the community.

What about club officers?

4-H clubs may have officers and whatever committee they need to run their own business. 4-H has materials available for presidents, vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers, reporters, recreational leader, historian. The club may have more or fewer officers depending on its needs.

Do clubs have dues?

This depends on their need for money. There are no state or national 4-H dues. If the club wants money for some activity, they usually charge dues or conduct money making activities. Dues should never be used to keep someone from joining 4-H.

Where do 4-H clubs meet.

Any place large enough which is convenient for the members of the group. Some clubs meet in a central place like a school, a church, a community building, in members homes and the extension office.
What are 4-H projects?

4-H projects are learning experiences for 4-H members. Most projects are available from your county or state Extension office, or can be purchased from the National Cooperative Curriculum System.

How do parents help?

Many parents volunteer to be the organizing leader while others become project of special activity leaders. Because people have different abilities and amounts of time, parents can offer their help in ways that best meet their interests. 4-H is a family program and parents are encouraged to take an active role in the club and with 4-H at home.

How do you become a 4-H volunteer?

You would receive guidance and assistance from the county 4-H office along with help from experienced 4-H volunteers. The 4-H program will give you guidance as you begin to work with 4-H youth. The 4-H office will provide opportunities for training and workshops to increase your knowledge in your specific interest in 4-H.

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