

WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H began over a 100 years ago. It has become one of the nation's largest youth development organizations. The 4-H ideal is to help young people and their families gain the skills needed to be proactive forces in their communities and develop ideas for a more innovative economy. 4-H in Indiana is administered by Purdue University College of Agriculture. Purdue University is a land-grant institution designated by the Indiana state legislature to receive the benefits of the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture provide the oversight of National 4-H.

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

THE 4-H SYMBOL

A four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf is the emblem. A Clover is a plant that grows in fields, yards and along roadsides. Most clovers have three leaves. Sometimes, if you look very closely, you may get lucky and find a special clover with four leaves. A four-leaf clover is used as the symbol for 4-H to let everyone know 4-H is a special kind of youth development program. The four H's stand for: **HEAD, HEART, HANDS** and **HEALTH**.

THE 4-H CLUB 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.

THE 4-H COLORS

Official colors are Green and White. The four-leaf clover is green and the "H" in each leaf is white or gold.

THE 4-H MOTTO

A group motto is a saying that tells people what is important to the group. The 4-H motto, is "To Make the Best, Better." When something is better than all of the others, it is the best. Think about a time when you did your best. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best you have ever done.

THE 4-H SLOGAN

Is to "Learn by doing." You learn in 4-H by doing many activities. Not only do you have the opportunity to learn a skill like communications, you can learn about wildlife, foods, aerospace and other exciting projects.

THE NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CREED

- I believe in boy's and girl's club work for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.
- I believe in the training of my **HEAD** for the power it will give me to think, to plan and to reason.
- I believe in the training of my **HEART** for the nobleness it will give me to become kind, sympathetic and true.
- I believe in the training of my **HANDS** for the dignity it will give me to be helpful, useful and skillful.
- I believe in the training of my **HEALTH** for the strength it will give to enjoy life, resist disease and make for efficiency.
- I believe in my country, my state, my community and in my responsibility for their development.
- In all these things I believe, I am willing to dedicate my service to their fulfillment.