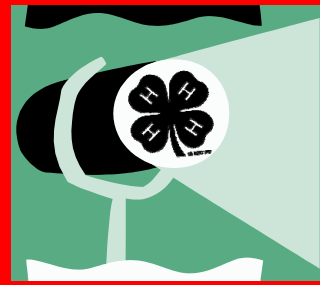




CLOVER KID KALEIDOSCOPE



Clover Kids are eager learners 4-H age 5 – 7. Here are several lesson ideas you can deliver to your Clover Kids.

“4-H Has A Little Lamb” is a workshop where youth learn animals need food, water and shelter to survive. Take a field trip to a farm, a vet clinic or have a 4-H family bring a ewe to the fairgrounds. Youth learn about the animal and its care and get to pull a little wool off to take home. Have a 4” – 6” high wooden cut out of a lamb that they paint black or white at the beginning of the workshop. At the end you talk about yarn being a wool product and they wrap it (several times) around the middle of their lamb. Use narrow pink or blue ribbon and tie a small bell around their neck to determine if it’s a girl or boy. This is their fair entry.

“Let’s Eat A Rainbow!” is a workshop where youth learn about what part of the plant we eat and what color it is. Talk about the colors in the Food Rainbow. Take youth on a field trip to the store, a farmers market or set up a table with the following items: carrots, celery, peas, lettuce, tomato. Use these items to make a salad for a snack. Talk to them about their favorite foods, what food would be fun to try and about what part of the plant this comes from: fruit, leaves, stem, root, seed? What color it is? Youth can make a collage from seed packets or a seed picture using different colors of dried beans as their fair entry or a food rainbow collage from pictures.

“House, Home & Habitat” is a workshop where youth learn about wildlife and conservation. First talk about the meaning of the word habitat. Talk about their home and habitat. Talk about the animals they see in their area (birds, squirrels, mice, snakes, raccoon, deer) and what type of habitat they need to survive. Talk about leaving no trace behind in nature. Then create a diorama in a shoe box with pictures. Youth can draw rivers, ponds, trees, etc. with crayons or markers. A variety of supplies can be utilized such as leaves, twigs, small stones, etc. The diorama is their fair entry.

These are just a few ideas for Clover Kids. You can also refer to Clover Kid projects, A Space For Me and Making Food For Me for more fun things to do with your youngest 4-H members!

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN EXTENSION



SPOTLIGHT
ON 4-H!



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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Special points of interest:

- Learn all about the new A Space for Me Clover Kid Project and how to use it at club meetings!
- How can 4-H projects help promote future careers?
- Learn all EWE can about showing sheep and how they shape 4-H'ers for the future with leadership and citizenship.





4-H: YOUR CAREER CONNECTION IN NEBRASKA

With children beginning to think about their future careers in the middle elementary years, 4-H projects are often the spark for a young person's career decision. 4-H offers many projects and activities to help a child develop career skills, identify interests and think about the future. With over 150 projects offered in 47 project areas, there really is something related to almost every career.



As a club schedule a tour of local businesses to learn about local opportunities to do job shadowing, internships or part-time jobs.

Through participation in the **Nebraska 4-H Diamond Clover Program** youth engage in a variety of projects and activities that will enable members to acquire life skills necessary to lead successful lives as competent, caring and contributing citizens.

As the career areas have changed and expanded, so have 4-H projects. For example, today there are projects in robotics, GPS, ecology, fitness, and entrepreneurship. Food and nutrition projects may lead to careers as a chef or dietician; projects in photography may lead to careers in photography, marketing, or advertising. The list is almost endless. As career exploration becomes more important to youth and their parents, 4-H offers a wonderful opportunity for youth to explore a variety of topics, develop skills in those areas and work with adults who have expertise in those fields.

Ideas for Career Exploration:

Big Red Summer Academic Camps offer older teens a specialized experience in various academic areas. While staying on campus, youth will work with University faculty to investigate potential careers.

The **4-H Interview Judging Contest** is a newly created competition designed to help youth develop career skills including: résumé and cover letter writing, completing a job application, presenting themselves to others, and developing self-confidence.

The **Great Question Challenge** involves 4-H members teaming up to solve real-world problems. Through this challenge, youth have the unique opportunity to develop problem solving skills, as well as entrepreneurial skills through the process of finding solutions to community needs.

Discover what it takes to be an entrepreneur by participating in an **EntrepreneurShip Investigation** project. Learn about business plans by participating in the Entrepreneurship Challenge held at UNL during the Premier Animal Science Events and Life Challenge competitions.

Attend the **Nebraska Youth Beef Leadership Symposium** to learn about Current research from faculty, meat science, beef quality assurance, marketing and careers in the beef industry.

As part of a child development project create a toy, game, or activity that has a career development focus.

Check out the safety section of the fair book and complete a safety career project.

Explore veterinary science through the creation of a large or small animal veterinary science poster or display.



NEBRASKA DIAMOND CLOVER PROGRAM

The **Nebraska Diamond Clover Program** is designed to be a noncompetitive award program that recognizes 4-H'ers for their accomplishments related to Life Skill Development. The youth are encouraged to engage in a variety of projects and activities that will enable them to acquire Life Skills.

The program is designed for 4-H members ages 8 and up to begin at Level one and progress through Level six, one level per year, achieving each recognition level only once. Levels one through six requires participants to complete a specified number of accomplishments (or more) per year.

The Diamond Clover Program uses a Plan & Report Form that can be obtained at your local Extension Office. Levels one through four can be approved by the 4-H Leader or parent/guardian of the 4-H'ers. Level five and six must be approved by the local Extension Office and level six must be approved by the State 4-H Administrator (or designee).



The program offers 4-Hers an opportunity to set goals related to Life Skill development and practice those Skills. Youth set goals at the beginning of the 4-H year and fill out the forms to document achieving their goals during the year. Each year 4-H'ers will select more advanced life goals and 4-H Leaders or parents will monitor the 4-H'ers progress and sign off on their effort at the end of the year. Each 4-H'er can select age appropriate goals and be recognized when they reach their goals.

There are six levels to the Program so the youth can select more advanced Life Skills during their 4-H career. Level six is the final level and includes two parts. Part one will include at least eight goals related to advanced Life Skill development.

Part two is a major local Service-Learning Project that is monitored by the State 4-H Office administrator and a local Committee that provides oversight and helpful suggestions related to the Service-Learning Project. A proposal for the project is submitted and approved by the local committee and the State 4-H Administrator before the project begins.

The Diamond Clover Service-Learning project includes: overview, resource list, timeline, time log, approvals and permits, letters of support, evaluation plan and documentation plan. After the project has been completed the local committee will review a final report and the report will then be sent to the State 4-H Program Administrator (or designee) for final approval before the award is presented. The 4-H'er is encouraged to prepare a multimedia presentation for the local committee and other audiences.

For additional information on the Diamond Clover Program you can contact your local Extension Office for more details and forms.





ALL “EWE” NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SHOWING SHEEP!

The 4-H Sheep Project is a great place to learn about sheep breeds, grooming, and showmanship, but the 4-H Sheep project also allows you to explore livestock production and managements, how to market products, and about possible careers. If youth have been in the sheep project for several years and are looking for ways to take their project to a new level they might want to explore some different opportunities.

Citizenship Encourage youth to take a lamb to a community petting zoo or school classroom. Have them visit with the children about what they do every day to take care of their sheep. Many children in Nebraska have never had the opportunity to visit a farm or to even pet a lamb, so having members taking the time to share their sheep project is a great opportunity to teach consumers about sheep production. 4-H members should be prepared to answer a variety of questions as children are always full of questions.

Leadership Older 4-H members are also great teachers. Encourage them to organize a club activity that teaches the younger members about the Sheep project. Older members can:

- Lead a tour of their farm so younger members can see how they feed and work with their lambs.
- Organize a tour of a local feed store to learn about feeding sheep and possible careers as a Livestock Nutritionist.
- Host a Showmanship Clinic for club member to practice and improve their showmanship skills before the fair.

Contests Throughout the year, there are various contests that the State 4-H program offers that allow 4-H Sheep Exhibitors to test their sheep production skills outside the show ring

4-H Skillathon Contest, held during PASE the end of June. This is a hands on team competition that test a 4-Hers in identifying breeds, tools, animal parts, Quality Assurance, feed rationing, and marketing. The contest includes activities for all major livestock species, so teams need a sheep specialist to be successful. For more information visit http://4h.unl.edu/pase_life .

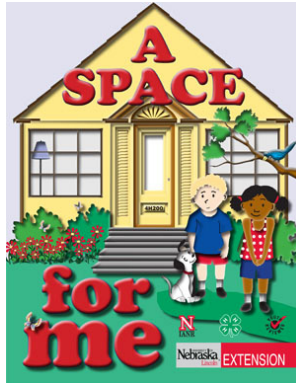
The **Premier Exhibitor Contest** is offered at both the Nebraska State Fair and Aksarben. This event provides an opportunity for 4-H exhibitors to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in all areas of sheep production and management, and to strengthen communication and decision making. Contestants will be evaluated on the following areas: interview, skill-a-thon, showmanship, written quiz, and live animal placing. You must enter these contests at the time you enter your sheep for State Fair or Aksarben.

For more information visit http://4h.unl.edu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=206f5111-69e2-4954-87d9-ff873b589ad0&groupId=466759&.pdf



A SPACE FOR ME...AND SOME CLOVER KIDS!

A Space for Me is a great curriculum for your Clover Kids. The book provides activities for these youth to start using their creative minds in preparing Home Environment projects for the fair. Youth will learn the cleaning, saving energy, recycling and color principals. These are perfect stepping stones to get their minds thinking of fun activities to complete.



Below are a few activities every club can have fun by doing!

No-Sew Pillow:

- Use a 14 inch x 14 inch pillow form and two pieces of fleece.
- Trim the two pieces of fleece into two 18 inch squares.
- Using a ruler and scissors, cut 2 x 2.5 inch strips around each edge of the squares.
- Align squares with right sides facing out. Tie fleece strips together using a double knot. Work your way around 3 sides of the pillow.
- Slide the pillow form into the fleece and tie the final edge of the strips.
- Your pillow is now complete!

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

- Have youth, as a club make posters of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.
- Play games incorporating recycling, have youth start to recycle at home.
- As a club, save pop tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House to help others.
- Youth can measure the amount of water they use when brushing their teeth and make a graph to see how they have reduced their water consumption over a week's time.

Primary Colors

All colors start as three primary colors; red, yellow and blue. By mixing these colors you can get orange, green and purple. But what if you want lighter or darker colors? This is when you want to add white or black. These colors are then classified as warm and cool colors. The activities to learn the principals of color are fun:

- Youth can make a Pizza Color Wheel, learning how to make orange, green and purple.
- Have the youth Decorate Picture Frames while adding white and black to make different shades of warm and cool colors.

Save Energy

- Measure the length of the gap that needs blocked under the door. Find an old pair of tights or knee-socks.
- Cut off one leg and the foot part just above the heel. Tie a knot in one end, and make sure there is a little extra material at the other end for tying the closing knot.
- Fill the draft stopper with rice, beans, or cotton.
- Once you've filled the tube with enough stuffing, you can tie the top.
- Your draft stopper is now complete and you can start saving energy!





CALENDAR OF EVENTS



4-H Achievement Celebration, Feb. 11

Lancaster County 4-H and 4-H Council invite ALL 4-H'ers, 4-H families and volunteers to the annual 4-H Achievement Celebration on Tuesday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road. Light snack provided. The event is part of Nebraska 4-H Month! 4-H members, clubs and volunteers receiving awards, scholarships or pins will be mailed detailed information. Lancaster County 4-H congratulates all 4-H youth who commit themselves to excellence!

4-H Crocheting Workshop, Feb. 8

4-H youth ages 10 and up are invited to learn how to crochet a washcloth utilizing the single crochet stitch at the "Basic Crocheting" workshop on Saturday, Feb. 8, 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road. No cost — all supplies will be provided. Adults are welcome to attend to help 4-H'ers. Must preregister by Feb. 5 by calling 402-441-7180.

4-H Pillow Sewing Workshop, Feb. 22

4-H youth ages 8 and up are invited to learn beginning sewing skills and make a pillow at the "Pillow Party" sewing workshop on Saturday, Feb. 22, 9 a.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Lincoln. No cost to attend. Adults are welcome to help. Bring your sewing machine, basic sewing equipment (scissors, pins, measuring tape), etc. Also bring 1/3 yard and 2/3 yard contrasting fabrics, pre-washed, 100% cotton (no plaids, no knits) and matching thread. Pillow forms provided. Sign up by Feb. 19 by calling 402-441-7180.



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA - A NATIONAL LEADER

Are members in your club looking to study at one of the premier universities in the nation? If yes then encourage them to explore the **University of Nebraska – Lincoln**. *U.S. News and World Report*, documents UNL is "the most popular public university in the nation".

UNL is the only Big 10 Land Grant University - and one of only five research universities nation-wide to be recognized as "Innovators in Undergraduate Education". **UNL** is labeled as one of the "Fabulous Five" along with Duke University, State University of New York at Stony Brook, University of Michigan and University of Southern California. When students attend UNL they are where knowledge is being created through research and are learning from the most current research available, while students at colleges are learning from knowledge developed other places.

College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) mission is to prepare students

in everything from animals to plants, soil to climate, golf to business, mechanization to leadership, and food to forensic science. **CASNR** has 29 degree programs and 2 pre-professional programs for students to begin their personal legacy. **CASNR** awards over \$1 million in scholarships to half of their students annually. Dean Steve Waller guarantees that each graduate will have at least one (if not more) job offers within 6 months of graduation. "**CASNR** Freshmen are more likely to stay in school and more likely to graduate than other colleges". Enroll in **CASNR** to be where the future is, helping to solve the challenges ahead and truly make a difference.

CASNR is science with a purpose: participate in the discovery! Contact Karen Francis to set up a campus visit: kfrancis2@unl.edu.

4-H! YOUR FIRST CLASS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA!