

# What is 4-H?

What is 4-H? Friends, fun and learning about nature, cooking, growing plants, photography, animal care or working together to help others. 4-H is positive youth development.

**Who can belong to 4-H?** Anyone kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. You'll find 4-H throughout your county, state, country and the world. Kindergarteners through third graders can join 4-H Cloverbud clubs. 4-H Cloverbuds is an informal educational program designed specifically for children in grades K-3. The program appeals to young children's natural curiosity, enthusiasm for learning and high energy levels by providing an opportunity for active learning in a non-competitive environment. In Morrow County, we have roughly 235 members and volunteer leaders.

**What you can do in 4-H?** Members can be enrolled in animal science, natural science, home economics and expressive arts project areas, to name a few. A project list is available at the 4-H office. If you can think of it...we will try to make it happen.

**What do you do in 4-H?** It depends on you. 4-H members may be a friend in the same grade or school, or include people from other communities. Clubs decide how often to meet and elect officers to conduct club business. Your club may decide to be active in the community, raise money for charity, become involved in recycling projects or build nature trails. You can go on field trips or to 4-H camp. The choices and opportunities for leadership and advancement grow as you get older.

**Does 4-H cost a lot?** There are no national dues or required uniforms. The state requires a \$15 per member enrollment fee, \$30 family maximum, which goes to help county 4-H programs, such as lowering costs of state publications. There is an additional \$5 per member county enrollment fee that goes toward project materials and insurance in most clubs. Your 4-H club may decide to collect dues to fund special activities. Scholarships are available for enrollment fees if needed.

**How do you join 4-H?** It's easy. Choose the project you like. Ask some friends or brothers and sisters to join you. Ask parents, grandparents, adult friends or neighborhood adults to be your leaders. Several adults can share this responsibility. You need only two members, but you can have as many as you like. Determine the projects your club would like to enroll in and visit the Extension office or call a 4-H agent for help. There are also numerous active clubs that welcome new members.

**4-H is Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow and "Learning by Doing."** Learning how to set goals and work toward those goals; responsibility—for an animal, finishing projects, choosing how much to learn and deciding how involved in 4-H to be—leadership, decision-making, cooperation and how to present yourself and ideas to others. For information about the 4-H Youth Development program, contact the OSU Extension office in Heppner, 541-676-9642.



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**17th ANNUAL  
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**THURSDAY, AUGUST 15TH  
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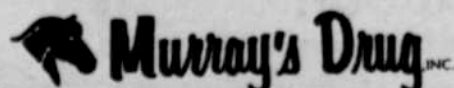
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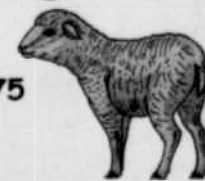
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"As we approach fair time let's all try to keep in perspective what we are trying to accomplish with the 4-H program and projects," reminds a local 4-H Extension agent. "Winning should not be the goal. Doing the very best we can should be the goal. If 4-H members have worked hard on their projects all year, doing well in their classes will come."

