

A-62

Bulletin No. 266

November 1956

*There is a
4-H Club
for You*



630.72
Title

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO



UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

College of Agriculture

Extension Service

What is 4-H?

IF you want to have the time of your life, join a 4-H Club.

More than 13,000 Idaho boys and girls are enrolled in 4-H Club work. They have fun, learn to do things, and go places. You can do things yourself—with your friends—for yourself, for your community, and for your country in an active 4-H Club.

If you would like to “try your muscle” at raising a calf, growing a garden, making a dress, baking a cake, cooking a meal out-of-doors call your County Extension Office and ask for help to organize a 4-H Club. One of the Extension Agents will help you. It may be the County Extension Agent, the Home Demonstration Agent or an Assistant County Agent. All of them help with 4-H Club work. They represent the University of Idaho Agricultural Extension Service, your county commissioners, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Together, they sponsor the 4-H Club program.

You will need five or more of your friends, 10 to 20 years of age, to join with you and an adult local leader—usually a parent. Each member must take part. Select an animal that you wish to grow or some articles that you wish to make. These require a certain amount of work and are called “projects.” There are at least 30 kinds of projects to choose from. Your club will elect its own officers and meet at least six times a year. Each member keeps a record of project costs, sales and profits. You will want to exhibit your work at the county fair and community achievement day.

You will learn to plan and conduct meetings, to give demonstrations, and learn many new ways of doing things.

When you do this, you will be joining with more than 2,000,000 other boys and girls in the National 4-H Club program. Their motto is to “Make the Best Better,” and they believe that it is best to “Learn to do by doing” in their own 4-H Clubs.



Club officers conduct club meetings.

Why Should I Join A 4-H Club?

SHOULD I join a 4-H Club when I am not sure what I want to do when I grow up? I may not follow agriculture or homemaking as a life work. Will it be worthwhile for me to join anyway?

Yes, indeed, it will. It probably is the best thing that you can do—whether you live in town or country. Even though it takes fewer and fewer farmers to produce food and fiber for our Nation, there are countless jobs in the field of agricultural production, processing, marketing, teaching and research, for which 4-H Club work builds a foundation. There is a demand for trained people in colleges and universities. Business and industry are anxious to hire young men and women with 4-H training to work in their organizations. Girls with 4-H Club training easily find jobs in homemaking, teaching, home demonstration work and as commercial demonstrators, saleswomen and managers of restaurants and as dietitians.

The lessons that you learn in planning and conducting meetings, and in working with the members of your club will fit well into whatever life work you choose.

The broad overall training and experience that you get in a 4-H Club will help you improve yourself and your community.



Sewing is easy and fun the 4-H way.



Upper—Learning to can properly under the guidance of the local leaders or parents is fun and it helps the family budget too.

Lower—Club members help plan and carry out their own programs and activities at county 4-H camp.



Your Project --- Your Business To Own and Manage

EVERY 4-H member has a project to own, plan and care for. Your job will be to study and plan the best way. Your 4-H Club bulletins show new ways of doing things. Try out these new ways and show the results to your friends. Select a project that fits your conditions at home. It is your business to own and manage. Keep records—try to make a profit or learn something important.

Find out what you like to do best. It may be cooking, sewing, raising livestock, using tractors or electricity. You may be a club officer or help to plan and conduct club meetings, write news stories, or lead songs and games. Leadership jobs are important. You will be expected to do your best.

Project animals may be either purebreds or grades. Choose something that you will be proud to own and will be useful to yourself or family.

In homemaking projects, you may learn to make and design your own clothing, decorate a room in your home, learn how to prepare delicious, well-balanced meals, how to preserve food, and how to entertain.

It's fun to do things under the guidance of friendly local leaders.

How Can I Join?

IF you would like to belong to a Club:

1. See if there is a Club in your community.
2. Talk to your parents. Ask if you can attend meetings.
3. Ask if they will help you get a project.
4. See if they will help you with your project.
5. Talk to your friends. Ask if they would like to belong to a 4-H Club.

If there is no 4-H Club in your community, perhaps your parents will help you start one.



Members and leaders learn to judge livestock from University of Idaho specialists.

What Should I Do?

IF your answer is "yes" to all of these questions, see the Club President, Local Leader, or County Extension Agent. Ask for an enrollment card, have it signed by your parent, and then return it to the County Agent.

The leader or agents will help you get started in an active club or help a new club get started. When you turn in your record book and story at the close of the club year, you may wear the 4-H Club pin. You will then be a member of the largest rural youth organization in the world!

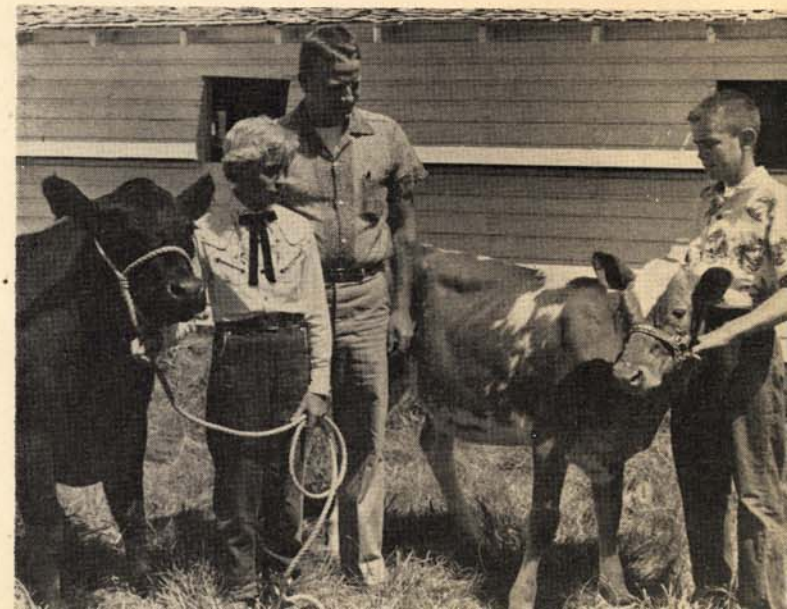


Upper—Raising a garden is fun and profitable for town and country boys and girls alike.

Lower—The County Agent guides the members and leaders in their club projects.

Projects For Everyone

THERE are more than 30 projects from which to choose. Some should interest you. They include pig, dairy, beef, sheep, poultry, colt and rabbits in the livestock divisions; crops, weed control, farm electrification, soil improvement, entomology (insect collection), and gardening. Home-making projects including clothing, foods, frozen foods, room improvement and household electrification.



4-H Club Activities Are Fun

IT is fun to do things in club groups. You attend county camp, exhibit at fairs, give demonstrations, hold achievement days and special meetings. There will be picnics, parties and field trips, too.

You may help with some community improvement project, such as making road signs, taking part in the "Keep Idaho Green" program or completing a safety activity.

Summer camp is a real treat. There will be nature hikes, camp fires, active games, handicraft, camp cookery, and swimming.

Project tours are lots of fun, too. You can see the other members' projects and watch them grow. You learn from the experience of each other. You may make trips to modern farms to see up-to-date machines and methods, new crops and purebred livestock.

You may also visit business firms to learn how products are made ready for use or shipment to city people. It's fun to learn about marketing and local government.

County fair day is a big time in 4-H. You can show your project, enter in fitting, showing and judging contests, dress revues, give demonstrations, and take part in talent shows. You can show your work and compare it with the work of other club members. Try to improve.

If your project should place in the blue ribbon group, you may take it to the district fair for further honors. Friendly rivalry is fun, but what counts most is what you learn and what you do as a club team. There is a 4-H sportsmanship motto—"Keep your head when you win and your heart when you lose."

Junior leaders help new members with their projects.



Showing others how to do new things is an important part of 4-H Club work.



Club members help each other get ready for the fair.

Club members show others what they have learned in 4-H Clubs and help each other.

Leaders and Older Members Guide You

EACH club will have one or more adult leaders. High school age club members may serve as junior leaders. They visit club members at their homes and help with their projects, their record books, demonstrations, and club activities.

Junior leaders also help officers of the club to plan and hold meetings properly. They help with special activities such as "Keep Idaho Green" campaigns, and safety and health surveys. Still other junior leaders help with community and county-wide activities and publicity through newspapers, radio, TV, and by giving talks about 4-H club work.



The latest and approved ways of doing things are demonstrated in club meetings, at achievement days, and at county fairs.

Older Members Give Community Service

OLDER members may belong to county-wide "Builders Clubs" and work on community projects, study choosing their life's work, and hold discussions. They plan and carry on their own recreation program. They also often help other club groups with recreation.

So you see, 4-H offers leadership jobs that will test the abilities of everyone.

4-H members learn the rules of safety whether in a boat at camp, in the home, or on the farm.



Learning from faculty members what opportunities the University of Idaho offers is a highlight of the annual Idaho 4-H Club Congress.

Parents Take Part In 4-H Too!

PARENTS help the local leaders with the program of the club. They often serve as project leaders and help the leaders and members wherever needed. They serve on committees, too. They help secure leaders, find meeting places, furnish transportation and help club members take part in club meetings and club activities.

It is best when the whole community helps the 4-H Clubs.



Club members learn about forest, range, wildlife and how to protect them in their work in conservation and camping.



4-H Clubs boost conservation with Keep Idaho Green activity.

4-H Develops Leadership and Citizenship

AS you take part in an active 4-H Club as an officer or do you part as a 4-H Club member, you are training yourself for leadership and citizenship. You will learn principles of democratic government, the strength of a group working together, the job of doing, community service, how to develop your own leadership and how to think

and talk on your feet. Then you will be a more useful citizen.

Your club may do something to improve the community, such as cleaning the church yard, posting name signs at highway corners, or posting "Keep Idaho Green" signs. Others may help with Red Cross, polio, or anti-tuberculosis campaigns, or conduct a community health survey.

Grassroots Ambassadors (IFYE)

EACH year several Idaho 4-H Club members travel to foreign lands to live with farm families. These countries send young people to Idaho to live in our homes, to learn about our country and our way of life. The program is sponsored by the National 4-H Club Foundation of Silver Springs, Maryland. The expenses are shared by the 4-H delegates, the community and the National 4-H Club Foundation. You may be able to go on one of these trips when you are 20 to 30 years of age if you have a good 4-H career record. You may invite a foreign guest to your home to live with you and share your family work and fun. In these ways you will be helping to promote understanding throughout the world.

International Farm Youth delegate reads palms of Idaho 4-H members in Indian tradition.





Rewards to Outstanding Members

MANY trips and scholarships are offered to club members with outstanding work in achievement, leadership, citizenship, and in the project fields. Some of the principal ones are:

Idaho State 4-H Club Congress

This state meeting is held for club members 14 years of age and over and who have completed two years of club work. It is held on the campus of the University of Idaho in June to give training in leadership, citizenship, choosing a life's work, personal improvement, and over-all 4-H Club program.

National 4-H Club Congress—Chicago

Club members 15 years old and over who have completed three years of club work and with outstanding records in project work may attend.

National 4-H Conference—Washington, D. C.

Two boys and two girls who are 16 years and over with three years of club work with outstanding achievements in leadership, citizenship and project fields may attend.

College Scholarships Available

For high score achievement members in most counties.

4-H Key Club Award

A 4-H key award is given to club members who have been recognized for leadership in their club and county-wide activities. A county awards committee selects members for this honor by use of a special key club score card.

Your County Extension Agent has more detailed information on these awards.

Improving Family and Community Living

