Exploring 4-H 4-H for New Families



Learn the Language

From the club level to the national level, 4-H uses terminology that may be unfamiliar or used differently than what you've previously experienced. While you'll find some of those words here, don't hesitate to ask your club leader if you ever come across other terms or acronyms that you don't know. The number next to each bolded word corresponds to the answer in the crossword puzzle on the opposite page.

Club 4-H Terms

A 4-H club¹¹ consists of a group of youth members³ who meet regularly to conduct business, serve the community, and have fun with the guidance of dedicated, caring adults. A Cloverbud¹¹ is a 4-H member in grades K-2. All clubs have at least one adult, usually a volunteer, designated as a club leader¹⁰ who works with youth leaders to guide the group. 4-H clubs often do community service² projects to make a difference in the community. Some clubs also have their members track project progress throughout the year (and their 4-H career) through a record book¹. Other clubs encourage members to give a demonstration⁶, where they teach a project-based skill to other members.





County 4-H Jargon

For many 4-H members, one of the highlights of the year is showcasing their hard work at a local **fair**¹⁷. At the fair, members enter their project as an **exhibit**⁸. This is also a common place for counties to have a **Leaders Organization**¹⁶ that runs a 4-H food stand. A Leaders Organization consists of volunteers and youth leaders throughout the county that provides education, raises funds, and promotes 4-H. Usually, the organization is known as a Leader Federation, Leader Association, or Leader Council.

Wisconsin 4-H Lexicon

In 1914, the Smith-Lever Act established a Cooperative **Extension**⁷ service as a partnership between the USDA and land-grant institutions. Extension, the home of Wisconsin 4-H, is a division of UW-Madison. UW-Madison employs a **4-H educator**⁴ in each county, usually known as a 4-H Program Coordinator or 4-H Positive Youth Development Educator, that leads and coordinates the county's 4-H program. Wisconsin 4-H uses **4HOnline**⁹ as it's member management database. It's here that members can also enroll in an **educational experience**¹⁹ which is a travel opportunity to various parts of the country organized by the state 4-H office.



National 4-H Language

The 4 H's are **Head**⁵, **Heart**¹⁴, **Hands**¹⁵, and **Health**¹⁸. These are all part of the 4-H **Pledge**¹² which is usually recited at the beginning of meetings. The 4-H **Motto**¹³, adopted nationally, is "To Make the Best Better."



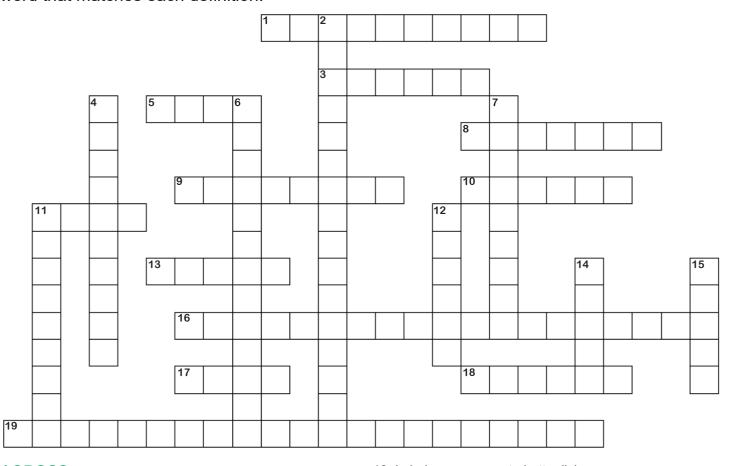
Got a minute? Please provide feedback by filling out this 5-question survey https://forms.gle/ENeo5qzTVwc32cbd6





Common Word Crossword

4-H has a lot of words that might not get used a lot in other places. See if you can fill in the word that matches each definition!



ACROSS

- 1. Where you keep track of all your 4-H project work in a year (2 wds)
- 3. Any young person enrolled in a club between the ages of 5-19
- 5. I pledge my _____ to clearer thinking
- 8. Item resulting from project work that a 4-H'er brings to the fair to be evaluated by a judge
- 9. Internet 4-H member management system where you enroll as a member and register for educational experiences
- 10. Adult volunteer with responsibilities and job duties to help youth in 4-H
- 11. Group of 4-H members who meet regularly to conduct business, learn about projects, do community service, and have fun
- 13. The 4-H : To Make the Best Better
- 16. Leadership group made of volunteers and youth leaders from around the county to provide education, raise funds, and promote 4-H (2 wds)
- 17. Event where 4-H youth may exhibit their projects

- 18. I pledge my _____ to better living
- 19. Travel opportunity that combines learning, tours, and site visits to expand a member's view of the world (2 wds)

DOWN

- 2. Project or event done by a club, group, or individual 4-H member to help make the community a better place (2 wds)
- 4. Person who leads and coordinates the county-level program
- 6. Presentation by a 4-H member where they teach a project-based skill to other club members
- 7. System that is home to the 4-H program, established by the Smith-Lever Act on May 8, 1914 that (2 wds)
- 11. 4-H member in grades K-2
- 12. Commitment or promise; most clubs recite this to start each meeting
- 14. I pledge my _____ to greater loyalty
- 15. I pledge my _____ to larger service

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