



4-H Clover Kids

4-H Clover Kids is an exciting program offering 4-H membership to children in kindergarten through third grade. The purpose of the program is to promote children's positive development toward becoming competent, caring, and contributing citizens. Children ages 5-9 are full of energy and have a willingness to learn. They do best when involved in activities and learning experiences that are appropriate for their age. Activities in this program are specially designed for the needs, abilities, and interests of kindergarten through third graders.

What do 4-H Clover Kids do?

Because 4-H Clover Kids is designed for younger children, it looks different from a 4-H Club. 4-H Clover Kids:

- Grow and learn in a non-competitive environment
- Participate in learning experiences designed specifically for their age group
- Learn appropriate life skills
- Focus on working in a group
- Meet new friends
- Have new experiences

- Learn about the world around them

For more information about the Clover Kids philosophy, [click here](#).

What is the format of 4-H Clover Kids?

Clover Kids groups typically meet from 1 – 2 hours at a time. Some groups meet once or twice per month for an entire school year. Some groups meet once per week for six weeks. The format of the group is very flexible depending on the needs and desires of the group and its leaders.

What topics do 4-H Clover Kids explore?

- Science and Technology
- Visual, Performing and Cultural Arts
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Environmental Stewardship
- Personal Development
- Citizenship
- Family Consumer Science
- Plants and Animals
- Much more...

For more topic ideas, [click here](#) to visit the Iowa State University Extension 4-H Clover Kids website.

How are Clover Kids groups different from 4-H Clubs?

Kindergarten through third graders have unique needs, skills and abilities. As a result, children enrolled in this program are not eligible for any activities or projects designed for 4-H Clubs (fourth through twelfth graders). It is not the intent or objective of the Iowa 4-H Clover Kids program to duplicate the fourth through twelfth grade 4-H Club program. While some members may go on to other 4-H experiences, this program is designed with specific educational objectives that focus on children in grades K-3.

One important difference between 4-H Clover Kids for kindergarten through third graders and 4-H Clubs for fourth through twelfth graders is that competitive events are not included for 4-H Clover Kids. Studies of children in kindergarten through third grades indicate that the best way to build confidence in this age group is to build many learning opportunities into activities that emphasize success, however small. Competition with self and others is inappropriate at this age. Therefore, only noncompetitive activities and experiences will occur in 4-H Clover Kids.

Who leads 4-H Clover Kids groups?

Usually, adult volunteers lead 4-H Clover Kids groups. These volunteer leaders are screened and oriented to Clover Kids by our Clover Kids coordinator. A manual of activity ideas, materials and supplies are provided to volunteer leaders. If you are interested in leading a 4-H Clover Kids group, contact our office at 563-359-7577.

Where do 4-H Clover Kids groups meet?

4-H Clover Kids groups meet throughout our community, depending on the needs and desires of the group and its leader. Some groups meet in school buildings immediately after school. Some groups meet in churches or community centers. Other groups meet at the ISU, Scott County Extension office.

How can my child get involved in Clover Kids?

Call the ISU, Scott County Extension office (563-359-7577) to find out about Clover Kids groups that are currently meeting. If there are no groups meeting in your area, be sure to ask about volunteering to start a new 4-H Clover Kids group!