Welcome to 4-H! We’re glad you are interested in finding out more about the 4-H program.

Who can join? Any youth K-12 grade. Annual member fee: $35.00 for 4-12 grade. K-3 grade free.

Programs:

Clover Kids (K-2nd): Clover kids incorporates “hands on” curriculum for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. Clover kids may show small animals at the pet show and may bring up to three static exhibit items to the fair for “show and tell”. Many community clubs offer a clover kids program.

Discovery Program: The discovery program is designed for members in the 3rd grade. You can participate in projects designed just for them. Discovery members are allowed to show static exhibits, as well as dogs, cats, small pets, poultry, rabbits, and bucket calves.

Community Club Program: The 4-H program is divided by grade level.
- Clover Kids (K-2nd)
- Discovery (3rd)
- Juniors (4th-6th)
- Intermediates (7th-8th)
- Seniors (9th-12th)

Once a 4-H’er reaches 4th grade they can show all livestock and static exhibits.

In 4-H you can:
* Be with friends
* Attend a camp
* Participate in county fair
* Learn about a project area
* Go to club events
* AND MUCH, MUCH, MORE!

Welcome to 4-H!
Contact a club leader in your area or contact the West Pottawattamie County Extension Office at 366-7070 to find out how to join a 4-H club.

4-H Mission: ISU Extension to youth and 4-H creates supportive environments for culturally diverse youth and adults to reach their full potential.

Life Skills: 4-H in Iowa emphasizes the development of the following life skills:
* Developing a positive self concept
* Communication skills
* Decision making skills
* Learning how to learn
* Ability to cope with change
* Citizenship skills
* Leadership skills
* Record keeping skills

4-H Leader: A caring adult is one of the main stays of the 4-H program. Organizational leaders are the main leaders of the club and handle the overall organization of the club. They may or may not have assistant leaders to help carry out certain responsibilities. There are also 4-H project leaders who teach specific project areas. Organizational leaders and project leaders are required to attend two county trainings per year. All have completed a background check in order to become leaders.

4-H Project: A 4-H project is an area of emphasis in which the 4-H’er enrolls, studies, learns, keeps records, and perhaps exhibits. Examples of project areas are: food and nutrition, computers, dog, photography, visual arts, cats, etc. A 4-H’er may complete work in a project area without exhibiting at the county fair.

4-H Exhibit: A 4-H exhibit is an item resulting from project work that the 4-H’er has chosen to be exhibited at the fair and evaluated by a judge. An example of a 4-H exhibit is a loaf of bread.

Ribbons: 4-H exhibits are divided into groups and awarded purple, blue, red, white, with purple being the highest quality group. Under this system, exhibits are evaluated individually and not ranked in comparison with each other (except in livestock classes).

4-H Newsletter: The 4-H newsletter is available once a month for 4-H families. It contains valuable information about upcoming events, deadlines, rules, etc. Families can access the newsletter on their 4H Online account www.4honline.com (once enrolled) or online at www.extension.iastate.edu/westpottawattamie/4h. Families that do not have access to the internet can pick up a newsletter at the Extension Office.

Club Activity: A 4-H club usually plans more than their monthly meetings. Club activities may include potlucks, special workshops, parties, or trips. The club activities are opportunities for learning or “just having FUN!”

Community Service: 4-H’ers may participate in a variety of community service projects. These may be completed individually or with their club group. They may select a special project each year, or they may have an ongoing project.

Extension Office: Each county has an Extension Office which provides research based on information from Iowa State University to the general public. Our office is called the West Pottawattamie County Agricultural Extension District and is funded by county, state, and federal taxes. If you have any questions, the County Extension Office is a good place to start!

Other Opportunities in 4-H: 4-H provides members with other opportunities such as:
* College Scholarships
* Citizenship Washington Focus Trip to D.C.
* State Project Awards
* County Council
* Area Council
* State Council
* National Congress in Atlanta

JOIN NOW—CONTACT A 4-H LEADER TODAY!
4-H IS FAMILIES, 4-H IS FRIENDS, 4-H IS FUN,

4-H IS FABULOUS!