



ENHANCING THE CLUB EXPERIENCE.....

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Set 1

<p>Month 1</p>	<p>No More Tears</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young kids often have difficulties and are nervous about the first day of school. Lead them in some fun activities to lighten the mood and to show them that schools are fun places to learn. Work with local school officials to host a ‘first day of school’ party for kindergarteners. This can be held in conjunction with meet the teacher nights. Activities can be conducted in a classroom, gymnasium, library, etc. Remember your audience and their attention span. Keep your activity short, fun, and interactive! Be sure and wear your 4-H shirt or name tags to show them who you are. <p>We Vote Too!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An important part of a 4-H Club is voting on officers and the business of the club. It is the civic duty of adults. Assist local officials in conducting a voter registration event by passing out voter registration cards or information on how to register. In Texas, voters must register by 30 days prior to the election. So keep this in mind to make sure that every voter registers in time to make every vote count. In most Texas counties, the Tax Assessor-Collector is also the Voter Registrar. In some counties, the County Clerk or Elections Administrator registers voters. Remember that we are not campaigning for a candidate or party, but simply wanting to help show the importance of voting.
<p>Month 2</p>	<p>Stretch Your Food Dollar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With fuel prices continually driving up the costs of food, families may have difficulties making ends meet. You can help these individuals by conducting a food budgeting program. As a Foods & Nutrition community service project, conduct a “Stretching Your Food Dollar” program at a local food bank/pantry. Your Texas AgriLife Extension Family Consumer Science agent or Better Living for Texans (BLT) program assistant can assist you with program information details and resources.
<p>Month 3</p>	<p>Honor Them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize a Veteran’s Day recognition event or contact your local VFW to see what you can do for service men and women in your area. Take a trip to the nearest veteran’s hospital and share with patients get well cards and/or items of thanks and cheer. Identify the veteran memorials in your community/county and create a brochure, website, or publication describing each, its significance and its location. Be sure and share that information once it is created! <p>Make it Count</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist county/city officials with the elections. • Conduct a mock election at a school or other location for youth to demonstrate the importance of voting.
<p>Month 4</p>	<p>Kids Need Coats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With cooler weather upon us in December, some kids may not have the necessary clothing items to help keep them warm. Conduct a clothing drive to collect items like coats, gloves, and scarves and then distribute them to individuals, local clothing rooms, or charitable organizations. <p>Puppy Love</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a donation drive for your local animal rescue shelter. Collect items like canned food, chew toys, old newspapers, etc. Be sure and ask your shelter what they need most. • Adopt an animal shelter. Ask families to sign up to assist the shelter in cleaning out pens each month. • Organize a free pet flea bath in your community to promote healthy pets.
<p>Month 5</p>	<p>Read All About It</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer at a local library. Read stories to younger audiences. • Create an afterschool or weekend reading club for kids. • Work with an adult literacy program.
<p>Month 6</p>	<p>4-H Extreme Makeover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decorate a room in a shelter, children’s home, adult assisted living home, or non-profit agency. Be creative and find inexpensive or donated items. • Adopt or create a flower bed to spruce up one of the above-mentioned groups are even a city park, municipal building, home, or other public location. Don’t forget the “Adopted by: _____” sign!



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Month 7	<p>Secretary Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volunteer to help out at your County Extension Office. Ideas might include filing, dusting, cleaning windows, organizing storage rooms, painting a room, stocking the kitchen with new utensils to name a few.• Send thank you notes or goodie baskets to your Extension support staff for all of the hard work they do behind the scenes in support of the 4-H program.
Month 8	<p>A Bicycle Built For Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinate a community drive to collect and repair used bicycles. Donate the refurbished bikes to a community agency that will give the bikes to kids. Partner with local police, public safety departments and businesses to make sure that each bike comes with a new bike helmet. (It isn't safe to recycle bike helmets!)
Month 9	<p>The Season For Safety</p> <p>With summer just around the corner, conduct a summer safety program. Examples of safety topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tractor• Bicycle/Skating/Skateboarding• 4-wheeler (ATV)• Swimming/swimming pool• Babysitting• Summer skin care• Livestock (for the animal and owner)• Camping/Hiking• Basic First Aid/CPR (taught by qualified instructor)• Food Safety (for such occasions as barbeques, family reunions, etc.)• Fireworks• Insect repellent use• Heat stroke/exhaustion prevention• Sports