

# TEXAS 4-H CLOVER KIDS



In support of the youth development mission of 4-H, the purpose of the 4-H Clover Kids Program is to help youth learn social skills, reinforce formal school programs through informal, noncompetitive experiential educational projects and activities, develop self-esteem and build family strengths. The annual participation fee does not pertain to Clover Kids. The following rules and guidelines are based on youth development research indicating competitive events and competitive judging are inappropriate for Clover Kid aged youth.

## Age Requirements

- The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service extends a limited version of the 4-H experience to youth in grades K-2 as "4-H Clover Kids." This age category is further defined as youth who are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten on September 1 of the current year and have not entered (started classes) the third grade on September 1.
- Clover Kids are not eligible to serve as club officers, nor are they eligible to participate in activities, recognition programs, or competitive events reserved for older youth.

## Enrollment

- Any chartered 4-H club may organize a "4-H Clover Kids" group within the club.
- A school, day care center, community center, neighborhood, or group may sponsor and organize a 4-H Clover Kids group, with the aid of volunteers trained by the county Extension staff or their designees.
- Each 4-H Clover Kids member may participate only through organized learning groups under the guidance of qualified and trained volunteer 4-H leaders.
- Members can be enrolled on 4HOnline using individual or group enrollment forms.

## Approved Projects and Recognition

- Emphasis is on providing project-related learning experiences and forms of recognition which are age appropriate and based on current youth development research. The individual project is the basis for a significant part of the education in 4-H. Projects and curricula approved by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for Clover Kids include:

### Projects

- Computer Science
- Dog Care & Training
- Fashion & Interior Design
- Food & Nutrition
- Health & Personal Safety
- Horticulture
- Photography
- Rabbits
- Robotics
- Sport Fishing

### Curricula

- Hatching In the Classroom
- Yea 4-H!
- Junior Master Gardener

- Projects are restricted to those mentioned above which the youth can, by themselves, understand, manage, and care for and for which the youth can master the associated subject matter knowledge.
- Projects for Clover Kids ARE NOT to be entered into competition.
- Projects are not eligible to be entered into competition in traditional 4-H program events and activities reserved for the 3rd grade to the 12th grade group.
- Projects may be exhibited at an appropriate Extension approved non-competitive 4-H Clover Kids event.
- In presentations and exhibits, Clover Kids will be presented participation awards only, with recognition based upon completing and exhibiting the product or skill. No judging or placing shall be permitted.