Oregon 4-H Youth Development Program Model

Resources
- Relevant Theory
- Best Practices
- Appropriated Funds
- Grants, Gifts, Contracts
- Paid and Volunteer Staff
- CSREES-USDA
- Oregon State University
- County Government
- Facilities
- Collaborators
- Curricula
- Youth...

K-12 Youth

Engagement Strategies

Content
- Opportunity for Belonging
- Opportunity for Generosity

Life Skills
- Opportunity for Mastery
- Opportunity for Independence

Intermediate Outcomes
- Competence
- Confidence
- Connection
- Character
- Caring and Compassion

Long Term Outcomes
- Positive contribution to community
- Healthy family and social relationships
- Economic self-sufficiency


4-H helps young people learn and grow through an intentional process that builds competence, confidence, connection, compassion, and character. Our vision is for all youth to experience economic and social success in adulthood while making positive contributions to their communities.

Developed by Roger Rennekamp and Mary Arnold (Revised January 2009)
The 4-H Mission

4-H teaches subject matter and life skills through an intentional process that helps young people meet key developmental needs.

4-H teaches young people about a wide array of subject matter ranging from animal science to digital imaging. Learning through 4-H augments what is learned in the classroom and opens doors to career pathways.

Life skills enable young people to function effectively in a complex world. The commitment to building life skills is articulated in the 4-H pledge.

The head represents managing and thinking skills
The heart represents relating and caring skills
The hands represent working and giving skills
Health represents living and being skills

Positive youth development rarely happens by chance. It results from the intentional efforts of parents, schools, youth organizations, and communities to ensure that young people have opportunities for belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity. 4-H programs intentionally build in opportunities for belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity. These are known as the essential elements of 4-H. The essential elements set the context in which positive development occurs.

Youth Development Outcomes

4-H produces five functionally valued outcomes.

4-H programs strive to produce five functionally valued developmental outcomes known collectively as the five “C’s.” Competence refers to the social, academic, cognitive, and vocational capacities of youth. Confidence stems from improving self-esteem, self-concept, self-efficacy, and hope for the future. Connection is the result of building and strengthening relationships with people and institutions. Character refers to the development of self-control, a sense of right and wrong, and respect for cultural and societal norms. Caring and Compassion refer to one’s empathy and identification with others.

The 4-H Vision

All youth experience economic and social success in adulthood while making positive contributions to their communities.

Youth must become economically self-sufficient as adults. They must be able to support themselves and their families.

Young must grow up to physically and mentally healthy with the social support systems needed to care for themselves and others.

Youth must grow up to be active contributors to their community and society.