



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences



## Georgia 4-H Base Programming

# Watermelon Growing Contest

### Description of Learning Experience:

Georgia 4-H offers to all active Pre-Club, Cloverleaf, Junior, and Senior 4-H members (4-H'ers in 1st through 12th grades) the opportunity to exhibit their knowledge and ability to cultivate and grow one or more watermelons over a regulated period of time. Growing the heaviest watermelon amongst the entries involved in the competition incorporates basic aptitude of measurement concepts. Preparation skills, research abilities, and patience in this field of agricultural and environmental sciences enhance a participant's ability to excel in this competition. In addition to learning the basic fundamentals of growing and caring for watermelons, mathematical knowledge of space, depth, and irrigation will prepare the 4-H'er for a successful harvest. Common problem solving, such as insect patrol, are essential elements gained throughout this experience. This contest is a 4-H program which develops self-motivation, confidence and responsibility providing opportunity for future workforce experience.

### Learning Outcomes:

- Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, a sense of fair play and other desirable character traits.
- Experience the responsibility of planting, caring for, cultivating, and harvesting a watermelon.
- Increase knowledge of all aspects of agricultural and environmental science and management of watermelon.
- Learn skills of farm management and an understanding of the business and career opportunities
- Demonstrate individual leadership abilities
- Develop leadership abilities, build character and assume citizenship responsibilities, and develop skills, knowledge and attitudes for lifelong use.

### Georgia Performance Standards:

#### Elementary School Pre-Club Level (Grades 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>)

S1CS1 through S3CS1 Students will be aware of the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science and will exhibit these traits in their own efforts to understand how the world works.

S1CS3 through S3CS3 Students will use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating objects in scientific activities.

MKM1 Students will group objects according to common properties such longer/shorter, more/less, taller/shorter, and heavier/lighter.

MKM2 Students will understand the measurement of calendar time.

MKG2 Students will understand basic spatial relationships.

#### Elementary School Level (Grades 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>)

S4CS1 and S5CS1 Students will be aware of the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science and will exhibit these traits in their own efforts to understand how the world works.

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4-H helps young people experience: An increased desire to make a difference in their communities - High levels of leadership, self esteem, public speaking, communication and planning skills - Improved School Performance - Motivation to help others - Overall improvement in civic identity and civic engagement.



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S4CS2 and S5CS2 Students will have the computation and estimation skills necessary or analyzing and following scientific explanations.

S4CS3 and S5CS3 Students will use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating objects in scientific activities utilizing safe laboratory procedures.

M4M1 Students will understand the concept of weight and how to measure weight.

### Middle School Level (Grades 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>)

S6CS1 through S8CS1 Students will be aware of the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science and will exhibit these traits in their own efforts to understand how the world works.

S6CS4 through S8CS4 Students will use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating equipment and materials in scientific activities.

### High School Level (Grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>)

SCSH1 Students will evaluate the importance of curiosity, honesty, openness, and skepticism in science.

SCSH2 Students will use standard practices for all classroom laboratory and field investigations.

### Essential Elements:

Primary: Mastery and Independence; Secondary: Belonging and Generosity

### Mission Mandates:

Science, Engineering and Technology

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