



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

Georgia 4-H Base Programming



Georgia 4-H Environmental Education

Description of Learning Experience:

Since 1979, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program has provided a network of high-quality day and residential educational experiences. At the five 4-H Centers from the mountains to the sea (Wahsega 4-H Center, Fortson 4-H Center, Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Burton 4-H Center, Jekyll Island 4-H Center), the focus is to teach science in the context of the environment, using the outdoors as a classroom without walls. While the focus is science, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program also complements math, history, and language arts lessons. The programs are aligned with the current Georgia state curriculum guidelines and are delivered by working together with schools and school systems. The hands-on, in-context, and active classes are taught by well-trained, college-educated instructors and allow learning to come alive for students.

Learning Outcomes:

- To make the school program more meaningful by applying knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to real life situations
- To cultivate curiosity, critical reasoning and evaluation
- To develop positive relationships among students and teachers
- To develop self-confidence and physical fitness
- To develop an awareness, knowledge and appreciation of the environment
- To develop appreciation for the local and natural history of an area
- To provide experiences in using scientific processes, such as observing, measuring, and classifying

Georgia Performance Standards:

A complete list of correlations may be accessed at www.georgia4h.org/ee.

Essential Elements:

Primary: Mastery and Generosity; Secondary: Independence and Belonging

Mission Mandates:

Science, Engineering and Technology; Healthy Lifestyles; Citizenship



State Contact: Melanie Biersmith, 706-484-2894 or melmel@uga.edu

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.