

# 4-H Training Topics - Introduction to 4-H Curriculum



**Background:**  
4-H brings to the youth development field a vast amount of curricula on a wide variety of topics. There's something of interest to all youth. These curricula also provide adult leaders with the information needed to be a 4-H project leader. With a little training, it's easy to do a great job that will be fun for all.

**Resource:**  
*4-H 101 Lesson 8, Knowing and Using 4-H Curricula.*

**Materials Needed:**  
Several sets of 4-H curricula for projects that will be interesting and appropriate for youth.  
**4-H Curriculum Scavenger Hunt** worksheet for each participant, pens and pencils.

**Preparation Time:**  
Make copies of scavenger hunt worksheet. Gather materials listed above. Arrange tables so people can work in groups of four and have worksheets and curricula on the tables.

Allow 15 minutes for preparation and set-up.

## 1 Lead Up Activity

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Greet participants as they arrive. Invite them to find a place to sit.	Welcome everyone, while we are waiting for everyone to arrive visit with others about how you have used any of the 4-H curricula.	5

## 2 Introduce the Training

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Introduction of trainer and the 4-H materials.	My name is _____ and I have been a trainer for _____. Thank you for coming to today's training, <i>Introduction to 4-H Curriculum</i> . We will be exploring curricula for children and youth grades K-12 to learn how to easily make it part of the daily activities.	1

## 3 Introduction of Staff

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Length of introductions will depend on the number of people and whether they know each other but always try to keep it short while allowing everyone to participate.	I'd like each person to tell us your name, where you work and one experience you've had with 4-H. If you don't have any experience tell us something you'd like to know about 4-H programs.	4

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## 4 Do an Activity

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Have everyone take a scavenger hunt worksheet.	Each table has a set of 4-H curriculum materials for a specific project. Using the scavenger hunt sheet as a guide, explore the materials and answer the questions on the sheet. Work as a team to find as many of the items on the list as possible. There are 15 minutes for this task.  When the time is up each group will be asked to introduce the curriculum they explored, what age group it's designed for and why it would be good to use in CYS Services.	15

## 5 Sharing Ideas

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Be prepared to reinforce the reports by pointing out the common structure of the guides including the experiential learning model, age appropriateness, addressing a variety of learning styles, juried, research based, and online support for many projects.	Now it's time to share each curriculum with the rest of the group. It may be helpful to take notes about the projects that youth might find interesting.	5

## 6 Applying the Experience

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Provide link to on-line catalogue, <a href="http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/">http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/</a> . Have one copy available for participants to review.	Now, sitting with co-workers, talk about how to present at least one of these projects to the youth and make it part of the program. There are more curricula in the catalogue so take a look at those and also those only available on-line.	3

## 7 Close

What to Do	What to Say	Minutes
Summarize and close.	Becoming familiar with project curriculum is an important step to successful 4-H programming. Please let me know if you have questions.	2

