



# Friends



## Introduction to 4-H

**I Pledge... My Head, Heart, Hands and Health**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
EXTENSION





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## Welcome to Georgia 4-H!

I'm Arch the Dawg, and we are glad to have you as a part of the University of Georgia's youngest students. You have many great opportunities ahead in Georgia 4-H, so let's get started as you learn to pledge your Head, Heart, Hands and Health to your Club, Community, Country and World! In 2014, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act. Look for good, descriptive text in the pages ahead to help you learn why this was an important celebration. Our journey together will help you learn that through 4-H we can "Make the Best Better." Congratulations on the beginning of a terrific experience!

**Georgia 4-H** is a partner in public education and strives to incorporate standards in the educational materials produced for in-school use. The following standards are correlated to content delivery included in this publication's introduction to Georgia 4-H:

**ELAGSE4RLA:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text.

**ELAGSE4RI2:** Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

**ELAGSE4SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**ELAGSE5RL4:** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

**ELAGSE5RI2:** Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text.

**ELAGSE5SL2:** Summarize a written text read aloud or information presented in diverse media formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

**ELAGSE6RI3:** Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).

**ELAGSE6SL1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**ELAGSE6SL2:** Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text or issue under study.

**CM3.K4:** Government and Public Administration

**CM3.K4:** Marketing



**Think Green!** Not just 4-H Green...but let's help do our part to recycle and reuse. Save this book, reread it or pass it along to a friend. If it's too worn, please recycle it.



# THE STORY OF GEORGIA 4-H

When most of Georgia was farmland and most Georgians made their living on the farm, Mr. G.C. Adams, school superintendent in Newton County, dreamed of a place for young boys to learn all they needed to about their future career in farming.

To help his students prepare for the future, Mr. Adams began the first Georgia Boys Corn Clubs in 1904. In this early club, boys planted and cared for their crop, and exhibited it in the fair.

Just southeast of Newton County, another milestone in Georgia 4-H history was growing. Like the boys in Newton County, the girls of Hancock County wanted an opportunity to be part of an educational club and thus the Girls Tomato Canning Club began in 1908. The girls grew tomatoes in their family vegetable gardens and canned them for competition.

Soon boys and girls all over Georgia were joining corn and tomato canning clubs and the beginning of what we now call Georgia 4-H was on its way!

As a result of innovative methods learned through the Boys Corn Clubs and Girls Tomato Canning Clubs, the corn and tomato **yield** increased for families.

In 1914, an important event in our nation's history happened: Congress passed the **Smith-Lever Act**, which established the **Cooperative Extension Service**. Cooperative Extension is the service part of the University of Georgia.

We can thank **Senator** Hoke Smith from Georgia and **Representative** Ashbury Lever from South Carolina for their creativity and work to bring a new kind of

"teacher" – a County Extension Agent – to each county in our state.

As a result of the **legislation**, the Boys Corn Club and the Girls Tomato Canning Clubs came together to form the first 4-H club. **The Smith-Lever Act** affords someone representing the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental

Science Cooperative Extension to bring 4-H education programs to your school.

Just like Mr. Adams used information from the university to help his students learn, we will be doing that too.

Georgia 4-H has expanded and grown since our beginnings more than one hundred years ago. We have many learning opportunities and projects with agricultural and science topics, and we also have opportunities in other areas like the environment, citizenship, leadership, family and consumer science, and, of course, communication!



1. Who is credited with starting the Boys Corn Clubs that later became Georgia 4-H?
2. What do you think it means to increase yield in a crop? Why would that be important for a farmer?
3. If the Smith-Lever Act was passed by Congress in 1914, how long has this legislation be in existence?
4. Explain why the Smith-Lever Act was an important piece of legislation.

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# 4-H IN YOUR COMMUNITY



Your community is your first stop for 4-H. During club meetings, you will explore and learn about different 4-H activities, receive announcements about upcoming 4-H events and get to know your fellow 4-H'ers!

Get started by filling in the blanks below.

I belong to \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H. There are \_\_\_\_\_ members in my 4-H club.

My 4-H leaders are \_\_\_\_\_.

## Learning more about 4-H

— Important Information to Know and Understand —

### Motto

The 4-H motto is almost as old as the club itself. For more than 100 years, 4-H'ers have worked to "Make the Best Better." Will you join the effort to "Make the Best Better" through your 4-H experience?

### Slogan

In addition to our motto, 4-H also has a slogan: "Learn by Doing." You will have many opportunities to "Learn by Doing" through your 4-H experience!

### 4-H Colors

4-H colors are green and white. For many years, 4-H'ers wore uniforms in competition. Today, 4-H'ers do not wear uniforms but do proudly wear the colors of green and white and display the 4-H emblem.



### The 4-H Pledge

A pledge is a promise. The 4-H pledge was written in 1927 by Otis Hall from Kansas. Even though 4-H has changed since then, the pledge still stands as a commitment for 4-H'ers to do their best. 4-H leaders often have you say the pledge at 4-H meetings, events and activities. Learn the pledge and say it with pride!

#### I PLEDGE...

my **Head** to clearer thinking  
my **Heart** to greater loyalty  
my **Hands** to larger service  
and my **Health** to better living  
for my club, my community,  
my country and my world.



## SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS

careers include jobs at every level of government from local to state to national. Senator Hoke Smith and Representative Ashbury Lever made a significant contribution to our country when they developed the legislation to create the Cooperative Extension Service. These Cooperative Extension workers are part of local, state and federal government and work to bring the knowledge and practical application of the research from the University of Georgia to your community.

What other careers can you name that are part of county, state, or federal government?





# 4-H LEARN BY DOING

Elementary age 4-H'ers have an opportunity to get involved in your school and community with your County 4-H program. This means you will attend 4-H meetings, learn how Science, Nutrition and Technology relate to your life and have a chance to put your English Language Arts skills into practice through presenting a project.

**Learn more about Georgia 4-H on the web:** [www.youtube.com/georgia4h](http://www.youtube.com/georgia4h)

**Like you, many young people throughout our state have gotten their 4-H start in a school club meeting.**

**Let's learn more about 4-H from these two State 4-H Officers:**

## 4-H Favorites



Project Achievement



Summer Camp



Community Service



## This or That?



Beach Camp

Mountain Camp

Poultry Judging

Horse Judging

Public Speaking

Cooking Demo

Competition Time

Social Time



**Kaleb Green**

**Dooly County  
Southwest District**

## Lesson Learned

Chase Your Dream

## What's your Spark?

Leadership Growth

### What advice do you have for someone just getting their start in 4-H?

Starting your journey in 4-H is exciting! Explore different projects to discover what you enjoy most. Be open-minded and willing to learn new skills, even if they seem challenging at first. Don't hesitate to ask leaders or fellow members for help and advice. Participate in club events to make new friends and feel more connected. Always do your best and be patient with yourself as you learn and grow. Enjoy your 4-H experience and make the most of every opportunity! We're rooting for you!

## 4-H Favorites



Project Achievement



Livestock Show Team



Summer Camp



## This or That?



Beach Camp

Mountain Camp

Poultry Judging

Horse Judging

Public Speaking

Cooking Demo

Competition Time

Social Time



**Agatha Grimes**

**Candler County  
Southeast District**

## Lesson Learned

Never give up and always do your best!

## What's your Spark?

Agriculture

### What advice do you have for someone just getting their start in 4-H?

4-H is an amazing organization that has allowed me to do so many amazing and fun activities! My advice to you is to stay involved and never stop dreaming big. Explore new things and discover your interests to find out what is your spark.

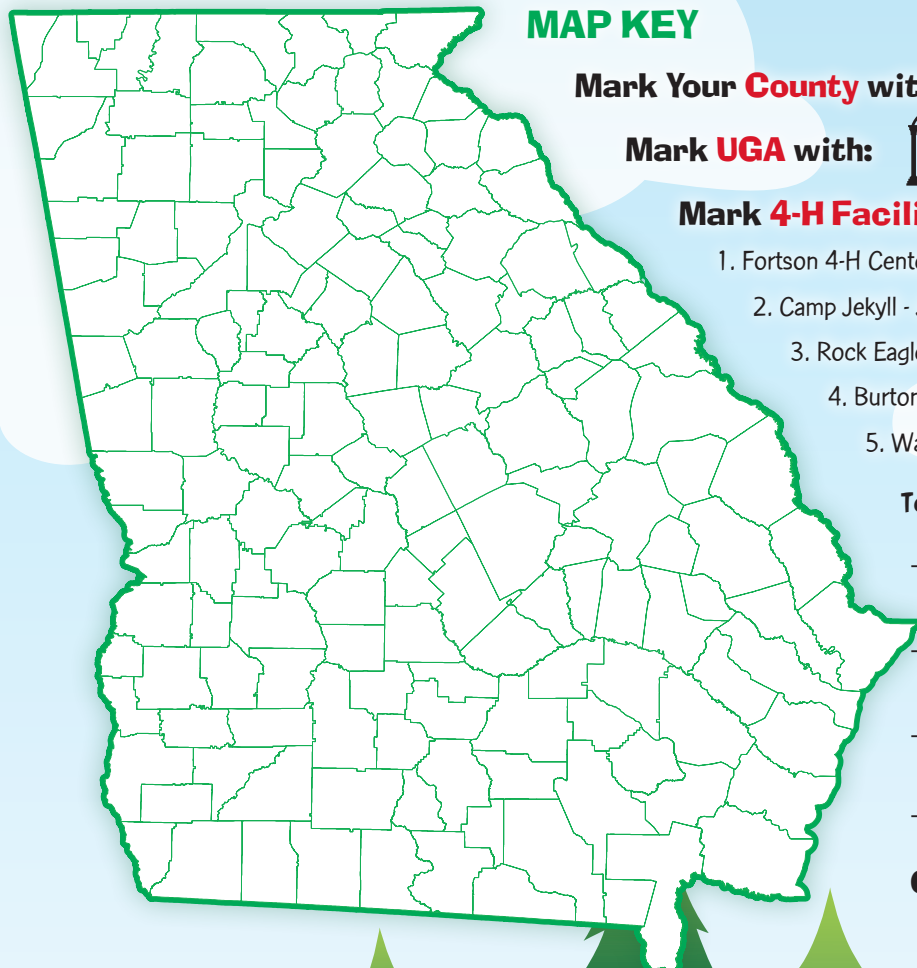


# WHERE ARE YOU INVOLVED IN 4-H TODAY?

You just learned about our 4-H motto, slogan and pledge – and heard from two 4-H alumni, now let's take a look at where 4-H is in our great state!

Use the key to know which icon to place to represent the following places on the Georgia map.

- We cover the state with the 4-H program, can you find your 4-H club in your community, known as your county? Place a star on the Georgia map to note your county and the 4-H club where you are a member.
- Georgia 4-H is a part of the University of Georgia. Can you find the University's main campus? When you find it, place the UGA Arch on the Georgia map.
- Locate the five 4-H centers, also known as University of Georgia campuses, around our state. The five 4-H centers can be found from the mountains of north Georgia all the way to Georgia's coast. Place a 4-H emblem at each location on the map where you would find a 4-H center.



## MAP KEY

Mark Your **County** with:



Mark **UGA** with:



Mark **4-H Facilities** with:



1. Fortson 4-H Center - Hampton, GA
2. Camp Jekyll - Jekyll Island, GA
3. Rock Eagle 4-H Center - Eatonton, GA
4. Burton 4-H Center - Tybee Island, GA
5. Wahsega 4-H Center - Dahlonega, GA

To contact your County Extension office call

\_\_\_\_\_ or email \_\_\_\_\_

Your County Extension Office is located at \_\_\_\_\_

**County 4-H is a great part of Georgia 4-H! Welcome to you, our newest 4-H star!**

In \_\_\_\_\_ County 4-H'ers can:





# THE 4-H TIMELINE

A timeline is a sequence of related events arranged in chronological order. Take note of the special occurrences that happened in our rich 100+ year Georgia 4-H history, and then find your special place along the Georgia 4-H timeline.

➤ **1904** – George Claude Adams, Newton County school superintendent, organized the first Agricultural Corn Club in Georgia for boys in Covington with 151 members.



**1908** – P.D. Johnson, a Black teacher in Newton County, started the Negro 4-H program with a corn demonstration garden for sons and fathers who wanted to learn modern corn production practices.

➤ In **1914**, the Smith-Lever Act was passed, which established the Cooperative Extension Service. By 1915, Georgia had 5,507 club girls and 14,275 club boys.



◀ In **1924**, Percy Hunter Stone became the first Black State 4-H leader in Georgia. The headquarters for Black Extension work was at Savannah State College until 1967.

In **1933**, Georgia started the first Wildlife Conservation Camp.

➤ In **1935** the Georgia Master 4-H Club was organized. The first meeting was held at Camp Wilkins with 200 members present.



By **1937**, Georgia had county agents working in every county and the 4-H enrollment had grown to 82, 962.



◀ **1937** – Georgia 4-H opened their mountain camp, Wahsega. Wahsega 4-H Center is still a part of Georgia 4-H camping and environmental education today.

In **1943**, Georgia 4-H'ers sold enough War Bonds to buy a \$2,000,000 Liberty Ship, the SS Hoke Smith, and grew food to fill it.



◀ In **1946**, Tybee became a 4-H camp and in 2002 Tybee Island 4-H Center became Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island.

➤ In **1948**, the Georgia 4-H Club Foundation was organized to help further 4-H work in the state. Each 4-H member was asked to donate one dozen eggs to the Foundation during 1949. By year's end there was \$7,000 in the bank.



➤ In **1951** Construction began on Rock Eagle near Eatonton, Georgia. Bill Sutton raised \$2.5 million to build the center on a 1,400 acre tract of land. The center was dedicated October 30, 1954.



**1955** – Rock Eagle 4-H camp opened. Today, it is the largest 4-H center in the country, hosting 4-H'ers, students and adults year round for 4-H camp, environmental education and conferences.

**1957** – The Dublin 4-H Center became the first state center for Black 4-H Club members in the nation. This site is now on the National Register of Historic Places



◀ In **1979**, 4-H Environmental Education began at Georgia's 4-H Centers with Diane Davies as the coordinator.



◀ In **1982**, Georgia 4-H welcomed our second beach camp. Jekyll 4-H Center opened.

In **1990**, Rock Eagle 4-H Center was renovated and rededicated and the Georgia National Fair began in Perry, GA. More than 10,000 campers attend 4-H camp in five facilities in Georgia.

➤ In **2004**, Georgia 4-H in partnership with the Fortson 4-H Camp board, opened Fortson 4-H Center. In **2015**, the Fortson 4-H board gifted the Fortson 4-H Center to Georgia 4-H.



In **2013**, Georgia 4-H Environmental Education celebrated the millionth participant.

In **2019**, Georgia 4-H celebrated 40 years of Environmental Education.

**Today**, Georgia 4-H has over 173,000 members.  
**What from this timeline stands out to you?**  
**How will you make your mark on Georgia 4-H this year?**







## 4-H CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

In the story of Georgia 4-H and throughout this magazine you have learned so many things about this organization we call 4-H!

### Word Bank

Yield

Senator

Legislation

Movement

Increase

University

Representative

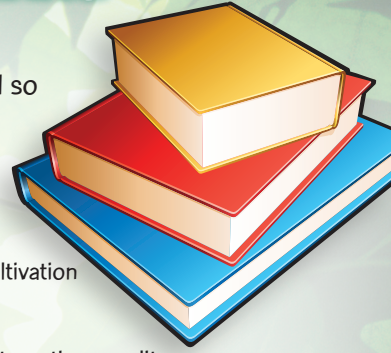
County Extension Agent /  
4-H Program Assistant

Agriculture

Environment

### Definitions

_____	rapid progress of events
_____	to produce by a natural process or cultivation
_____	the act of making or enacting laws
_____	to make greater, as in number, size, strength or quality
_____	a title of respect given to a person who is or has been a member of the Senate
_____	an institution of learning of the highest level
_____	a person who represents a community in the legislature
_____	the science, art or occupation concerned with cultivating land, raising crops, and feeding, breeding and raising livestock; farming
_____	representatives from the University of Georgia who work with youth in their county.
_____	the air, water, minerals, organisms, and all other external factors surrounding and affecting a given organism at any time.



*\*Definitions for this learning activity are based on entries from [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)*

**Thank you for taking time to review this publication with your child.  
Please help your 4-H leader know that you have learned more about Georgia 4-H with your child.**

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



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