Different types of 4-H Clubs offered in Johnson County

Community Clubs
Community Clubs are what is primarily discussed through this brochure.

Project Clubs
Project Clubs (not to be mistaken with project meetings) work the exact same way as community clubs but they are comprised of 4-H’ers with interest in a specific project. Horse, Livestock, and Dog Club are currently the three Project Clubs offered in Johnson County.

SPIN Clubs
SPIN Clubs are a newer concept to Kansas 4-H, introduced in 2013. They are not run like community/project clubs. They are short term clubs (usually 6-8 weeks) that focus on one specific topic. During SPIN Club meetings only that one topic will be covered. Examples of past and present SPIN Clubs in Johnson County are: BB gun, Archery, Reading, Beekeeping, Gardening and Geology. The smaller time commitment is sometimes more ideal for busy families. SPIN Clubs can also be a good introduction to 4-H before deciding if your family wants to join a Community Club.

Basics of 4-H

1. Join a Club
2. Pick your Projects
3. GetInvolved

4-H Is a Network of Families That Grows Great Kids
Join a Club

What do 4-H clubs do?
4-H Clubs meet once a month and members consist of boys and girls ages 7-18. 4-H'ers run the meetings using parliamentary procedure with some help from the adult club leaders. The youth president will lead the meeting but the whole club is involved in all the decisions made.

During the meetings youth will discuss a number of items including community service projects, fundraising and club activities. 4-H'ers will have a chance to work on their public speaking by giving presentations to the club.

How do I choose a club?
Location is typically how 4-H'ers choose their club but that is merely for convenience. We always suggest checking out several clubs to see which one fits your family the best. Each club is run a little different.

Why 4-H?
Raising great kids is a challenging task, but it’s easier when you have a team of people behind you. 4-H clubs are groups of families that do just that. Through working together, families share knowledge and interests to help kids learn practical skills and important values.

Pick your Projects

What is a project?
Projects are different topics offered through 4-H. There are over 30 projects to choose from. Projects are typically completed outside of club meetings.

How is project work done?
There are several different options for project support including project meetings within your club, countywide project meetings or even on your own. Most 4-H’ers do a combination of all three. You decide how involved you want to be based on the time you are able to commit.

What are project meetings?
Project meetings are separate from your regular monthly 4-H meeting. The activities and amount of meetings held are based on what the project leader decides. During this meeting 4-H’ers will learn about one specific project and do hands on activities.

What is a project leader?
A project leader is typically a parent but can also be an adult that shares interest in a project and wants to give back to the 4-H’ers. Project leaders are in charge of planning and leading meetings but often will ask for help from other parents. Clubs typically have project leaders for the projects that their 4-H’ers show the greatest interest in. If there isn’t a project leader for a project you are interested in many times a project leader from another club is happy to let you join their project meetings.

Get Involved

There are a lot of other great activities that 4-H has to offer outside of your club! A few of them include:

4-H Club Day
Club Day is a great event where 4-H’ers from all Johnson County 4-H clubs come together to compete in events such as performing arts, public speaking, music and dance. It is a great way to build self-confidence and meet 4-H’ers from around the county. Some clubs also do group events together such as a skit or dance. The winners get to attend Regional Club Day which includes several surrounding counties.

Johnson County Fair
This is one way 4-H’ers get to show off everything they learned throughout the year with their project work. They enter projects and have the opportunity to do conference judging. This entails sitting down with an expert in the project that will give them feedback about their project. They can receive ribbons for all their hard work and many of the winners receive special awards!

Achievement Night
This is the end of the year celebration where all the 4-H’ers in the county get together and are rewarded for their hard work. There are awards given for membership, projects and being a club officer.