

Bell County 4-H Clover Kids Parents Guide



Hi, Parents!

I'm Chris Clover.

I am your guide
to understanding
4-H Clover Kids.

Follow me.....



What is a Clover Kid?

It is a program designed to provide youth, 2nd grade and younger, with a variety of educational and recreational experiences. It is the officially recognized Texas 4-H program for children under age 8.



What do Clover Kids Do?

Clover Kids attend meetings that center around fun and learning activities like....

Pets, Plants, Food and Nutrition, Crafts, Photography, Safety, and Many More!!!



Does it cost anything to join 4-H Clover Kids?

Clover Kids will sign up on Texas 4-H Connect.

<https://texas.4honline.com>

The annual participation fee does not pertain to Clover Kids.



Goals and Purpose of Clover Kids

The primary goal is to promote the child's stages of development - intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally.

- Develop Self Esteem
- Decision Making Skills (making positive choices)
- Comprehension Skills (learning how to learn; positive attitudes toward learning)
- Mastering Physical Skills (enjoying constructive and creative play)
- Social-Interaction Skills (getting along with others)
- Diversity Skills (acceptance of others; exploring family and community relationships)



Can Parents, Grandparents, Guardians, and Siblings be involved?

YES!! Everyone can be involved! There is always something to volunteer for: either before, during, and after meetings. 4-H Agents are always looking for volunteers to help with a verity of county and district events.



What Type of 4-H Projects Can Clover Kids Sign Up For?

Bell County 4-H has several projects that Clover Kids can participate in:

Food and Nutrition	Clothing and Textiles
Share in the Fun	Educational Presentations
Public Speaking Presentations	Consumer Decision Making
Rabbits	Healthy Lifestyle Education
Safety	Photography
Recreation	Companion Animals

- Projects are restricted to those mentioned above which the youth can, by themselves, understand, manage, and care for and for which the youth can master the associated subject matter knowledge.
- Projects for Clover Kids **ARE NOT** to be entered into competition.
- Projects are not eligible to be entered into competition in traditional 4-H program events and activities reserved for the 9 (or 8 and in the third grade) to 19 age group.
- Projects may be exhibited at an appropriate Extension approved 4-H Clover Kids event.
- In presentations and exhibits, Clover Kids will be presented participation awards only, with recognition based upon completing and exhibiting the product or skill. No judging or placing shall be permitted



Why is the Clover Kid Program Noncompetitive?

Studies prove noncompetitive environments are more likely to develop confidence, creativity, and competence in children. The Clover Kids program corresponds with the child's stages of physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development.



What Type of 4-H Membership Unit is Clover Kids?

4-H is a combination of different kinds of membership units. There are community clubs, project clubs, school clubs, after-school clubs, military clubs, an assortment of project groups, special interest groups, and enrichment curriculum groups. Clover Kids is classified as a special interest group. A 4-H special interest group is organized or coordinated by Extension professionals and taught by volunteer adults or youth leaders. It is a requirement that a Clover Kid be apart of a community club, project club, school club, after-school club, or military club in addition to the Clover Kids county project group.



Can Clover Kids Exhibit at the County Fair?

Clover Kids are not eligible to show at the Bell County Youth Fair. For this reason, we offer the Clover Kids Fair in May. At the Clover Kids Fair they will be able to show off any of their projects that they have done throughout the year.



Why Can't Clover Kids Show Large Animals?

For safety, liability and competitive reasons often associated with livestock shows, some restrictions are necessary to maintain Clover Kids program objectives. According to the 4-H Policy and Procedure Handbook, Clover Kids should not participate in animal events when the animal is greater than 350 pounds or more than six months of age at the time of the show. Children eight and under often lack the mental and physical skills for controlling and understanding the strength of large animals.



What is the Difference between Clover Kids and Older 4-H Members?

Children 5 to 7 years develop and learn in ways different from younger children (2-4 years old) and older youth (8-18 years old). Knowing these differences, projects and activities are designed to provide a foundation for Clover Kids to develop effectively. See the chart below.

	5 to 7 year old 4-H Clover Kid	8 to 18 year old 4-H Member
Type of Learning	Activity Centered	Project Centered
Type of Instruction	Leader/Parent Directed	Self-study, Individual or Leader/Parent Directed
Recognition of Standards	Participation	Achievement
Recognition of Goals	Participation	Competition, Achievement
Learner Resources	Project Resources	Project Manuals

 is **AMAZING!**



Can Clover Kids Go To Camp?

YES!! The Bell County 4-H Clover Kids Camp is in June. The camp involves the youth in a one-day setting where educational, hands-on activities occur.



Parents, I hope the information that I have told you has been helpful.

Please, continue to follow me as I guide you through understanding the Clover Kids meetings.



Bell County 4-H Clover Kids Meeting Information

Please see the Bell County 4-H Clover Kids website for meeting information for the current year.

<http://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/clover-kids/>



Newsletter Game “Where is Chris Clover”

Before the start of each meeting, Clover Kids participate in a Newsletter Game. The purpose of this game is to introduce Clover Kids to the 4-H Monthly Newsletter. The newsletter is a main way that the Extension Office keeps 4-H families up-to-date on the latest 4-H news and opportunities.

Clover Kids will search for 5 Chris Clovers that are hidden in the newsletter. They will write down their answers, turn in their sheet and be added to a drawing. Before the end of the meeting, each Clover Kid who participates will be able to select a prize from the Clover Kids Treasure Chest.





Clover Kids Meeting Agenda

WHY does the Clover Kids group follow an agenda? This is the first step in the development of becoming a 4-H'er. All 4-H meetings are structured in the practice of parliamentary procedure. Following an agenda will help with this development.

Call to Order

Pledges

American Flag
Texas Flag
4-H Motto and Pledge

Roll Call

Show and Tell, Yip-pies and Skip-pies

Program

Announcements

Community Service Projects
Upcoming Events
Recordbook Meeting Page
Newsletter Game Treasure Chest

Adjournment



Agenda Explanations

Call To Order

This is volunteer leadership. A Clover Kid can experience the understanding of how a meeting is started. The power behind the use of the gavel.

Pledges

Each meeting will continue with inspiration. This is also volunteer leadership. Pledges help to place focus on why we are participating.

Roll Call

This helps everyone to learn who has come to be a part of the group.

Show and Tell, Yip-pies and Skip-pies

To be able to stand and share something about yourself or of an interest that you have is a good learning experience. This will help with giving presentations, standing in front of judges or becoming a club officer when a Clover Kid becomes a 4-H'er.

Program

At each meeting there will be a program that is based on a 4-H project. This will help Clover Kids to understand more about the projects that are available in 4-H.



Agenda Explanations (cont.)

Announcements

Clover Kids need to know what is happening in the world of 4-H.

Upcoming events and activities will help a Clover Kid know how they can be more involved in 4-H.

Clover Kids will also have project(s) to help them learn about community service.

After all announcements are made, the Newsletter Game participants will be called one-by-one to be able to select a prize from the Clover Kids Treasure Chest.

Adjournment

This is volunteer leadership. A Clover Kid can experience the understanding of how a meeting is ended. And the power behind the use of the gavel.





Meeting Set up and Clean up

Clover Kids who volunteer to participate in setting up for a meeting and to help clean up after a meeting are learning good membership skills. Meeting set up will take place 30 minutes before the start of a meeting. Room clean up will start right after the adjournment of the meeting.



4-H Clover Kids Recordbook

A 4-H Clover Kids Recordbook is a written history of a Clover Kid's journey through the 4-H year. Keeping a recordbook is part of the overall 4-H experience. It also helps a Clover Kid to make future plans (goals), learn organization, helps them to make decisions and to remember to just have fun while they learn.

Completing a 4-H Clover Kids Recordbook can make a Clover Kid feel good about themselves. They can say “Look at what I did.....”

As a Clover Kid grows in 4-H, documenting what they have done is an important step to future endeavors. Everything that is documented now, can be used when a Clover Kid turns into a 4-H'er.

At each Clover Kids meeting, a Recordbook Meeting Page will need to be filled out telling of what experience took

place for that day. Place each page in a secure folder so they can be used to complete the Clover Kids Recordbook at the end of the year.

In July, a completed 4-H Clover Kids Recordbook will need to be turned into the County Extension Office by the deadline date. Recordbooks will not be judged, but they will be reviewed for content. Clover Kids will receive special recognition and an award of completion at the annual Bell County 4-H Awards and Recognition Banquet in August. Recordbooks will be returned to Clover Kids at the banquet.



This guide is to be used in addition to the Bell County 4-H Family Handbook.

If you have any question, please ask a 4-H Agent or Adult Leader.