



# 4-H Today | An Overview



## Our Background

For more than 100 years, 4-H has stood behind the idea that youth is the single strongest catalyst for change. What began as a way to give rural youth new agricultural skills, today has grown into a global organization that teaches a range of life skills.

4-H is dedicated to positive youth development and helping youth step up to the challenges in a complex and changing world. 4-H is dedicated to helping cultivate the next generation of leaders and tackling the nation's top challenges such as the shortage of skilled professionals, maintaining our global competitiveness, encouraging civic involvement, and becoming a healthier society.

# JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY



## Most Effective Youth Organization

According to an in-depth, longitudinal study conducted by the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development, Tufts University

**4-H youth are three times more likely to actively contribute to their communities and have higher educational achievement.**

## 4-H in Numbers

# 7,000,000

Youth Served Worldwide

# 3,068      71

U.S. Counties      Countries

# 3,500+

Educators

# 532,312+

Volunteers

# 60,000,000+

Alumni

## Largest Youth Organization

**4-H                      6.3M**

Boys & Girls Club      4.8M

Junior Achievement      4.2M

Boy Scouts              2.8M

Girl Scouts              2.7M

Girls Inc.                  0.9M

National FFA              0.5M

Big Brothers  
Big Sisters                  0.25M

US Numbers

## High Quality Positive Youth Development=

Competence+  
Caring+  
Character+  
Confidence+  
Connection.

Ultimately the 4-H  
youth makes a  
**Contribution**  
to his/her community.

# What Does 4-H Offer Youth Today?

**4-H Science** explores such relevant and cutting-edge topics as climate change, water quality and usage, alternative energy, robotics, scientific and technology literacy and sustainable agriculture.



**4-H Healthy Living** is a holistic approach that includes encouraging healthy eating habits, physical fitness, the capacity to recognize and direct emotions and the ability to develop and maintain positive social interactions and relationships.



**4-H Citizenship** concentrates on community action, leadership and personal development, and communication and expressive arts. Through Citizenship programs 4-H youth develop concrete skills to become capable, confident and contributing citizens.



## Life Skills

The life skills that 4-H kids learn are as diverse as the kids themselves.

Rocketry	Robotics
GPS Mapping	Agricultural Science
DNA Analysis	Public Speaking
Photography	Nutrition
Community Service	Leadership

## How Do We Reach Youth?

Number of US Participants In:

4-H Clubs	4-H Camps
<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>418,000</b>
4-H After-School Programs	4-H School Enrichment Programs
<b>307,000</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>

## Our Past & Current Partners Include:



BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation



NOYCE  
FOUNDATION



4-H is the youth development program of our nation's Cooperative Extension Service.