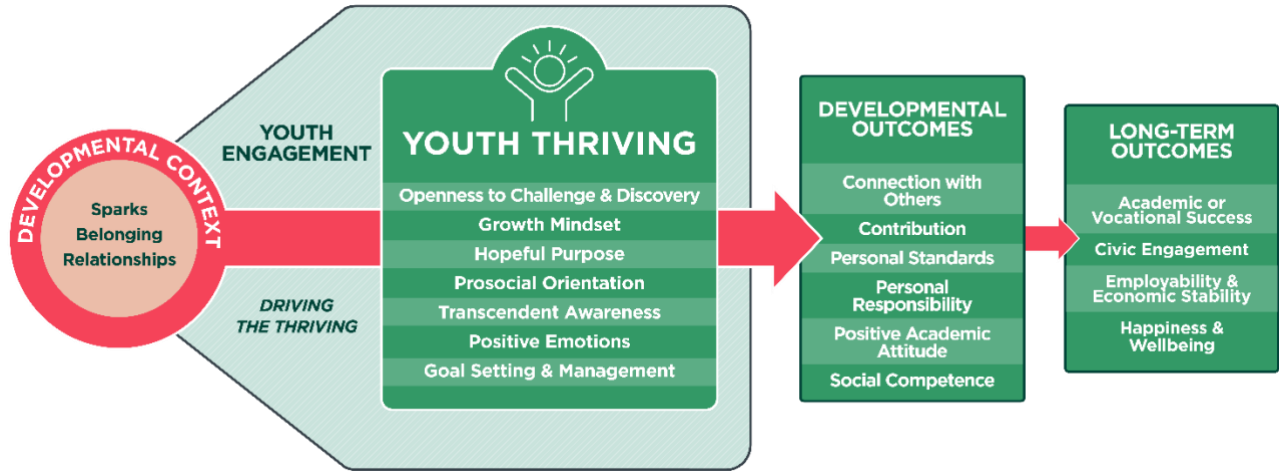




Kentucky 4-H: Thriving in Animal Sciences

Positive youth development in 4-H doesn't just happen, the 4-H Thriving Model is used to predict the way that 4-H has its positive impact on youth development. This worksheet focuses on the developmental context and youth thriving portions of the 4-H Thriving Model. This resource is intended for agents and volunteers to use when intentionally designing programs to promote high quality positive youth development experiences in Animal Sciences.



Developmental Context

Foundation of 4-H Programming

Context	Suggested Actions to Implement	Examples	County Program Opportunities
<p>How will you foster sparks? <i>A spark is a passion for a self-identified interest or skill, or a capacity that metaphorically lights a fire in a young person's life, providing energy, joy, purpose, and direction.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask youth about their experience with animals, and what they would like to learn. Ask engaging/ leading questions that showcase youth passions. Provide opportunities for positive youth-adult partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livestock judging teams Skill-a-thon and quiz bowl events. Show an animal of their choice. Connect youth to farmers within the county. Training for volunteers in positive adult-youth partnerships. 	





Developmental Context			
Foundation of 4-H Programming			
Context	Suggested Actions to Implement	Examples	County Program Opportunities
<p>How will you promote belonging? <i>Feeling of inclusion regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or ability. Youth should have opportunities to share their culture and heritage with others and to forge a positive identity.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for youth to develop “Club Rules” and foster accountability within the group. • Provide accessibility accommodations when needed and available • Club swag (e.g., t-shirts, stickers, cinch bags) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow each group to create their own “Club Creed” or set of rules to agree on and follow. • Accommodate group needs. • Encourage youth choice through allowing club t-shirts, stickers, cinch bags, etc. input and design. 	
<p>How will you support developmental relationships? <i>DRs begin by creating a secure attachment between the 4-H member and the adult, reflected in mutual warmth, respect and trust.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide volunteer training • Cultivate positive youth-adult partnerships • Hold club officer elections to foster youth leadership and voice. • Provide mentorship opportunities for teens to engage with younger 4-Hers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation in the certified volunteer programs. • Encourage teen 4-Hers to volunteer with younger groups (e.g., teen could teach an animal science lesson at a Cloverbud Club). 	
<p>How will you encourage engagement or youth voice within programming? <i>Ability to contribute in a meaningful way on subjects of importance to them.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage youth to research animal breed characteristics before project selection, so they are well informed on their interest. • Provide events for 4-Hers to showcase their club, and recruit and educate members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide youth with project books regarding their animal selection. • Invite 4-Hers to promote their clubs at back-to-school nights, county events, etc. • Promote events as they become available. 	





Youth Thriving

Facilitating the Process of Growth Through the Seven Indicators

Indicator	Suggested Actions to Implement	Examples	County Program Opportunities
<p>Growth Mindset <i>A growth mindset supports effort in learning over innate ability.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer general projects and activities in the areas of beef cattle, sheep, swine, goats, dairy, poultry, equine, rabbits, and food science. • Demonstrate communication skills by preparing and giving oral reasons. • Progress in and completion of the project of their choice. • Demonstrate proper animal handling techniques to younger 4-Hers through mentorship opportunities. • Encourage youth to take their acquired skills to the next level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host project days where youth can discuss and teach their project of interest. • Encourage public speaking and group sharing. • Measure improvement from year-to-year/ or project-to-project. 	
<p>Openness to Challenge & Discovery <i>Thriving youth have the desire and ability to try new things and challenges.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage youth to show an animal in a(n) county, area, regional, or state show. • Encourage youth to participate in meats, livestock, horse, poultry, or dairy judging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a(n) county, area, regional or state level event such as 4-H Dairy Cow Camp, 4-H Hippology Contest, etc. • Attend a livestock sale. • Tour meat processing facilities. 	





Youth Thriving

Facilitating the Process of Growth Through the Seven Indicators

Indicator	Suggested Actions to Implement	Examples	County Program Opportunities
<p>Hopeful Purpose <i>Thriving youth have a sense of hope and purpose and see themselves on the way to a happy and successful future.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage youth to learn how to properly care for animals. • Encourage youth to lead Cloverbud groups or mentor younger 4-Hers. • Participate in livestock exhibition to encourage youth to see themselves in a career path related to agriculture. • Provide job shadowing opportunities. • Schedule college tours based on youth interest and goals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage youth to participate in livestock, horse, or poultry showmanship events • Provide job shadowing opportunities in the animal science field such as veterinarians, farmers, and tradesmen. • Schedule a college tour for senior level 4-Hers 	
<p>Prosocial Orientation <i>Thriving youth see helping others as a personal responsibility, and live up to the values of respect, responsibility, honesty, kindness, and generosity. Thriving youth care about and give back to their communities.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage youth to mentor younger 4-Hers in their club. • Encourage youth to volunteer in local livestock and/or horse events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage youth to lead demonstrations for younger 4-Hers (e.g., demonstrate proper safety techniques when handling animals). • Encourage youth to volunteer at a local livestock or horse sale, show, or event, or agriculture field day event. 	





Youth Thriving

Facilitating the Process of Growth Through the Seven Indicators

Indicator	Suggested Actions to Implement	Examples	County Program Opportunities
<p>Transcendent Awareness <i>Thriving youth are aware of a reality bigger than themselves from which meaning and purpose are derived. This transcendent awareness shapes everyday thoughts and actions.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn the process of food production and global food systems Encourage community service projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have 4-Hers plan and implement a food drive for the community Have 4-Hers assist at a local food bank or homeless shelter 	
<p>Positive Emotions <i>Thriving youth are positive and optimistic and can manage emotions in a way that leads to health and well-being.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teach the importance of proper sportsmanship during successes and failures. Create a safe space for fair competition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage youth to congratulate fellow 4-Hers on their accomplishments. Provide youth with an opportunity to discuss their emotions. 	
<p>Goal Setting & Management <i>Thriving youth set goals and persevere in achieving their goals. They also make self-regulatory decisions that lead to better short-term and long-term success.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage youth to set goals at the beginning of the program year. Progress in and completion of a specified project of interest. Encourage youth to compete at livestock/horse shows/competitions at various levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in county, area, regional, and state level events and contests. Encourage youth to keep a record book on their animal science project and document their goals. 	

Resources:

4-H Thriving Model of PYD: Informed by Science – Grounded in Practice (2021). Retrieved: <https://helping-youth-thrive.extension.org/tip-sheets/>

Animal Science Project Overview. 4. (n.d.). Retrieved September 7, 2022 <https://4-h.ca.uky.edu/content/animal-science>

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