



4-H Citizenship Project



Step It Up!

Pass it on! Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started

Citizenship/ Leadership

- Organize friends to clean-up a neighborhood park
- Get approval and then create and conduct a survey for students on a school issue; then share the results with the administration

Communication

- Participate in a mock legislature and practice your debating skills!

Are you Into It?

It's the way citizens interact with government around issues of public concern!

In the citizenship project, you will be able to:

- Find out what issues are important to you and others
- Gain new skills so you can make positive things happen
- Take what you are learning and put it into action by being an active, responsible citizen
- Show social responsibility, respect, and respond to the needs of others
- Explore your relationships with others: family, peers, state, nation and world

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic

- Get to know the other people in your club and what they like to do for fun
- Construct a family tree of relatives identifying places lived and vocations
- Interview a neighbor and identify the similarities and differences between you
- Discover the history of your school or community
- Tour city or state's hall, Courthouse or capitol

Learning More Intermediate

- Collect samples of club by-laws and constitutions; compare and contrast them
- Interview your principal and find out what you and your 4-H Club can do to improve the school grounds
- Find out the names of your local or state representatives and the committees they serve on
- Attend a community board, county or city council meeting

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Help a local politician run for office
- Investigate the departments in your county government and find out what they do
- Interview someone from your local Chamber of Commerce or Economic Development Agency to learn about the goals for your community
- Identify a cause important to you and determine how to make a difference
- Map out area resources available to youth and families

Healthy Living

- Attend a Town Hall meeting or other gathering about the health care system or changing healthy behaviors

Science

- Be a Citizen Scientist! Collect data that will be analyzed by professional researchers!



Expand Your Experiences in Citizenship Project

- Participate in 4-H Day at the Capitol: florida4h.org
- Apply to be a [page or messenger](#) in the Florida Legislature, attend National 4-H Conference or National 4-H Congress 4-h.org
- Attend Citizenship Washington Focus or Leadership Washington Focus: 4-h.org
- Contact your UF/IFAS county 4-H office to participate in 4-H County Council
- Volunteer for a local, county, or state political campaign for a candidate you support
- Attend Florida 4-H University and participate in workshops, a community service project and hear motivational speakers, bringing ideas back to your community: florida4h.org/
- Contact your county IFAS Extension Office for other local workshops, activities, and events related to citizenship
- Get involved in your school or community and meet others interested in making a difference
- Interested in a college education in the area of political science, business administration, education, public service administration in agriculture or community and regional planning? Schedule a visit with the University of Florida and explore those majors: ufl.edu
- Check out camps at the Florida 4-H Center: florida4h.org/camps/ to become a camp counselor

Project Sharing Ideas

- Write letters to county, state and federal legislators voicing your opinion on local issues
- Identify educational problems and help propose solutions
- Create a notebook explaining the Bill of Rights and examples in your everyday life
- Is it fair time? Consider taking an exhibit, a piece of your project learning to the fair for judging and to show off what you have learned throughout the year. It might get selected to go to the Florida State Fair

Resources

4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or you can order directly.

Available at National 4-H:
www.4-hmall.org

- Public Adventures: Adventure Kit
- Civic Engagement: A 4-H Afterschool Resources

Available at IFAS bookstore:
ifasbooks.ifas.ufl.edu

- Exploring Citizenship (7 levels of materials)
- Other sources
Windows to Asian Cultures
web.extension.illinois.edu/windows/

Connections and Events

Attending events and taking advantage of opportunities will expand your project learning & help you become the best you can be.

STATE EVENTS
Leadership Adventure Weekend
Florida 4-H Legislature
4-H Day at the Capitol
NATIONAL EVENTS
Citizenship Washington Focus
Leadership Washington Focus
National 4-H Conference
Florida 4-H University
Public Speaking Contests

Attend these & other statewide events. Check them all out at florida4h.org

Record Keeping

Learning to take good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill. The following record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities.

Project Report Forms can be found at florida4h.org

- Junior (ages 8-10)
- Intermediate (ages 11-13)
- Senior (ages 14-18)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (Ages 8-13)

Awards and Recognition

Florida's Recognition Program involves feedback through:

- Participation
- Setting Goals
- Meeting Standards
- Peer Competition
- Cooperation

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

To learn more about current recognition opportunities visit the Florida 4-H website at florida4h.org or contact your county 4-H agent.

Learn more at florida4h.org
or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

