

## Activities and the Cloverbud Project

Cloverbuds do not enroll in specific 4-H projects that are not designed for their age group. Instead, Cloverbud members enroll in the 4-H Cloverbud project.

Many Cloverbud members participate in local events such as project days, speech and demonstration contests, clothing revue, county fairs, and livestock and horse events. Cloverbuds may participate in these types of events in a noncompetitive capacity only.

## Activity Lessons

During meetings, 4-H volunteers provide short lessons and activities appropriate for the Cloverbud members age 5 to 7. A variety of lesson resources are available to 4-H volunteers. These lessons follow the Do, Reflect, Apply model and cover a variety of subject areas, which include:

- Plant & Animal Science
- Engineering, Science and Technology
- Citizenship, Leadership, Service Learning and Personal Development
- Environmental and Earth Sciences
- Communication and Expressive Arts
- Family and Consumer Science
- Healthy Living

## The Model

**DO** — participants experience, perform or do the activity.

**REFLECT** — participants share the experience by describing what happened and process the experiences to determine what was most important and identify common themes.

**APPLY** — participants generalize from the experiences and relate it to their daily life and apply what they learned to a new situation. (Kolb, 1984)

**Reference Citations** – Kolb, D. (1984). *Experiential Learning: Experience as the Source of Learning and Development*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.

For more information, see [www.ndsu.edu/4h](http://www.ndsu.edu/4h)

County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, public assistance status, sex, sexual orientation, status as a U.S. veteran, race or religion. Direct inquiries to the Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Global Outreach, 205 Old Main, (701) 231-7708. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, (701) 231-7881.

352-8-13, 600-9-13

# CL<sup>4</sup>VERBUDS



## Philosophy

To foster the development of life skills essential to the cognitive, social, emotional and physical growth of youth 5 to 7 years old.





# Project Description

## Objectives

Youth ages 5 to 7 participating in the North Dakota 4-H Cloverbud project will:

- **Participate** by exploring interests and developing an understanding of and appreciation for social and cultural diversity.
- **Be safe** by developing ongoing relationships with caring adults and older youth who serve as positive role models.
- **Show personal development** by developing competencies in life skills for self-understanding, social interaction, decision making, learning to learn and mastering physical skills.
- **Learn** by developing positive attitudes about learning while gaining knowledge in science, citizenship and healthy living through the experiential learning process.
- **Have fun** by exploring family and community relationships.

This project is developed within the guidance provided in the 4-H National Headquarters Fact Sheet **Kindergarten-3rd Grade Programs in 4-H**. ([www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/family/res/pdfs/Cloverbuds\\_2011.pdf](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/nea/family/res/pdfs/Cloverbuds_2011.pdf))

## Recognition and Awards

The focus of recognition for the 4-H Cloverbud Program is participation. 4-H Cloverbud members may receive participation ribbons, certificates and other appropriate 4-H recognition that encourages continued involvement.

The 4-H Cloverbud Program is a noncompetitive program. There is NO judging or evaluation, including judging against set standards or against other participants, either individually or for a group effort. 4-H Cloverbud members are not eligible for competitive events or the North Dakota State Fair. In some counties, 4-H Cloverbud members may be eligible for premium funds; please check with your local Extension Office for more information on premium funds for 4-H Cloverbuds in your county.

## Recordkeeping

Each member is given an "I am a Cloverbud" member's book. The book is designed to have each youth make a record of his or her Cloverbud experience.



# The Adventure Starts Here!

## The Basics

4-H Cloverbud is the name of any North Dakota 4-H member age 5 to 7. These members enroll in the 4-H Cloverbud project. Your county's 4-H program will have policies on Cloverbud involvement at county events. Please speak with your local Extension Office to learn more.

- 4-H Cloverbud education is activity-based and leader-directed.
- Cloverbud learning is research based, and involves cooperative, experiential and noncompetitive activities.
- The 4-H Cloverbud program provides youth with a variety of activities at which they can be successful.
- 4-H Cloverbuds are given immediate, positive feedback about their involvement.
- Parents of Cloverbuds actively support the efforts of the Cloverbud club, helping with special events, refreshments, transportation and leading activities.
- The recommended ratio of adults to youth is one adult to six Cloverbud members.



## Clubs

Cloverbuds can be integrated into a community club with older 4-H members or a separate club involving Cloverbud members only. Most clubs meet once or twice a month. Here is a simple meeting format:

1. Icebreaker activity (for early arrivals)
2. Simple Business Meeting (15 minutes)
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge
  - c. Roll Call
  - d. Announcements
  - e. Adjourn
3. Recreation (15 minutes)
4. Show & Tell or Demonstrations (15 minutes)
5. Lesson (30-60 minutes)
6. Refreshments (15 minutes)