



4-H Civic Engagement

North Dakota 4-H Project Sheet

Citizenship is the opportunity, right and responsibility to contribute to shaping the world around you and provide service to others.

- Explore your relationships with others: family, peers, state, nation and world.
- Get involved! Be an active, responsible citizen.
- Take action to help others.
- Show social responsibility and respect, and respond to the needs, rights and responsibilities of others.



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

Communication

- Give a presentation about the history of your school or town
- Make an appointment with a state legislator and share your thoughts on an issue.
- Read newspapers or news magazines on a regular basis.
- Research a community issue and share your ideas with the appropriate board or governing body.

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic/Level 1	Learning More Intermediate/Level 2	Expanding Horizons Advanced/Level 3	Leadership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Create and carry out a plan to help someone outside your family. • Discover the history of your school or community. • Tour your city courthouse or the state capitol. • Help pick up trash at a park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out the names of your local or state representatives and the committees on which they serve. • Interview your principal and find out what you and your 4-H club can do to improve the school grounds. • Collect samples of club bylaws and constitutions; compare and contrast them. • Observe a community board meeting • Create and carry out a plan to help someone in your community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer to be a tutor or mentor in your school. • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize friends to clean up a neighborhood park. • Ask your local nursing home residents how they would like to celebrate the next holiday and involve others to carry out the plan. • Get approval and then create and conduct a survey for students on a school issue; then share the results with the administration. • Serve as a youth delegate to your state Democratic or Republican convention. <h3>Entrepreneurship</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run for a school or 4-H club office. • Create a nonprofit business plan for a cause that is important to you.



4-H Civic Engagement

North Dakota 4-H Project Sheet

Here are other opportunities to explore citizenship:

- Participate in county or regional Legislative Day activities.
- Apply to be a page in the state Legislature.
- Apply to attend the National 4-H Conference or National 4-H Congress.
- Attend Citizenship Washington Focus.
- Contact your county Extension office to participate in your county's 4-H Council.
- Volunteer for a local, county or state political campaign for a candidate you support.
- Create a team to raise funds and participate in a benefit for a national cause you support.
- Attend the Extension Youth Conference and participate in workshops, motivational speakers and a community service project, bringing ideas back to your community.
- Interested in a college education in the area of political science, sociology, public service administration, community development or public health? Schedule a visit with North Dakota State University at www.ndsu.edu.



Exhibit Ideas

- Create a poster about the best things in your community.
- Create a video about your community and what visitors should know about it.
- Create a "Welcome to our School" kit for new families.
- Map the resources for youth and families in your community.
- Create a notebook explaining the Bill of Rights and examples in your everyday life.
- Give a presentation about the checks and balances of the three branches of government and how they're important to you.
- Report your exploration of an issue and define how each branch of government plays a role in its creation, interpretation and implementation.
- Video your group at a service project and interview members about what they did and what it meant to them.
- Research governor candidates for the next election and put a notebook together sharing their stance on different issues.
- Create a notebook about the things you learned at Citizenship in Action, National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress or Citizenship Washington Focus and how they impacted you.
- Create a display on the process of how a bill becomes a law.
- Create a visual representation about the different branches of government and how they work together.

4-H Resources

- [National 4-H Curriculum Books - Citizenship](#)
- [WeConnect: Facilitator Guide \(AD201\)](#)
- [National 4-H Curriculum Books - Service Learning](#)
- [Agents of Change \(AH101\)](#)
- [Service Learning Helper's Guide \(AH201\)](#)
- [My Hands to Larger Service, \(AH103\)](#)

Events

- [LAW—Leadership Awareness Weekend](#)
- [National 4-H Congress](#)
- [National 4-H Conference](#)
- [Citizenship Washington Focus](#)

Other Resources

- [Ellis Island](#)
- [Congress for Kids](#)
- [Education World](#)
- [Character Counts](#)

Recordkeeping

- [Planning for My Project Adventure \(PA093\)](#)
- [ND 4-H Project Plan \(PA095\)](#)
- [ND 4-H Plan of Action \(PA096\)](#)
- [ND 4-H Participation Summary for 11- to 19-year-olds \(PA098\)](#)

Learn more at www.ndsu.edu/4h/ or contact your county NDSU Extension office.