



# Georgia 4-H Public Value Statements

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
**COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION**  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
College of Family and Consumer Sciences

## In School



Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through **In School Programs**. This work is providing enhanced resources to school systems throughout our state through delivery of 4-H programming during the school day. The resources shared with Georgia's school age youth are aligned to state and national standards and provide opportunities to bring relevance and "real life" learning to state and national standards. Georgia 4-H prides itself on our one hundred plus year working relationship with schools systems in Georgia. This collaborative partnership is an exemplary model of state agencies working to create students who are competent, confident and committed. The 4-H study of Positive Youth Development affirmed that students involved in 4-H are reported to have better grades, higher levels of academic competence, and an elevated engagement at school.

Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through the **Environmental Education (EE) Program**. The Georgia 4-H EE program is offered at all five 4-H Centers from the mountains to the sea and uses the outdoors as classrooms without walls to bring relevance to state mandated curriculum. Incepted in 1979, the program has a rich history and serves over 40,000 participants each year. After participation in a 4-H Environmental Education field study, students report improved relationships with their classmates and teachers, increased awareness that their actions affect the environment, increased knowledge about the ecosystems of Georgia, and a greater connection to nature. By providing the Environmental Education program, Georgia 4-H is assisting youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society.

## Environmental Education



## Project Achievement



Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through **4-H Project Achievement**. 4-H Project Achievement participants develop research, writing, and presentation skills that help youth perform better in school related tasks and tests, become self-directed learners and contributing members of society and produces work ready young adults. Through the 4-H Project Achievement process, youth explore an area of interest, gain knowledge and skills in the area and prepare presentations and evidence of learning. This process builds not only skills related to the Georgia Performance Standards but also those directly related to Work Ready Georgia.

Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through experiences in **Leadership and Service**. As early as the Fifth grade, 4-H youth become involved as active and engaged citizens and leaders in their local clubs and communities. The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development found that youth involved in 4-H are 3.4 times more likely to contribute to their communities when compared to youth who do not participate in 4-H. In developing citizen leaders, 4-H cultivates youth who are engaged in the community, who address local issues and needs, and who participate actively in discussions and programs that benefit others.

## Citizenship & Leadership





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## Summer Camp



Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through the **Summer Camping Program**. Youth of all ages experience adventure, friendship and fun in a safe and natural environment. With science and social science as the foundation, Georgia 4-H summer camp provides 4-H youth experiences in understanding and navigating group dynamics, self-discovery, relationship building, practicing healthy personal habits, and appreciation of the environment. Two of the four 4-H Essential Elements, Independence and Belonging, are interwoven in the program design for summer camp. Through 4-H summer camp, 4-H youth have opportunities for experiences in responsibility and enhancement of social skills allowing them to co-exist and thrive with others in society. 4-H summer camp offers an environment where by youth learn early on the value of cooperation, a life skill necessary for success in community and the workplace.

Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through **Evaluation Educational Programs**. These “judging evaluation experiences” are teaching the life skills of teamwork, decision making, critical thinking, and public speaking. Two of the four Essential Elements of 4-H are belonging and mastery. 4-H youth are given the opportunity to exercise mastery of content through the experience. Coupled with learning, mastering content and synthesizing knowledge, 4-H youth have the opportunity to experience contribution to group effort by being part of a county team and gaining experience in sportsmanship and acceptance of differences. The Secretary’s Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS report) acknowledges a continued need to develop a generation of youth with the workforce competencies of teamwork, communication, and critical thinking. Through educational evaluation programs, Georgia 4-H is contributing to a prepared future workforce.

## Evaluation & Judging Events



## Project SAFE



Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through the **Shooting Sports Program**. The shooting sports program known as Project SAFE (Shooting Awareness, Fun and Education), allows 4-H youth the experience in solving problems and meeting challenges that develop their self-confidence. Stakeholders convey that 4-H youth involved in shooting sports acquire skills in sportsmanship, responsibility, safety, self-discipline, and teamwork. Three of the four 4-H Essential Elements, Mastery, Belonging and Independence, affirm the competencies gained through shooting sports programs. Incorporation of these 4-H Essential Elements, yield young people who master skills to make ethical and safe decisions, positive career and life choices, develop patience, organizational skills and understand key traits of group dynamics benefitting them as adults both in their community and the workplace.

Georgia 4-H is preparing the next generation of leaders through **Livestock and Equine Programs**. The diverse livestock and equine programs offer 4-H youth the opportunity to acquire the life skills of responsibility, management, decision-making, and goal setting. One of the four 4-H Essential Elements is Independence. 4-H youth in livestock and equine programs learn from an early age by exercising independence in these project areas and are afforded the opportunity to mature in self-discipline and responsibility, learning to better understand themselves and becoming independent thinkers. The Secretary’s Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS report) acknowledges a continued need to develop a generation of youth with the workforce competencies of decision making, critical thinking and planning and organizing. Through livestock and equine programs, Georgia 4-H is contributing to a prepared future workforce.

## Livestock Shows & Schools



Resources used in support of Public Value Statements:

Georgia 4-H Stakeholder Data and Public Value input gathered through Stakeholder Meetings Spring of 2012

The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development-2012 Summary of Findings from WAVE 8

The 4-H Youth Development Ideas from 4-H Headquarters, USDA-Building Leaders for Tomorrow