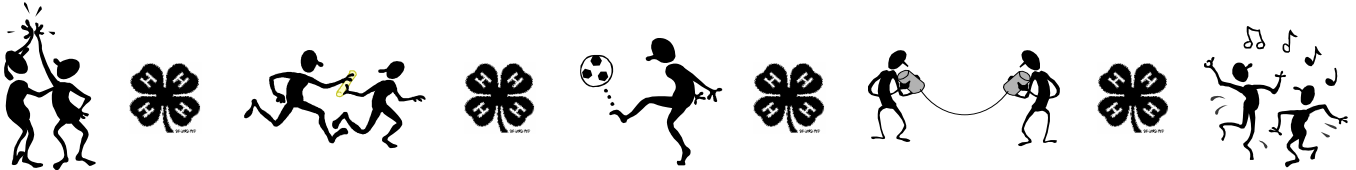




Ohio 4-H Cloverbud Connections



Fall 2009 Issue

For 4-H Cloverbud Volunteers working with grades K-2

Internet Safety

Thanks to the World Wide Web, children have the world at their fingertips. But as the Internet continues to grow, so do the risks involved. According to iKeepSafe.org, the three major online dangers to children who frequent the web are inappropriate contact, inappropriate content and inappropriate conduct.

Children need to learn that people on the Internet are not always who they seem to be. Inappropriate contact can come in the form of cyber-bullying, online predators, phishers, etc. Teach your child that the rules for communicating with someone online are the same as the rules that your child should follow when approached by someone on the street; i.e., do not give personal information (address, phone number, etc.) to strangers. If they are not comfortable with a conversation, they should walk away and get help.

The Internet is a public place. Anything that is posted on the web is there forever and available for anyone to see. Children should learn at a young age to be careful about what they see and say. Many colleges and universities, as well as future employers, view online social networking sites to gather information about potential students or employees. Items posted on the web at an early age can become embarrassing in later years when looking for opportunities for advanced education or career choices.

Being on the Internet sometimes causes us to become desensitized to what we are saying or doing. Because there is no face to face human interaction, we sometimes forget that the people on the other end of the conversation are real and have feelings, too. Teach your child to be kind and considerate of others while online and offline.

What can you do to protect your child against these online dangers? The first thing you need to do as a parent is to educate yourself. Do you know where your child goes when they are online? Check the web browser history to view recently visited web sites. Set specific guidelines with your child. Let them know specifically what they are permitted to do online. Locate your computer in a central location in your home where you can monitor what your child is doing.

Some browsers (Google, Yahoo, etc.) allow you to adjust search engine settings so that you can block results that may be inappropriate for your child. To adjust search engine settings in Google or Yahoo, click on the link which allows you to set search preferences. Be aware that blocking results is not foolproof and that inappropriate content can still leak through.

The most effective way to keep your child safe while they are online is similar to keeping them safe in everyday life. Keep the communication lines between you and your child open. Know who they are talking to and where they are spending their time. Let them know what you consider to be appropriate behavior and what your expectations are when it comes to online activity.

The world is at your fingertips. Explore and enjoy it together with your child!

*Rhonda Williams, Extension Educator
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Click it, Print it, Do it!



www.cloverbudconnections.osu.edu

Are you looking for an activity to do with your Cloverbuds that is fun and exciting? Then check out the updates in technology Click it, Print it, Do it activity. Instructions are included for a "Hello-Can You Hear Me" activity that you can do at your next Cloverbud meeting.

Using Technology to Promote and Market Cloverbuds

Facebook,* Myspace,* YouTube,* Blogs, Podcasts, and Wikis... the list of new technologies goes on and on. Instead of ignoring the new technology and forms of communication, use it to your advantage!

Imagine the excitement of children seeing their pictures printed in the local newspaper. The children, parents, and grandparents all become excited about the article. They talk to their friends, neighbors, and co-workers about the picture in the newspaper. What an excellent form of advertisement for that 4-H group! Why not transfer that same enthusiasm to forms of marketing and promoting the program with new technology?

Some ideas for 4-H Cloverbud volunteers:

- Create a Facebook* group for your Cloverbud club
 - Allow parents to become members of the group
 - Post dates of club meetings and events
 - Upload pictures of Cloverbuds participating in fun activities
- Create a slideshow of pictures and videos from Cloverbud activities
 - Showcase the slideshow in a booth at the county fair
 - Post the video on YouTube*
 - Use as a promotional tool at school events and PTO meetings
- Create a Blog for your 4-H Cloverbud club
 - Post testimonials (written, audio, and video) from Cloverbud members and parents
 - List opportunities, news clips, and pictures

(Be sure to get parental permission to use pictures of children.)

Not technology savvy? No problem! Recruit the experts – older teen 4-H members. Involving 4-H teens will be beneficial in more than one way. Older members will feel like they have a reason to be involved and have the personal connection with younger members. Young Cloverbuds will have role models to look up to, and the new technology marketing attempts will be a success. If you do not have older 4-H members attached to your Cloverbud club, call on the county Junior Leaders for assistance.

Resources:

“MySpace, YouTube, and Blogs, Oh My!”

<http://www.nationalservicerresources.org/files/Youth-Impact-vol-2.pdf>

“Teens and Social Networking Websites”

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/familydevelopment/00144.pdf>

* No product endorsement is intended or implied.

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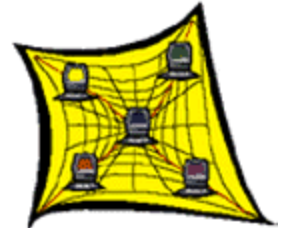
Technology and YOU

Explaining Technology to Cloverbuds

Technology is a big word that means *machines that help us do things*. More than half of American households have at least one computer! Do you have a computer at your house? If you do, you are lucky. Let's talk about computers.

A computer is a machine that can help us do many things. We can write letters – and not have to worry about erasing our mistakes like we do on paper – and the computer will even check to be sure we have spelled the words right! We can add up lots of numbers. We can copy our photos to our computer so they are safe.

If we are able to “hook up” our computer to either a phone line or a cable, we can go to *cyberspace*. That kind of sounds like *outer space*, doesn't it? Many, many computers all around the world are hooked up together to make what we call the *Internet*. That's why it's called the *World Wide Web*.



There are so many neat things to do on the Internet...with the help of a grownup. On the Internet, we can learn about new things, anything from how to bake a cake to how to feed your pet. We can have fun playing games, visit faraway places, read funny stories, listen to music, talk with your friends, and even learn how to say and spell words in other languages!

We can even find some new jokes, such as:

Q: Why do hummingbirds hum?

A: Because they don't know the words!

Q: What is white when it is dirty and black when it is clean?

A: A blackboard!

Think of your local library. Now just imagine that the Internet is a huge library that is a million times bigger than that, it's amazing! Have fun with your computer!

Have fun with this word search!

Q S H M S T U S L S I H W X E	COMPUTER INTERNET MOUSE KEYBOARD WEB SEARCH LAPTOP PICTURES SAFETY PARENTS
S E A R C H N W W L T F V V G	
Z R E P Q O J K D X K Q B U R	
O U M B Q Q K E Y B O A R D D	
T T O Q E W T J F J J T J R Z	
J C U M P F U J N U K I T E D	
Y I S T J Y K D L W S E Z T E	
L P E K M A W I P R Y L J U D	
Z W V Y F H B T A D O P J P B	
L K Z D O V L I R H G U M M Q	
T A I C V R E W E B F N M O U	
A C P B V L P T N Z B C R C Y	
T I N T E R N E T Y T E F A S	
Y X K P O E B F S D E L K X T	
R G N V D P E F J E Y B F V S	

Word Search Source: <http://www.bcls.lib.nj.us/Classes/Intforkids/>

*Barbara Carder, Former 4-H Educator
OSU Extension, Hocking County, Ohio.*

Campus Connections

Hello again! It feels good to make another 4-H Cloverbud Connection with you!

As we all know, we are living in a difficult time with the economic recession and financial challenges that so many of us face.

It is never too early to help children learn about money and we have an excellent curriculum piece in the 4-H Cloverbud Series I titled "Be Smart With Money". You can find it in the content area of "Consumerism/Family Science".

Here is one of the activities from "Be Smart With Money".

"Saving For a Rainy Day"

Materials: A piggy bank (could use a coffee can with slot in lid), an example of a savings passbook, and a roll of pennies.

Show the children the piggy bank and passbook.. Explain that these are some of the ways people save. Ask the children to think of things grown-ups save money for. What kinds of things can children save for? Talk about the meaning of "a penny saved is a penny earned." Give each child a penny and ask them to think about something they might want to save for. Pass the can around and have each child share their idea as they "deposit" their penny.



Application: Encourage the children to think of ways they can help their family save money.

This is one of nine activities in the "Be Smart With Money" curriculum piece and is so relevant today as we face financial challenges. If you do not have the 4-H Cloverbud Curriculum Series I, don't hesitate to check with your local county Extension office.

Thanks for all you do as a 4-H Cloverbud volunteer to improve the lives of children throughout Ohio!!

Scott D. Scheer, Ph.D.

*State Extension Specialist, Preadolescent Education
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Edible Turkey Table Favors

You will need the following ingredients for your Turkey Treat.

- 2 chocolate sandwich cookies
- 1 large chocolate drop
- 1/2" piece of string licorice for waddle
- 5-6 pieces of candy corn
- peanut butter

Using sandwich cookies, lay one flat on your working surface and the other on its edge on top of and to the back of the flat cookie; affix with peanut butter. (The cookie on its edge is the tail of the turkey.) Affix the large chocolate drop with peanut butter in front of the cookie on its edge. (The chocolate drop is the head of the turkey.) Using peanut butter, affix the corn on the cookie on its side to represent tail feathers. Affix the waddle (licorice) on the front of the chocolate drop with peanut butter.



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Cloverbud Connections is published four times annually by OSU Extension in Monroe and Hocking Counties, providing volunteers and teachers working with kindergarten through second grade access to unbiased, research-based information.

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