

Ohio 4-H Cloverbud Connections

For 4-H Cloverbud Volunteers
Working with Kindergarten to Second Grade

April - June 2017 Issue

Union County Cloverbud Club A Countywide Model for Cloverbud Programming

By Christie Leeds, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development/CED, Union County (OSU Extension)

Union County 4-H has about 100 Cloverbuds enrolled in the Countywide Cloverbud Club.

Here is how it works

- The 4-H Educator organizes club meetings and the supplies - registration, nametags, lesson plans, materials, etc.
- The 4-H Educator e-mails the lesson to a team of 4-H Volunteers and older youth. Their responsibility is to review the lesson prior to the meeting and come prepared to teach.
- A theme is selected each year. The focus is on learning and activities that Cloverbuds will not likely get elsewhere.
- The club meets once a month from January through May. Cloverbuds have a choice of attending the 5:00 to 6:15 pm session or the 6:45 to 8:00 pm session. A Day Camp and activities at the county fair are additional optional activities.
- Each Cloverbud pays \$30.00 dues, which covers monthly program supplies, snacks, take-home bags, name- tags, and a t-shirt.

Meeting Format

The format of our 75 minutes together varies based on the topic and activities of the meeting.

A sample format of a meeting

Topic: Do Farmers Grow Cheese?

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| 5:00 | Arrive; Get name tag; Song Circle (sing about 4-5 songs) |
| 5:15 | Welcome, Introduction to Tonight's Topic and Farmer |
| 5:30 | Divide into groups; Head to first station |
| 5:35-5:53 | Rotate through three stations (about 6 minutes each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Station 1; Make a Cheese Curd• Station 2: Cheese Tasting (taste test 6 cheeses; soft, medium, hard)• Station 3: Cheese Pizza Craft |
| 5:55 | Go to kitchen; Get snack; discuss what we learned about cheese |
| 6:15 | Announcements and 4-H Pledge to close meeting |

Some meetings are spent in one location (no rotation) working on a project.



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How We Do Community Cloverbud Clubs

By Rhonda Williams, Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development/CED, Darke County (OSU Extension)



As a 4-H Cloverbud Volunteer, you have the opportunity to have a positive impact on the life of a child by promoting healthy development of life skills. One of the key ways to accomplish this is by creating a positive environment for your Cloverbuds during your community 4-H club's Cloverbud meeting.

Cloverbud members can be included in some aspects of the community 4-H club meeting such as reciting the pledges and roll call. It is recommended that Cloverbuds meet in a separate room to work on their own activities while the club's business meeting is in progress, if possible. This allows the Cloverbuds to freely express themselves while completing their activities. Once the Cloverbuds have completed their activities, they may rejoin the other club members for refreshments and recreation (if age-appropriate).

Some clubs give Cloverbuds the opportunity to show the older 4-H members what they did or learned during their Cloverbud lesson. This show and tell allows Cloverbuds the chance to practice public speaking, in a non-threatening environment, builds their self-confidence and enables older 4-H members to develop a better understanding of the Cloverbud 4-H program.

Cloverbuds should not hold elected offices within the club, but they may participate in a club's community service activity or club fund-raiser (if age-appropriate and with parental consent).

Include your Cloverbuds in as many age-appropriate activities as is deemed suitable. Cloverbuds are 4-H members and should be included in club meetings and activities whenever possible.

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for your Cloverbuds.

Campus Connections

By Scott D. Scheer, Ph.D., State Extension Specialist
4-H Youth Development (The Ohio State University)

Hello again! Great to make this 4-H Cloverbud Connection with you.

Is there ever a time when you feel like you have it all together with extra time on your hands? I don't run into many folks who describe being in this pleasant situation. Usually people talk about how busy they are with not enough time in the day to get things done. My guess is that you fall in the latter category of too much to do with too little time.

The Ohio 4-H program is grateful that you still make time in your day to be a 4-H Cloverbud Leader and Advisor as you are a caring adult role model in the lives of our young 4-H'ers. I would like to offer a few tips when you are running out of time getting ready to lead a 4-H Cloverbud group.



First, use the new *Big Book of 4-H Cloverbud Activities*. It is loaded with ready to go activities which include some that don't require materials – check with your county Extension office. Secondly, get help. Check with parents or teens to serve as assistants or lead an activity or two. Lastly, take a deep breath; you do not need to over plan activities and you can get input from the kids, when possible.

Thanks for your commitment to the 4-H Cloverbud program as we enhance the healthy development of children throughout the state!

Readers outside of Ohio can order the new curriculum at <http://estore.osu-extension.org/>.



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

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