What Is 4-H?

4-H is a learning-by-doing education program for boys and girls in kindergarten through 12th grade. It can involve “any kid...any time...anywhere” through one-time events, camps, organized 4-H clubs (with officers and membership cards), or activities. Young people have an array of choices in their 4-H experience. Wherever energy, creativity, and involvement match the 4-H mission, values, and objectives—that is 4-H!

4-H is the youth development and education program of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. For more than 100 years, Alabama 4-H has helped young people develop into resourceful citizens and responsible leaders. To achieve the goal of helping youth become productive individuals, professional Extension staff enlist support from caring, concerned parents as well as volunteer and business leaders.

The purpose of 4-H is to foster skill development in young people. Youth are given opportunities to select from a variety of programs and projects. Individuality is valued, and each person is encouraged to discover his or her own skills, talents, and interests. 4-H helps young people learn to make decisions, think critically, build relationships, practice leadership, and develop a concern for their community and their world.