

Maranda Marks, Agent Assistant I
4-H Animal Science & Classroom in the Forest

MOBILE COUNTY ANIMAL SCIENCE CLUB




An educational program that helps youth grow and develop in positive ways as they learn about the **beef cattle industry of Alabama**. The program is implemented with the cooperation of Volunteer Leaders and members of the Mobile Cattlemen's Association. They serve to inspire youth to learn about the feeding and showing of cattle and gives them an opportunity to showcase their steers at the Greater Gulf State Fair. Students from the ages of 9-19 learn leadership skills such as public speaking, cattle marketing and sales, cattle grooming, record keeping, and promoting Alabama's beef industry.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

 Forty-seven club members are enrolled with **monthly meetings** held at the Jon Archer Agricultural Center and at various farms across Mobile County.... approximately 50 participants.


 Twenty-five club members are also a member of the **Alabama Junior Cattlemen's Association** as part of a partnership between the Mobile County Cattlemen's Association. 200 participants.


 Helped co-ordinate the **Agriculture Farm and City Safety Day** held at the Jon Archer Agricultural Center. This is an event to help teach youth about safety in general, but especially about the dangers and safe practices of farm equipment use and animal safety....285 participants.



 Volunteers help members through out the year, by holding Hands-On-Animal Workshops on their farms teaching lessons about animal grooming, daily care, and show techniques. ...45 participants



 Forty Mobile County Animal Science participants traveled to the **Alabama Junior Cattlemen's Round-Up** held in Montgomery. This event offers students from across the south east the opportunity to compete not only in cattle exhibition, but photography, public speaking, poster, burger cooking, cattle judging and other contests....300 participants.

 Thirty Mobile County 4-H youth will exhibit 48 steers at the **Greater Gulf State Fair** held at the Mobile County Fairgrounds this fall. Steer Buyers from through-out the county will attend the Cattle Show and a live auction will held in the Spring... approximately 300 participants.





**CLASSROOM IN THE FOREST:
FOREST IN THE CLASSROOM™**

An educational youth program created as a partnership with the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association to communicate the role private land owners play in environmentally and economically benefiting Alabama and its entire people. **Classroom in the Forest: Forest in the Classroom™** has two goals. The first goal is to educate fifth grade students and their teachers about multiple use management of our forest resources and show how essential private landowners are in the management of these valuable resources.



The second goal is to involve private landowners and stakeholders in the education of our youth, other landowners, and the general public about the importance of good stewardship of our natural resources. In the fall, a team of volunteers visit *classrooms* across Mobile County and provide a 60 minute presentation to fifth grade students. In the spring, the volunteers team up with private landowners and take the fifth graders on a field trip to a certified TREASURE forest. To promote good stewardship, a team of volunteers take the **FOREST to the CLASSROOM**, and the **CLASSROOM to the FOREST**.

The program was so popular, that a K-4 curriculum was developed a few years ago, and now many more children are learning about being a good steward of the land.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:



5,688 students from 15 schools participated in the program last year.



3 schools participated in the K-4 curriculum: McDavid-Jones, Semmes, and J. E. Turner.



15 schools participated in the fifth grade curriculum: Allentown, Booth, Calcedeaver, Castlen, Collier, Evangel, Fonde, J.E. Turner, McDavid-Jones, Semmes, St. Elmo, St. Mary, St. Pius, Tanner Williams, and Wilmer.

