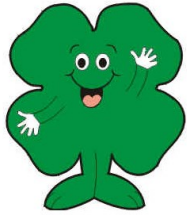




Leon County 4-H Clover Kids Handbook





What is a Clover Kid?

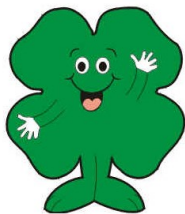
It is a program design to provide youth, kindergarten to 2nd grade, with a variety of educational and recreational experiences. It is the officially recognized Texas 4-H program for children in grades Kindergarten-2nd Grade.



What do Clover Kids do?

Clover Kids may attend 4-H Club Meetings, County Wide Workshops, and PARTICIPATE in some Leon County 4-H Contests.

All Clover Kid activities will be centered around fun and learning activities such as: food & nutrition, crafts, photography, fashion & interior design, community service, animals, and so MUCH MORE!



How to Join?

Clover Kids will need to enroll on 4-H Online, the fee is FREE!

Click “Pay by Check” when completing enrollment

Clover Kids may be added to a current 4-H family profile or new 4-H families will need to create a family profile.

Enroll at: <https://texas.4honline.com/>

Goals & Purpose of Clover Kids

The primary goal is to promote the child's stages of development – intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally.

- ⇒ Develop Self Esteem
- ⇒ Decision Making Skills (making positive choices)
- ⇒ Comprehension Skills (learning how to learn; positive attitudes toward learning)
- ⇒ Mastering Physical Skills (enjoying constructive and creative play)
- ⇒ Social-Interaction Skills (getting along with others)
- ⇒ Diversity Skills (acceptance of others; exploring family and community relationships)



Family Involvement!

Clover Kids involves the whole family, just like 4-H! Family members may be asked to join clover kids at some workshops, meetings, and other 4-H/Clover Kid events! Volunteers are always needed as well for county and district 4-H events.

What Type of 4-H Projects Can Clover Kids Sign Up For?

Leon County 4-H has several projects that Clover Kids can participate in:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ⇒ Food & Nutrition | ⇒ Photography |
| ⇒ Fashion & Interior Design | ⇒ Educational Presentations |
| ⇒ Public Speaking | ⇒ LCYLS Pee Wee Show |
| ⇒ Animals | ⇒ 4-H Recordbooks |
| ⇒ Talent Showcase | ⇒ And SO MUCH MORE! |

- The Project Leader has the final word whether or not clover kids will be allowed to participate in club project practices or events. A parent may be asked to help & guide their clover kid during club project events, as well.
 - Suggestion: Email the Club Project Leader or Club Manager to make sure they are okay with clover kids attending.
- Clover Kids are NOT to compete in Co. 4-H Contests, however, they are allowed to PARTICIPATE in some Leon Co. 4-H Contests. Clover Kids will receive a 4-H Participation award & gift.
- Leon County 4-H Workshops & Event Fliers will display whether Clover Kids are allowed to participate.
- Clover Kids will NOT be eligible to sale or exhibit livestock in the junior market show at Leon County Youth Livestock Show. They can ONLY show in the LCYLS Pee Wee Shows.
- Each 4-H Club Manager will determine how Clover Kids may be involved in 4-H club meetings and 4-H club events.
- Quarterly County Wide Clover Kid Arts & Crafts Workshops!

Why is the Clover Kid Program Noncompetitive?

Studies prove noncompetitive environments are more likely to develop confidence, creativity, and competence in children. The Clover Kids program corresponds with the child's stages of physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development.

Leon County 4-H Contests

Clover Kids Can PARTICIPATE In

- ♦ Food Challenge
- ♦ Food Show
- ♦ Photography
- ♦ Fashion Show
- ♦ Fashion Story Board
- ♦ Duds to Dazzle
- ♦ County Roundup
- ♦ Public Speaking
- ♦ Educational Presentation
- ♦ Talent Showcase
- ♦ Recordbooks
- ♦ LCYLS Pee Wee Showmanship



Other 4-H related contests Clover Kids can participate in will be announced by Leon County Extension Office.

Leon County 4-H Contests Clover Kids CANNOT Participate In

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| × LCYLS Junior Shows
(ie. Market or Breeding Shows) | × Archery |
| × Rifle/Shot gun | × Livestock or Meat Judging |
| | × Others will be notified |

Texas 4-H Rules & Guidelines!

Below is From the Texas 4-H Rules & Guidelines

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/19-20_TX4H_RulesGuidelines.pdf

In support of the youth development mission of 4-H, the purpose of the 4-H Clover Kids Program is to help youth learn social skills, reinforce formal school programs through informal, noncompetitive experiential educational projects and activities, develop self-esteem and build family strengths. The annual participation fee does not pertain to Clover Kids. The following rules and guidelines are based on youth development research indicating competitive events and competitive judging are inappropriate for Clover Kid aged youth.

1. Age Requirements

- The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service extends a limited version of the 4-H experience to youth in grades K-2 as "4-H Clover Kids." This age category is further defined as youth who are eligible to enroll in Kindergarten on September 1 of the current year and have not entered (started classes) the third grade on September 1.
- Clover Kids are not eligible to serve as club officers, nor are they eligible to participate in activities, recognition programs, or competitive events reserved for older youth.

2. Enrollment

- Any chartered 4-H club may organize a "4-H Clover Kids" group within the club.
- A school, day care center, community center, neighborhood, or group may sponsor and organize a 4-H Clover Kids group, with the aid of volunteers trained by the county Extension staff or their designees.
- Each 4-H Clover Kids member may participate only through organized learning groups under the guidance of qualified and trained volunteer 4-H leaders.
- Members can be enrolled on 4-H CONNECT using individual or group enrollment forms.

3. Approved Projects and Recognition

- Emphasis is on providing project-related learning experiences and forms of recognition which are age appropriate and based on current youth development research. The individual project is the basis for a significant part of the education in 4-H. Projects and curricula approved by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for Clover Kids include:
 - Curricula
 - Hatching In The Classroom
 - Yea 4-H!
 - Junior Master Gardener
 - Projects
 - Rabbits
 - Food & Nutrition
 - Health & Personal Safety
 - Photography
 - Robotics
 - Horticulture
 - Dog Care & Training
 - Sport Fishing
 - Fashion & Interior Design
- Projects are restricted to those mentioned above which the youth can, by themselves, understand, manage, and care for and for which the youth can master the associated subject matter knowledge.
- Projects for Clover Kids ARE NOT to be entered into competition.
- Projects are not eligible to be entered into competition in traditional 4-H program events and activities reserved for the 3rd grade to the 12th grade group.
- Projects may be exhibited at an appropriate Extension approved non-competitive 4-H Clover Kids event.
- In presentations and exhibits, Clover Kids will be presented participation awards only, with recognition based upon completing and exhibiting the product or skill. No judging or placing shall be permitted.

4-H Enrollment Year

The 4-H year runs from September 1 to August 31. County Extension Staff are expected to keep a record of all 4-H members and volunteers enrolled through 4-H CONNECT. Under special conditions, a youth may be required to change his/her county of residence frequently. In such cases, county Extension Staff are encouraged to help members remain actively involved. 4-H members transferring from one county to another should be accepted by that county and given full credit for their past 4-H work and achievements.

Differences Between 4-H Members & Clover Kids!

Children K-2nd Grade develop and learn in ways different from younger children (2-4 years) old and older youth (3rd to 12th grade). Knowing these differences, projects and activities are designed to provide a foundation for Clover Kids to develop effectively. *See the chart below.*

	K-2nd Grades 4-H Clover Kid	3rd-12th Grades 4-H Member
Type of Learning	Activity Centered	Project Centered
Type of Instruction	Leader/Parent Directed	Self-study, Individual, or Leader/Parent Directed
Recognition of Standards	Participation	Achievement
Recognition of Goals	Participation	Competition, Achievement
Learner Resources	Project Resources	Project Manuals



4-H Members

Clover Kid Resources

Leon County 4-H Clover Kids (Opportunities & Rules):

<https://leon.agrilife.org/4-h/4-h-projects/clover-kids/>

Other Websites for Project Ideas:

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>

<https://extension2.missouri.edu/programs/missouri-4-h/get-involved-with-4-h/4-h-clover-kids>

<https://4h.unl.edu/clover-kids>

<https://agrilife.org/bell4h/4-h-activities/clover-kids/>

<https://agrilife.org/wiseco4h/clover-kids/>

<https://grayson.agrilife.org/4h/>

Questions Concerning Leon County 4-H Clover Kids:

- ⇒ Contact Ms. Cassie or any Extension Agent at the Leon County Extension Office at 903-536-2531 or email her at cassie.ferguson@ag.tamu.edu
- ⇒ Contact 4-H Club Manager
- ⇒ Contact 4-H Project Leader

