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University of Nevada, Reno Extension • Carson City, Storey & Washoe Counties

4-H Facilitates Youth Sparks to Help Members Thrive

A spark is a passion for a

self-identified interest or

skill, or a capacity that

metaphorically lights a

fire in an young person's

life, providing energy, joy,

purpose, and direction.

Youth sparks are an essential ingredient of thriving. Having a spark or sparks gives a young person a sense of direction and encourages goal setting. Sparks are different from mere leisure activity in that:

1. Sparks create actions that not only contribute to the benefit of the young person, but

also society at large;

2. Sparks provide the intrinsic fuel for a young person's growth in knowledge and skill;

3. Sparks enhance a young person's networks as he or she encounters others with similar sparks, particularly adults with expertise who can facilitate learning and opportunities for engagement.

Furthermore, sparks appear to be a protective factor for young people, keeping them out of trouble because of the young person's intense focus on the source of their spark Sparks, in turn, motivate youth to succeed in other areas of their lives, such as personal, social and academic.

Every young person has the potential to have a spark, and 4-H plays an important role in helping young people discover and pursue their sparks. In some cases, it is a matter of helping youth recognize their spark when the spark has already found them!

Because of its emphasis on learning that is driven by a young person's interest, 4-H programs provide a rich context for youth to identify, explore, and sustain their personal interests, often resulting in the development of a young person's sparks. High quality youth program contexts, like those provided in 4-H, are key for facilitating youth sparks.

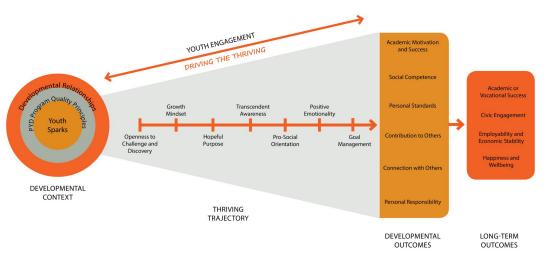
When sparks are encompassed by positive 4-H programs, youth

are supported to grow and encouraged to overcome obstacles. In this way, youth are empowered to develop their sparks and to use them to make the world a better place for all.

4-H is Positive Youth Development

4-H is based on a positive youth development (PYD) approach that recognizes all youth have interests, abilities, and strengths that can be enhanced by participation in 4-H programs.

Research shows that participa-tion in high quality 4-H programs increases thriving in youth, and thriving youth achieve important develop-mental outcomes, such as academic motivation and achievement.





National 4-H Week Theme

National 4-H Week (October 4-10) will give 4-H the chance to celebrate and promote Extension's role in providing opportunity for all kids and families in the country. This year's theme for National 4-H Week is Opportunity4All.

The issue is that 55 million kids face a widening opportunity gap in America. Nothing should hold them back; not now and not ever. Talent is everywhere. Opportunity is not. The goal of Opportunity4all is to make every kid's potential count.

Find out more at 4-h.org/opportunity4all/. Watch the Opportunity4All PSA to learn about this important issue. Read about 4-H's solution to the problem and how you can help.

National 4-H Spirit Day Oct 7

Don't forget, Wednesday, October 7, is National 4-H Week spirit day! Ways to celebrate:

- Wear green or the 4-H clover. Have a 4-H mask? Be sure to wear it!
- Decorate an Opportunity4All sign (at 4-H. org) and share your pictures and captions of what opportunity means to you using the hashtag
- #Opportunity4All on social media.
 Use the National 4-H Week Zoom backgrounds on all your virtual meetings. Directions and backgrounds available at 4-H.org.
- Share these ideas and encourage other 4-H professionals and 4-H'ers to participate in spirit day!



Cal Ranch 4-H Discount Application

For those 4-H members who either have a Cal Ranch store in their county or maybe have a family who shops there, you may want to know about their 4-H Discount program.

Families just need to fill out an application, have either the county 4-H professional or their 4-H Adult Volunteer sign, and take to their local Cal Ranch store for a 10% discount on project needs.

When filling out the form, families will need to designate which store they will be shopping. The codes for Nevada stores are: EY-Ely, VN-Las Vegas, CR-Carson City (not CC because that is Cedar City, UT), and EK-Elko.

Please note that purchases are not limited to the store location checked above. Program purchases are valid at any CAL Ranch Stores location. Please completely fill out application, sign the bottom, and then turn into your local CAL Ranch Store. Discounts are only for project related items. Discounts are not available on fencing, gates, panels, or other livestock handling equipment. Dog food discounts are for dog projects only.

The discount is good from 10/1/20 to 9/30/21. Member must be 18 years or younger to qualify for the program. Applications are available online at: www.calranch.com/4-h-ffa-show-program

Washoe Leaders' Council Meeting

Washoe County Leaders' Council will be meeting Monday, October 26, at 6 p.m. at the Washoe County extension (4955 Energy Way, Reno.)

The main topic will be a discussion of year-end activities and awards. Other items include reports from clubs and upcoming events. Please RSVP to Sam Mitchell at 775-336-0259 or mitchells@unce.unr.edu.

4-H Online Version 2.0 is Coming

After seven years of using 4HOnline version 1 to enroll and track the progress of 4-H members, Nevada 4-H is moving to the latest version 2.0 starting this month.

This new version has a different look, and some new features. It will have a true mobile app access from mobile phones. There will be better YQCA integration.

It will contain all of the information that the current version has, plus have the ability to store more detail and photos of animal projects.

The rollout is scheduled for October 15. Members and leaders should not update or try to re-enroll using version 1, as any additions to that version will be lost. Site access information will be emailed to all members who were active in 2019-2020.

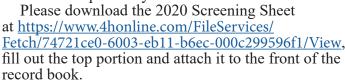
Washoe County Record Books

The deadline to turn in 2019-2020 Record Books to the Washoe County Extension office (4955 Energy Way in Reno) is October 9.

Unlike past years there will not be a box to drop them in. Members should call ahead to have a 4-H

staff member meet them at the door. Call 775-336-0259 or 775-336-0236 to make an appointment.

This year has been a tough one, so please have your record books as complete as you can.



All 4-H members are encouraged to keep a record book of their projects. Record books are turned in for judging, as part of year-end awards and earning project pins.

More Things to Do Online

Next Steps: Family College Readiness

Are you ready for the Next Steps? Prepare for life after high school with the whole family.

It's never too early (or too late) to start planning for life after high school! Take the first steps for your next steps and prepare with us this October. Youth participants along with their families or others within their support system will participate in this five-session series together. Topics will include:

- Understanding the secondary and post-secondary school system.
- Basics of financial aid and how to receive aid.
- Finding the right fit degrees, programs, and institutions.
- Setting goals, supporting goals, and following your academic dream.

This workshop is open to youth ages 14-19 and their families or support system.

Classes are 90 minutes per session and will be held virtually on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., October 6,13,20, 27 and November 10.

Spaces are limited so sign up ASAP. Go online to: https://events.unr.edu/event/next_steps_family_college_readiness_3550?utm_campaign=widget&utm_medium=widget&utm_source=University+of+Nevada%3A+Reno

Washoe 4-H Livestock Leaders

The first Washoe County 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting of the new 4-H year is scheduled for October 21, 2020 at 6 p.m.

Now that clubs and members have experience with virtual meetings and COVID-19 precautions, the leaders can concentrate on planning an eventful new year.

Hands-on Activities for Kids

4-H at Home inspires kids and teens to learn, grow, and charge ahead in their lives through critical learning resources accessible to all kids.

With COVID-19 disrupting learning for 55 million young people, 4-H has stepped up to bring the traditional 4-H experience inside the home.

Explore this page to receive hundreds of educational activities for kids in topics like STEM, healthy living, and crafting, including step-by-step videos, activity guides, and more.

4-H STEM Activities & Career Paths

Did you know that rural areas are experiencing shortages of qualified STEM workers who can provide vital services to often under-resourced areas? That's

why HughesNet and 4-H have teamed up to share activities and information about STEM careers across the country. STEM STEM

Explore this page online at 4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/rural-stem-careers/ to try a hands-on activity that teaches kids about solar energy and a blog post that introduces 13 STEM careers that can be pursued outside of big cities. Check back soon for new activities and STEM career content!

Banking Your Money

This activity teaches kids the concept of financial interest, and how to calculate it. It assumes a basic level of computer/technology literacy, specifically how to use an internet-connected device and the basic ability to navigate the internet. You'll also need a calculator.

Grades: 7-12

Topic: Financial Literacy Estimated Time: 30 Minutes

Evaluating Investment Alternatives

This activity teaches kids about different investment options and what each one means for their money. They'll also answer questions to check their understanding and help them think about investing.

Note: Youth should complete the activity Banking Your Money on how to calculate interest before doing this activity.

Grades: 7-12

Topic: Financial Literacy Estimated Time: 30 Minutes

Hot or Cold? Chemical reactions

In this experiment, kids will use common kitchen ingredients to create and observe two different chemical reactions!

Grades: 4-8

Topic: Chemistry/Math Estimated Time: 45 minutes

Do you enjoy these activities? You can have activities like this sent straight to your inbox by going online to 4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/

Western Arts & Culture Scholarship Offered by Reno Rodeo Foundation

The Reno Rodeo Foundation (RRF) is pleased to offer educational scholarships to eligible students interested in pursuing higher education at an accredited Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) College or University or at an accredited out-of-state College or University if the declared major is not offered in a NSHE educational institution or Career Colleges and Vocational Schools licensed by the State of Nevada Commission on Postsecondary Education that are accredited as recognized by the U.S. Department of Education

To learn more information about the RRF scholarships please read the eligibility guidelines and access the online application by visiting http://www.renorodeofoundation.org/scholarships/. Online scholarship applications open on October 15, 2020 and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 10, 2021.

Additional consideration given to applicants involved with one or more of the following: 4H, FFA, Grange, or Rodeo; or who are in or have been in foster care in Northern Nevada.

Please consider applying for the Western Arts & Culture (WA&C) Scholarship. The purpose of the WA&C is to create further awareness and appreciation of western arts, culture and heritage in college-age Nevadans through the recognition of outstanding potential, contributions and skill in the creative arts.

The applicant selected will be awarded \$2,500 based on his/her level of skill in chosen area of arts/culture as well as completion of the additional addendum. This scholarship award will be made in addition to the Reno Rodeo Foundation Scholarship.

All WA&C applicants not selected for this scholarship will remain in the selection process for the general Reno

Rodeo Foundation Scholarships. The addendum requires applicants to answer four additional questions and submit three samples of art that support our rich western culture, tradition, and heritage.

Evaluation criteria for all applicants include demonstrating financial need, scholastic proficiency, leadership, service, and specialized talents for students who are attending or have graduated from a Northern Nevada high school with a minimum GPA of 3.0.



Award recipients must enroll as a full-time student at the educational institution within the year awarded or forfeit the award. If a student cannot meet requirements for the award during any year of the award the award will be forfeited.

Applicants must submit a completed application that includes a current Northern Nevada high school transcript showing a minimum 3.0 GPA and letters of recommendations written and signed within 12 months. A signed Pledge & Scholarship Acceptance letter is required for scholarship recipients attending an out-of-state College or University. All worthy applicants will be eliminated from consideration if they fail to complete the online application accompanied by all the required documents after the close date of February 10, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

Notification to successful applicants will occur on or before April 30, 2021.

If you have any questions or if further information is required, please contact Clara Andriola, Executive Director Reno Rodeo Foundation at 775-322-9875 or email info@renorodeofoundation.org

Northern Area/Western October Dates to Remember

Oct. 4-10- National 4-H Week

Oct. 7- National 4-H Spirit Day (Wear Green!)

Oct. 9- Washoe County Record Books due to 4-H Office.

Oct. 30 - Nevada Day Holiday (Offices Closed)

4-H in Action

4-H is celebrating the 4-H STEM Challenge all month long with events, exclusive content, games, and much more!

The 2020 Challenge, Mars Base Camp - designed by Google and Virginia Cooperative Extension - kids ages 8-14 will learn all about Mars and explore what it takes to send a mission to the red planet. The STEM Challenge Kit features a collection of activities that teaches STEM skills such as mechanical engineering, physics, computer science, and agriculture.

And don't worry, whether kids are learning in the classroom, online, or at home, the 2020 STEM Challenge is tailored to fit all their educational needs. Purchase your kit at Shop4-H.org and find out how you can participate in October and beyond.



4-H GROWS HERE 4-H is a program of University of Nevada, Reno Extension

PARTICIPATING COUNTY OFFICES

Carson City/Storey County 775-887-2252 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 15 Carson City, NV 89701

Washoe County 775-784-4848 4955 Energy Way Reno, NV 89502 The University of Nevada, Reno is committed to providing a place of work and learning free of discrimination on the basis of a person's age, disability, whether actual or perceived by others (including service-connected disabilities), gender (including pregnancy related conditions), military status or military obligations, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, national origin, race, or religion. Where discrimination is found to have occurred, the University will act to stop the discrimination, to prevent its recurrence, to remedy its effects, and to discipline those responsible.