A leader is a person who inspires groups and identifies and achieves goals in a positive manner. In a 4-H leadership development project, members learn about leadership skills including teamwork, communication, organization, goal management, decision-making, and problem solving. In addition, 4-H members can serve in authentic leadership roles in 4-H, such as club officer, a junior or teen leader, 4-H State Ambassador, or county All Star, and leading activities in the local community.

- Learn about different types of situation-dependent leadership styles.
- Experience serving in leadership roles as well as member roles.
- Practice a variety of skills needed for positive leadership, including public speaking, organization, goal management, and decision making.

### Starting Out
**Beginner**
- Assist in hosting and serving refreshments at a 4-H activity.
- Help a new member learn the 4-H Pledge.
- Help plan and implement a project or 4-H Club program.
- Describe a decision you have made and how you arrived at the answer.
- Make a ‘things to do’ list and prioritize it. Select one item from the list and write a personal goal for it including what, how, when.
- Create a poster that teaches something to someone else.
- Prepare and give a talk about a 4-H activity at a club or project meeting.

### Learning More
**Intermediate**
- Teach other members in your club or project how to properly give a demonstration.
- Participate on a county 4-H council committee/ VMO.
- Help officers in your project, club or county to understand and perform correct parliamentary procedure.
- Plan a project lesson.
- Choose a problem and use the decision-making process to come up with a realistic solution.
- Attend a leadership training workshop or conference.

### Exploring Depth
**Advanced**
- Serve as junior or teen leader in a project or as an active County Ambassador.
- Volunteer for a county youth leadership role, or participate in a regional or state leadership event.
- Prepare teaching materials for use at a project meeting.
- Attend a youth-adult partnership training.
- Serve as a State Ambassador.
- Become a Teen Teacher.

The activities above are ideas to inspire further project development. This is not a complete list.
Expand Your Experiences!

Citizenship

- Plan and implement a service learning project in your community (See: http://4h.ucanr.edu/Projects/Citizenship/service_learning/).
- Create and give a presentation about a community member that exhibits leadership qualities.

Healthy Living

- Become a Healthy Living Officer (See: http://4h.ucanr.edu/Projects/HealthyLiving/Become_a_Healthy_Living_Officer/).
- Plan and implement a Color Me Green Run in your county (See: http://4h.ucanr.edu/Projects/HealthyLiving/Color_Me_Green_5K_Run).

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

- Lead a 4-H National Youth Science Day event in your community: www.4-H.org/NYSAD.
- Serve as a Teen Teacher in a 4-H Youth Experiences in Science curriculum project in your county (see: http://cesacramento.ucanr.edu/4H/Youth_Experiences_in_Science/).

Leadership

- Become a Junior or Teen Leader.
- Become a club officer.
- Attend State Leadership Conference.
- Apply for statewide advisory committees.

Resources

- California 4-H Leadership http://4h.ucanr.edu/Projects/Leadership/
- California 4-H Officer Manual http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/167443.pdf
- State Leadership Conference http://4h.ucanr.edu/4-H_Events/SLC/
- Teens As Teachers http://www.ca4h.org/files/145251.pdf
- Youth Leadership Initiative http://www.youthleadership.net/?go_main=true
- Leadership Books for Young Adults http://growingleaders.com/blog/must-read-leadership-books-young-adults/

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