



# Elements of a Strong 4-H Project

The number of years a member remains in 4-H is closely related to the amount of success and interest she/he experiences in their projects. Project leaders have considerable freedom in designing their programs. For additional information on project planning please refer to the *4-H Project Leader Guide* and *4-H Project Planning Guide*. The following are a few suggestions to keep in mind when developing a strong 4-H project.

- ❖ With the help of your Junior and Teen Leaders plan an overview of each project meeting using the *4-H Project Planning Guide*.
- ❖ At the first project meeting, provide each family with a *Project Outline* which includes: meeting dates and times, project cost, requirements, goals, and beginning and ending dates.
- ❖ Provide all members hands-on learning and skill developing opportunities.
- ❖ Encourage members to set personal goals and take an active role in the project.
- ❖ Encourage members to give presentations and provide other opportunities for building leadership skills.
- ❖ As a group, plan a service learning activity or community service.
- ❖ Help members keep their project records up-to-date.
- ❖ Keeps parents informed and ask for help with specific tasks.
- ❖ Incorporate interesting activities, such as, guest speakers, judging events, field trips and community service projects.

A strong project is a well-organized project which helps members to develop new skills, learn from hands-on learning experiences, maintains interest, and includes a variety of fun activities. For additional information, resources to help plan your project contact the 4-H staff or visit [celake.ucanr.edu/4-H\\_Program](http://celake.ucanr.edu/4-H_Program).

## **Additional Project planning Materials:**

- 4-H Project Proficiency
- Project Leaders' Digest
- 4-H Curriculum Library
- 4-H Animal Science Project Guide
- 4-H Clover Safe Notes