



Cloverbuds Guidelines



The mission of Arizona 4-H Youth Development is to provide educational opportunities for youth to become capable and contributing members of a global society.

Arizona Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development extends membership to youth 5-8 years of age. Children must be five by January 1 of the current 4-H program year in order to be eligible.

Cloverbuds will be a noncompetitive educational program within the Arizona 4-H Youth Development Program. This program is optional to Arizona counties. Each county may elect or decline to have such a program. However, no other program for youth five to eight will be allowed as a part of a county 4-H Youth Development Program.

In support of the Arizona 4-H Youth Development mission, the purpose of the Cloverbuds program is designed to help these youth learn social skills, reinforce formal school programs through informal, noncompetitive experiential educational projects and activities, develop self-esteem and build family strengths.

Cloverbuds 4-H clubs must use educational materials authorized and approved by the Arizona 4-H Youth Development state office. Competitive activities are not developmentally appropriate for children of this age range and are prohibited. For safety reasons and to remove any perception of competition, the handling of large and small livestock, firearms and archery equipment are strictly prohibited. Reptiles are not allowed since they are known to carry salmonella. This policy is based on youth development research for youth five to eight years of age.

Enrollment:

- Any 4-H club/group may organize a Cloverbuds 4-H group.
- Cloverbuds may be part of an existing 4-H club.
- A certified leader needs additional training to become a Cloverbud leader.

Projects:

- Cloverbuds will use materials approved by the Arizona 4-H State office.
- Cloverbuds projects are not to be entered into competition.
- Special activities may be conducted just for Cloverbuds.
- Projects may be exhibited at appropriate Cloverbud events. Youth may be presented participation awards only, with recognition based upon completing and exhibiting the product. No judging or placing is permitted.

The Arizona State Fair is the culmination of the previous 4-H year. Cloverbuds entering their junior year (9 years old prior to January 1) will need to show in the Cloverbud or Open division.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, James A. Christenson, Director, Cooperative Extension, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, The University of Arizona.

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