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Connecting 4-H Curricula to 4-H Awards and Incentives

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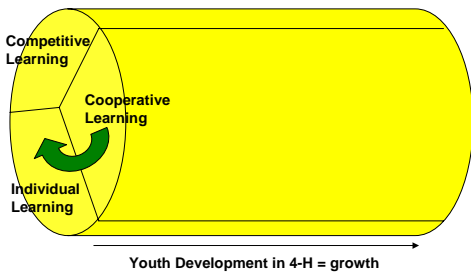
Cooperative, Competitive and Individualistic Learning

- What does this mean?



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Three types of Learning in 4-H





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Ways to Organize Learning

Individual

"I'm learning on my own."



Competition

"I'm learning to be the best."



Cooperation

"I'm learning as part of a team."



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Cooperation Involves...

1. Interdependence

"We instead of me."



2. Face-to-face interaction

"We work together."

3. Group & individual responsibility

"We're responsible; so am I."



4. Small group skills

"We learn to work together."

5. Group processing

"We talk about how we did."





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Research Findings on Competition & Cooperative Learning in 4-H

Based on a study done by Colorado 4-H.

Fetsch, R. J., & Yang, R. K. (June 2002) The Effect of Competitive and Cooperative Learning Preferences on Children's Self-Perceptions: A Comparison of 4-H and Non-4-H Members. Journal of Extension [Online]. 40(3). Available at <http://www.joe.org/joe/2002june/a5.html>

- Cooperation promotes achievement and productivity more than competition and individual learning
- Cooperation, over competition, is linked with a youth's sense of self-worth
- 4-H'ers first need to learn cooperation skills, before they become involved in competitive and individual learning experiences
- Some youth prefer competition, others prefer cooperation, but it's all about balance



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Youth who Score High on a Cooperative Learning Orientation

- Like to work as a team to reach goals & win
- Learn and feel better working in cooperation with friends
- Want to be in 4-H for fun and to learn
- See themselves as winners even if they do not win
- Would bring their projects to the fair even if they were not judged



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Youth who Score High on Competitive Learning Orientation

- Like to be in activities where only a few individuals win
- Do 4-H projects to win prizes
- Learn and feel better when they work in competition against others
- Feel anxious when their project places 4th at the fair



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What this means for 4-H programs

(Fetch & Yang, JOE, 2002)

- 4-H youth development program leaders are encouraged to create a system that rewards cooperation (team competition as an example) more than individual competition at county, district, state, & national fairs
- 4-H youth development leaders, specialists, and volunteers should model a balanced approach between cooperative and competitive learning opportunities and events
- Encourage parents (& other guiding adults) to support 4-H youth unconditionally, regardless of how they place in competitive events



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Activity



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Thumbs-Up Activity: Reflection

1. Why did some teams end up with more money, or less money, than others?
2. What determined how much money partners came up with?
3. For those teams who earned the lowest amounts of money, what was your take on this experience? How did you interpret this activity and why did you interpret it this way?
4. For teams who earned higher amounts of money, how did you work to make more money and what was that experience like?
5. Were there any teams who shifted from a competitive to a cooperative approach during the activity? Reflect on that experience or shift from competition to cooperation.
6. What elements of the 5 characteristics of cooperative learning took place during this activity?





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Connecting to Awards & Incentives

- How is what you have learned today connected to the 4-H Awards & Activities Program?



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What is Awards & Incentives

- Scholarship
- Honor Club
- Project Record
- Cumulative Record
- Group Reports
- ARI – Application, Resume & Interview
- Presentation



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Scholarships

- 50 Educational Scholarships in 2006
- Judged on Academic Performance and Potential as well as 4-H Excellence



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4-H Honor Club

- Service Organization for ½ of 1% of total 4-H population
- Applications are reviewed by NC 4-H Honor Club members





Project Record Book

Project Record Book Sheets are divided into five age categories:

- Cloverbud (5-8 years old)
- 9-10 years old
- 11-12 years old
- 13-15 years old
- 16-18 years old



Please note that Cloverbud books are not submitted for competition. A 4-H member must be nine years old to begin competition.

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Project Record Categories

- Animal Science
- Citizenship & Civic Education
- Communication Arts
- Environmental & Natural Resources
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Personal Development and Leadership
- Plant Science
- Science, Technology, and Computers
- Discovery I (9-10 year olds)

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Cumulative Record Book

- Cumulative Records are long term records
- At least 1 year of 4-H but no more than 3 years.
- Cumulative Records are divided into two age categories

- 13-15
- 16-18



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Cumulative Record Categories

- **ANIMAL SCIENCE**
 - Agriculture
 - Beef
 - Dairy
 - Poultry Production and Preparation
 - Horse
 - Sheep/Goat
 - Veterinary Science
 - Swine
- **CITIZENSHIP & CIVIC EDUCATION**
 - Citizenship & Community Service





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Cumulative Record Categories cont.

- **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - Public Speaking/Communications
 - Expressive Arts
- **ENVIRONMENTAL/NATURAL RESOURCES**
 - Forestry & Natural Resources
- **FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES**
 - Family & Consumer Science & Clothing
- **HEALTHY LIFESTYLES**
 - Food & Nutrition
 - Health & Safety
 - Sports Nutrition



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Cumulative Record Categories cont.

- **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP**
 - Achievement
 - Leadership
 - Personal Development
- **PLANT SCIENCE**
 - Plant and Horticultural Science
- **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**
 - Electric Energy
 - Science & Technology



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Application, Resume & Interview

Designed to help teen 4-H members prepare themselves for job or college scholarship interviews, application and resumes.



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ARI

- Select 25 top young people to attend National events
 - National 4-H Congress, National 4-H Conference and International Leadership Conference
- Application form completed
- Resume Completed
- Interview



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Categories

- National 4-H Congress
 - Animal Science – 5
 - Citizenship & Civic Education – 1
 - Communication Arts – 2
 - Family & Consumer Science – 1 –
 - Environment & Natural Resources – 2
 - Healthy Lifestyles – 2
 - Personal Development & Leadership – 1
 - Plant Science – 1
 - Science & Technology – 2
 - Eloise Coffey Family & Consumer Science – 1
 - Fashion Revue Winner - 1



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Categories

- National Conference
 - Leadership & Citizenship - 5
- International Leadership Conference
 - Leadership - 2



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Presentations

- 3 Age categories
 - 9-10, 11-13 & 14-18
- 38 categories for competition



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- Why do we encourage 4-H'ers to participate in the 4-H Awards Program?



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Purpose of NC 4-H Awards Program

- Provide youth an opportunity for rewards and recognition.
- Inspire creative thinking and encourage 4-H'ers to discover and develop their talents.
- Preparing youth to face adversities that they will encounter in life



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Tools to Help You

- N.C. 4-H Awards Handbook
- Website with forms, instructions
<http://www.nc4h.org/publications/forms/index.php>



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How is it all connected?
