

The 4-H Pledge



Materials Needed:

1. Copies of 4-H Pledge Coloring Sheet
2. Crayons

Instructions:

1. Have Cloverbuds color the title and children on the 4-H Pledge Coloring Sheet

Other Ideas and Activities:

- Let the 4-H Cloverbuds take turns leading the 4-H Pledge.
- Purchase a 4-H and U.S.A. Flag set to display at your 4-H Cloverbud Club meetings This can be purchased from the 4-H Source Book or on-line at www.4-hmall.org
- The white in the 4-H flag symbolizes purity. The green, nature's most common color, is emblematic of life, springtime, and youth.
- The pledge tells what 4-H is all about. 4-H has as its goal the four-fold development of youth: Head, Heart, Hands and Health. The pledge was adopted by the delegates to the 1927 National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, DC. Otis Hall, State 4-H Leader from Kansas, wrote the pledge. The phrase "and my world" was added in 1973. The saying of the pledge has prominent place in 4-H activities at regular 4-H meetings, achievement events, camps and other club events.
- The official 4-H motto is: "To Make the Best Better." The 4-H members and leaders attending National 4-H Camp in 1927, also adopted the 4-H motto. The motto was proposed by Miss Carrie Harrison, a botanist in the Bureau of Plant Industry.
- 4-H began in Clark County, Ohio. On January 15, 1902, Mr. Albert Belmont Graham, the superintendent of the Springfield Township Schools at that time, organized a meeting with some thirty boys and girls in the county courthouse basement. The intent behind the meeting was to learn more about harvesting corn, planting a garden, testing soil samples, tying knots in rope and identifying natural wildlife such as weeds and insects. Eventually, the group came to be called the "Boy's and Girl's Agricultural Club".
- The 4-H Emblem, Colors, and the four H's—The original symbol of the Boys and Girls Clubs was a three leaf clover with the words Head, Heart, and Hands. Early in 1911, a meeting of club leaders in Washington adopted a committee recommendation approving the present 4-H emblem design. O.B. Martin, who was directing club work in the South, is credited with suggesting that the 4-H's stand for Head, Heart, Hands and Health.



Sources: www.ohio4h.org
www.national4-hheadquarters.gov
The Green Pages—4-H Advisor' Handbook. OSU Extension. Reprinted 10/96

4-H Pledge

I pledge

My Head to Clearer Thinking
(right hand points to forehead)



My heart to
Greater Loyalty,
(right hand over heart)

My Hands to
Larger Service
(arms slightly bent, palms up)



and My Health to
Better Living,
(arms at sides)

For My Club, My
Community, My Country,
and My World.