4-H STEP* Clubs

(*Short Term Exploratory Program)

What is a STEP club?

STEP stands for **S**hort **T**erm **E**xploratory **P**rogram. It's been designed to provide a way for youth to experience a 4–H project area in a shorter period while learning about the larger 4–H program. These programs won't replace traditional 4–H clubs that meet monthly throughout the year. STEP clubs offer the chance to begin exploring a topic of interest using the same foundation as a 4–H club.

Who can join?

Any youth in grades K–13 (1 year out of high school), whether they are current 4–H members or not. (Some programs may have an age range depending on the subject matter.)

How long are STEP clubs?

Depending on the program, participants will experience 4–H in a 1–3 month setting, meeting 1–4x per month. Most programs will initially run from the beginning of January until the end of March.

Who runs STEP clubs?

STEP clubs will be run by a minimum of two caring and competent adult volunteers in partnership with 4–H. Parents, teachers, or any adult with the desire to teach and inspire youth to learn new things. All volunteers will go through a youth protection screening and training process.

Are there fees?

The base fee for participating in a STEP club is $20 per youth. Additional program fees may apply depending on the project area.

For More Information

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Discover 4-H Curriculum

Discover 4-H provides a detailed guide to running a 4-H STEP club. Each guide includes topics and activities for six 4-H meetings.

STEP clubs are *not* limited to the topics below; these are just examples. They're a great resource for adults new to 4-H or the subject matter.

Agricultural Science
- Agricultural Literacy
- Planet Energy
- Seeds Club

Arts & Crafts
- Craft Beading
- Paper Crafts

Clothing and Textiles
- Crochet
- Duct Tape Club
- Sewing
- T-Shirt Quilt

Cloverbud (K-Grade 3)
- Citizenship
- Earth Science
- Plants and Animals
- Family & Consumer Science

Cultural Studies
- African Safari
- Ancient Egypt Club
- Engineering an Empire
- Family History

Cyber Technology
- Code
- Computer Science
- Python Code
- Scratch Code
- Tinkercad

Drama/Theater
- Theatre Arts
- U-Sing

Entomology
- Entomology

Environmental Education
- Environmental Education
- Forces of Nature
- Wildlife
- Wonders of Water

Foods and Nutrition
- Cake Decorating
- Candy Company Club
- Edible Science Club
- Food Dehydration
- Food Preservation
- Healthy Snacks
- Kitchen Science

Gardening
- Junior Gardener Club
- Urban Gardening

General Life Skills
- Money Mentors
- Public Speaking
- Trip to Peru
- World of Work

Geology and Minerals
- Geology

Health
- Building Healthy Friendships
- Fitness
- Spa and Relaxation

Leadership
- General Leadership Academy

Math
- Art of Math

Outdoor Recreation
- Mountain Bike Club

Robotics
- LEGO EV3 Robotics
- Makey Makey Club
- Robotics

Safety
- Emergency Preparedness
- Incident Command

Science
- Aerodynamics
- Astronomy
- Crime Spy Science
- Discover 4-H Flight
- Exploring Energy
- Flight School
- Mission to Mars
- Onshape

Visual Arts
- Interior Design