Our Mission

4-H Afterschool helps programs create a healthy, enriching environment for young people at times when they are neither in school nor under the care of their parents.

4-H Afterschool works by combining free professionally developed curriculum and the tried and true 4-H values that have been refined over the past 100 years.

Results show that 4-H members are 50% less likely than non 4-H members to smoke cigarettes, shoplift, or use illegal drugs. They are also 12% more likely to attain a college degree.

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Staff Empowerment

4-H Afterschool offers training so that volunteers and school age professionals can anticipate the needs of youth, understand their learning styles and speak their language as they share special skills with young people.

Benefits of 4-H Afterschool:
- 5 verified hours of Traveling Arkansas Professional Pathways (TAPP)
- .5 CEU credits from the U of A system.
- Technical Assistance from 4-H Youth Development Professionals
- 4-H Curriculum

About 4-H Afterschool

4-H Afterschool programs foster a unique combination of fun and learning that helps youth develop lifelong skills, such as leadership, critical thinking and teamwork. The programs address a growing need for quality afterschool programming in Arkansas, where as many as 125,025 children come home to empty houses after school.

Research shows that latchkey youth are at a higher risk for violent crimes, substance abuse, antisocial behavior, poor academic performance and dropping out of school.

To combat this, 4-H Afterschool programs offer a wealth of research-based, ready-to-use “learning by doing” curricula on a wide variety of topics. 4-H tailors programs to each urban, suburban or rural community, supporting programs in many shapes and sizes, depending on the needs and interests of local communities and the youth and adults involved.

Curriculum

4-H offers a wide variety of hands-on curricula that works well in afterschool programs. Of course, each county is unique so check with your Extension staff to see what they may offer.

- Snacking Healthy, Nutrition, and MyPlate for Kids
- A Palette of Fun with Arts and Crafts
- Gardening and Junior Master Gardeners
- Express Yourself and Communications
- Kids on the Grow and Child Development
- Acres of Adventures and Afterschool Agriculture
- Citizenship
- Geospatial-Exploring Spaces and Going Places
- Aerospace Adventures
- Photography
- Theater Arts
- Healthy Lifestyle choices
- Positive Youth Development
- Service Learning
- Robotics