

Hamlin County 4-H Cloverbuds



What is the Cloverbud Program in 4-H?

Cloverbuds is the introductory level of 4-H designed especially for youth ages 5-8 (as of January 1 of the current 4-H year). It gives young children a chance to experience what 4-H is all about in a fun, hands-on, and age-appropriate way.

The Cloverbud program focuses on:

- Building curiosity and enthusiasm for learning
- Encouraging creativity and self-expression
- Developing teamwork and social skills
- Promoting healthy habits and positive attitudes

Cloverbud activities are non-competitive, focusing on exploration and discovery rather than prizes or judging. Members often meet monthly to enjoy crafts, science experiments, cooking, animals, nature, and other fun topics – all while learning about the world around them.

Competing at Achievement Days?

Cloverbud youth may earn participation ribbons in the dog, companion animal (cat), rabbit, or poultry categories. They are not eligible to compete in large animal exhibits. Cloverbuds are also encouraged to bring static or display projects to share and earn a participation ribbon. Projects may include paintings, drawings, decorated eggs, school projects, jewelry, and more—anything that showcases their creativity and interests.

Information on Club

To join Cloverbuds, register through 4-H Online. When selecting a club, youth may choose to be part of the Cloverbud Club or, if they have siblings in another 4-H club, they are welcome to join that club and participate in its activities.

Sign up for Achievement Days

For display/static projects being exhibited at Achievement Days, registration in FairEntry is not required. However, a static card describing the project must be completed and can be picked up at the Extension Office.

Projects in the dog, companion animal, rabbit, or poultry categories must be entered in FairEntry.

Transition to 4-H

As Cloverbuds grow and gain confidence through hands-on learning, they're getting ready to take the next step – becoming a full 4-H member!

Youth officially transition from Cloverbuds to 4-H the year they turn 9 years old (as of January 1). At this stage, they can start exploring project areas, compete in events, and take on leadership roles that build on what they learned as Cloverbuds.