

# 4-H CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT



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**4-H Urban Youth Development Program**  
Texas Cooperative Extension - Harris County  
The Texas A&M University System  
3033 Bear Creek Drive ♦ Houston, TX 77084

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## Dear Teacher/Curriculum Coordinator,

We realize school administrators and teachers are charged with awesome responsibility of educating young people in this fast moving and ever changing world. Texas 4-H, the youth development component of Texas Cooperative Extension, may be able to provide some assistance by making available resources from the Texas A&M University System and the United States Department of Agriculture. Texas 4-H offers a variety of curriculum enrichment programs which can be used to enhance subjects being taught in your school. The majority of materials have TEKS highlighted, for convenience, in support of TAKS.

Our intent is to simply enhance the educational experiences of youth through these curriculum enrichment programs. It is not our intent, nor is it within our capabilities, to provide assistance in every subject being taught. We simply want to extend to you and your staff, the 4-H curriculum, in an effort to support and collaborate with schools through school enrichment programs.

Harris County offers many curriculum enrichment programs developed within Harris County as well state based programs. Students involved are enrolled in 4-H as a Curriculum Enrichment project group, on a group enrollment form completed by the teacher or group leader and submitted to the county extension office.

We are very proud of the **YEA 4-H! After-school Curriculum** that was developed in Texas by a number of county extension agents and 4-H specialists. Curriculum for grades K-2 and 3-5 are available now in a convenient CD-

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format so there are no bulky binders to store or hassle with. The easy "say and do" format contains all the activity sheets, background information and resources a teacher will need to implement in an after-school setting or classroom.

Topics range from Texas History to Metrology that support the foundation TEKS as well as the curriculum enrichment and career and technology education TEKS. Each lesson is coded to the following standards: Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills, 40 Developmental Assets, Life Skills Model and the National Education Standards.

The **YEA 4-H! Program** also includes a series of newsletters for parents that focus on the developmental needs of school-age children. It also provides community service projects and suggests ways even young children can do helpful things for others in their communities.

Please take time to browse through this guide and brochure. Please, feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to set up a time when our staff could come visit more with you about our programs.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kelli Lehman  
County Extension Agent— Urban Youth Development

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# Curriculum Enrichment Programs

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## What is Texas Cooperative Extension?

Extension is an educational organization provided by the U.S. government through Texas A&M University, and the Harris County government. Extension conducts programs in five program areas; **Horticulture, Family & Consumer Sciences, Agriculture, Marine** and **4-H & Youth Development**.

## What is 4-H?

4-H is a youth organization that encourages and promotes growth and development of young people through projects with the supervision and guidance of adult volunteer leaders and county Extension agents. The program is open to all youth in 3rd grade (age 9) through 18 years of age

## **Yea 4-H! An After-School Learning Adventure**

Yea 4-H! targets grades K-5 and is designed for curriculum enrichment and after-school settings. The CD includes the curriculum with lessons on a wide variety of subjects such as history, environment, earth science and character development. There are also newsletters for parents (in English and Spanish), community service ideas, evaluation instruments, and background information for staff development.

**Publication Number:** 4-Hy.K-2 (Kindergarten - 2)  
4-Hy.3-5 (Grades 3 - 5)

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## **Hatching Eggs in the Classroom**

Science projects involving eggs and embryos can lay the foundation for studies of the life sciences, introduce scientific methods and promote an appreciation for life. This manual is designed to aid classroom teachers in developing such projects and includes information on every step of the hatching process, from ordering the eggs to caring for the newly hatched chicks.

**Publication Number: B-5084**

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## **KIDzANTS Fire Ant Curriculum for Youth**

This curriculum teaches children about red imported fire ants. It includes a Leader Guide and Student Fun Book, which have six lessons, plus a poster set, a game spinner, a matching card set and a fire ant model kit.

**Publication Number: B-6140**

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## **Investigating Water**

This program contains teaching plans for 12 lessons on topics such as "Water in Our Daily Lives," "The Water Cycle," "Amazing Aquifers," "Water and Soil," "Aquatic Ecosystems," and "Water Wise Use." Accompanying each lesson plan are activity and record sheets for hands-on learning experiences.

**Publication Number: 4-H 17-1**

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## **Snacking Healthy**

Children have fun learning to prepare nutritious, healthful snacks.

**Publication Number: 4-H 3.022**

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## **Toothfully Speaking**

This curriculum contains six detailed lesson plans about the importance of dental care and hygiene. It contains interesting puzzles and activities for students.

**Publication Number: HEA 3.020**

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## **Consumer Critter Crew**

The Consumer Critter Crew program contains teaching and promotional materials, as well as a video. This program teaches children about the value of money and how to be wise consumers. The colorful cartoon characters who make up the "Critter Crew" make the lessons interesting and fun.

**Publication Number: L-5150**

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## **Blue Sky**

Students learn about the exciting field of aerospace. This curriculum includes a variety of lessons on topics such as space flight and the Hubble telescope.

**Publication Number: ENG 8-1.020**

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## **Predators in the Classroom-- A Primer on Predator Ecology**

This 4-part set includes a CD-ROM, video, teacher's manual and poster. The materials are to help elementary age children learn about various predators and their role in the environment.

**Publication Number: SP-100**

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## **Africanized Honey Bee**

Each kit contains a variety of educational materials, including lesson plans for grades K-4, a blue bee trap box, four color photos, two videos, stickers, an Africanized honey bee and a regular honeybee cast in resin for comparison, a plastic honeycomb, and a 36-slide program with cassettes and scripts in English and Spanish.

**Publication Number: SP-152**

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# HOW TO ORDER CURRICULUM

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To order the 4-H curriculum, access the Texas Cooperative Extension Bookstore on the Internet at:

<http://tcebookstore.org>  
and click on "Resources for Teachers."

**To order on-line:** You may order on-line with a VISA or MasterCard, using secure shopping cart technology.

**To order by fax:** Print out the order form and fax it with your credit card information to (979) 458-0172. A business or organization wishing to be billed should fax both the order form and a purchase order.

**To order by mail:** Print out the order form and mail it with your credit card information, check, money order or purchase order to:

Texas Cooperative Extension  
P.O. Box 1209  
Bryan, Texas 77806

**To order by phone:** Call (888) 900-2577. Have your credit card information ready.

If ordering via a purchase order, the FEI number for Texas Cooperative Extension is 74-6000537.

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## Leaders For Character

Leaders for Character is a fun-filled way for elementary-age students to develop positive character traits. The goal of Leaders For Character is that today's youth become tomorrow's ethical leaders. Leaders For Character provides a special opportunity to help young people understand that good character counts and is an important part of becoming a leader.

Leaders For Character has nine basic concepts centered around positive character traits. The students are requested to practice the character trait. The following lesson, the students are asked to report on their experiences. The character traits studied are: **Choices, Honesty, Attitude, Respect, Acceptance, Compassion, Trustworthiness, Effort, Responsibility.**

The lessons and handouts are available in a convenient CD-format. Cost of the program is \$25. **To order contact Annette Scott at 281.855.5622 or [ascott@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ascott@ag.tamu.edu).**

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## Cylinder Gardening

Texas Cooperative Extension - Harris County is proud to offer the Cylinder Gardening program to students in the Houston/Harris County area. Cylinder gardening is a method of gardening that uses bottomless cylinders as small individual gardens. It requires little preparation or experience. Once the cylinders are filled and planted, the only labor is minor maintenance, watering and harvesting. This 4-H program is designed to educate students on plant growth from seed planting to harvesting. By growing plants, children will gain a sense of pride, responsibility and determination.

Materials provided include a pre-test, a teacher's guide for six lessons, teacher references, study materials, games, post-test, directions for preparation of cylinders, and sources for seeds, fertilizer and synthetic soil. **For more information or to enroll visit <http://cylindergardening.tamu.edu>**

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## Ag in the Classroom

Agriculture in the Classroom is an exciting program for Texas school children. Using Texas Farm Bureau's Food and Fiber for the 21st Century-the Texas Agriculture Resource Guide for grades 1-6- and other specially developed supplementary materials, teachers around the state guide students in exploring various facets of food and fiber production in Texas.

Because local county Farm Bureaus participate in providing Agriculture in the Classroom materials, the program helps school districts fulfill state mandates for community involvement. Working with teachers resource people can organize activities such as:

- Explaining local farming/ranching to students
- Providing animals, crops, or other samples for hands-on demonstrations
- Coordinating ag fairs (where feasible)
- Arranging ag-related tours (where feasible)
- Visiting areas museums which preserve and demonstrate our agricultural heritage
- Corresponding with students about what life on a modern day Texas farm/ranch is like
- County Farm Bureau members can bring positive community caring and involvement to your school.

Texas Farm Bureau has created an exciting interactive adventure called the Mobile Learning Barn. The Mobile Learning Barn creates a connection between people and agriculture, and the impact it has on our lives. The Mobile Learning Barn is a part of our TFB Agriculture in the Classroom program.

For more information on Ag in the Classroom contact:

**Kristin Fuller**, CFB Agriculture Program Coordinator  
P.O. Box 7 ★ Conroe, TX 77305  
713.446.8672 ★ [kfuller@txfb.org](mailto:kfuller@txfb.org)

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*for more information contact:*

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Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.