

**4-H**  
**CURRICULUM**  
**ENRICHMENT**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL**



**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.

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

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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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## **Going To Work: Career Planning for Teens**

This publication explains how teenagers can find and prepare for careers that fit their values, skills, personalities and interests.

**Publication Number: L-2380**

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## **Quality Counts**

Abstract: This curriculum, targeted to 4-H and FFA members, teaches young people the importance of good character and ethical behavior in caring for and exhibiting animals. Many youth livestock projects enter the food supply, so quality assurance is the responsibility of these young people and the adults who work with them. The "Quality Counts" curriculum contains a wealth of lesson plans, teaching materials, handouts and images. PowerPoint images and handouts are also included on the companion CD.

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

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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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## **Entomology for Master Gardeners**

Abstract: This 2-CD set is an introduction to insect identification and management in and around the home. This set was developed for *Master Gardeners*, but can be used by teachers or anyone interested in the fascinating world of insects. Each CD runs independently (in Windows only) and contains seven learning modules.

**Publication Number: SP-151**

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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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## **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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## **Junior Master Gardener Sampler Set**

Abstract: This set includes one copy of each of the popular Junior Master Gardener curricula, except for the Level 1 Youth Handbook in Spanish. Titles include the Level 1 Teacher/Leader Guide, the Level 1 Student Handbook, Wildlife Gardener, Health and Nutrition from the Garden, Operation Thistle--Seeds of Despair and Literature in the Garden.

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## Young Leaders in Action

Young Leaders in Action deal with human relations and self-discovery. Students develop peer helping skills, learn how to run meetings, practice efficient public speaking, interview skills, be involved in promotion and running of school events, and work on school and community relations.

### YLA will:

- Help students realize the importance of self-esteem and use this knowledge to become effective leaders and helpers.
- Help students develop into good listeners and develop effective communication skills.
- Help student acquire basic organizational skills in planned events at the school and in the community.
- Help students become mentors who listen to and help with the growth and development of other students.

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 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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# HOW TO ORDER CURRICULUM

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To order the 4-H curriculum (**unless otherwise noted**), 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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*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.

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