What is Responsibility?

Responsibility:
- Do what you are supposed to do
- Persevere; keep on trying
- Use self control
- Be self-disciplined
- Think before you act—consider the consequences
- Be accountable for your choices
- Taking responsibility is a way to show that we are people of character. It means doing our part, controlling our actions and thoughts and doing our best. We do our own work.

To practice responsibility:
- Think before we act.
- Think about how our actions affect others
- Think before we speak.
- Are accountable; taking responsibility for the results of what we do and don’t do.
- Fix our mistakes
- Keep trying. Stick to duties even when they are difficult.
- Are reliable and always do our job.
- Clean up our own messes.
- Show perseverance by demonstrating a commitment to finish what we start.

Responsibility in 4-H:

Leaders:
- Have opportunities for members to learn responsibility at club meetings and events.
- Understand their own abilities and challenges.
- Coach youth in preparing for assignments.
- Be supportive with realistic expectations for choices.

Members:
- Take responsibility for things without being asked.
- Learn to outline the steps in doing a job.
- Try to estimate the time, money, knowledge and energy it will take to complete.
- Learn to work with others in reaching a goal.

Parents:
- Realize that your child is learning important life skills and that some of those come through failure.
- Support and encourage without doing their work or discouraging their ambitions.
- Be proud of their accomplishments.

“Our privileges can be no greater than our obligations.”
John F. Kennedy, Jr.

For Character Counts Activities please visit www.4h.uwyo.edu

Clover Connection
- Head - Be prepared, take charge of yourself and your life. Set realistic goals
- Heart - Be rational, act oft of reason not anger
- Hands - Work hard, be disciplined with your time & money
- Health - Make good decisions with your health and be self disciplined

Adapted from:
“Show me Character”
By Missouri 4-H