



4-H ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS
Independence Evaluation

Is the Essential Element of INDEPENDENCE part of your 4-H club, project group, or event? Use the checklist below to assess the work you are doing as part of the Wyoming 4-H program.

Opportunity to see oneself as an active participant in the future

	1	2	3	4
Members try new projects and activities as they get older				
I encourage youth to run for offices, become youth leaders, or participate in other leadership opportunities				
Youth officers or older members plan meetings and write agendas				
Members plan our activities and events				

1: Most of the time. 2: Some of the time. 3: Rarely. 4: Not observed.

Opportunity for self determination

	1	2	3	4
Members attend meetings and events and actively participate				
Our club and committees have up to date constitution or bylaws				
Members choose and plan 4-H activities				
Members talk about their experiences at club meetings, project meetings, and other 4-H events				
Youth participate in decision - making activities				
Encourage older members to apply for leadership positions beyond club and project area				
Older members plan, implement, evaluate programs for younger members				

1: Most of the time. 2: Some of the time. 3: Rarely. 4: Not observed.

Looking at the checklist above, in what areas do you struggle to create an environment of independence (items where you entered 3 or 4). Use the Independence handout or talk to your 4-H Educator about ways you can improve the environment at your 4-H club, meeting, or event. Write your ideas on the back.

The information above was adapted from the Alaska State 4-H Program Using Essential Elements Feedback Form.