The purpose of any 4-H club is to foster youth development principles of Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. These principles are achieved by the following:

Belonging
- Provide an inclusive environment that includes social interaction between youth with diverse backgrounds
- Contribute to a team effort
- Develop a positive relationship with a caring adult

Independence
- Self-directed decision making process that relates to real-life experiences
- Foster leadership opportunities

Generosity
- Community service activities
- Share experiences with younger youth members

Mastery
- Project leaders help youth develop specific knowledge and skills
- Skills to run effective meetings
- Gain understanding of finances through access to funds raised by the club

Here are some resources that will help you incorporate the Essential Elements of 4-H into all 4-H meetings. Some of the resources are available free of cost on-line or from the County Extension Office, others you may want to consider purchasing for your 4-H club.

**Belonging**

**Icebreaker/warm-up/name game activities** — icebreakers are essential in helping kids get to know one another, break up cliques, and help them feel like they are a member of the group. Icebreakers are also a good way to start off a meeting positively and direct some of the initial energy youth come to a meeting with.

**Alphabet Soup for the Leaders Soul 1 & 2**

**Books**

*Silver Bullets* by Karl Rohnke
*Cowstails and Cobras I & II* by Karl Rohnke
*Journey Toward the Caring Classroom* by Laurie S. Frank
*The Bottomless Bag Revival* by Karl Rohnke
Recognition – Recognition is an acknowledgement and affirmation of the personal growth in an individual. It can be public or private. It can be within the individual or provided by others. Recognition in 4-H is the encouragement and support for learning.

National 4-H Recognition Model

Independence

Leadership
Six Pillars of Leadership – Wyoming Youth Leadership Education
Wyoming 4-H Officer Handbooks – www.wyoming4h.org under 4-H Publications and Club Resources
Step Up to Leadership 4-H Curriculum

Decision Making
Character Counts! Good Ideas book pgs. 90, 91, 340, 436, 438

Generosity

Character Counts! Good Ideas book
Character Counts! Show Me Character
4-H Curriculum
Public Adventures curriculum- citizenship
Agents of Change – Service Learning
Raise Your Voice – Service Learning

Mastery

Making Model Meetings – www.wyoming4h.org under 4-H Publications and Club Resources
4-H project curriculum – www.4-hmall.org
4-H project information – www.wyoming4h.org under Project Information
Wyoming 4-H Officer Handbooks – www.wyoming4h.org under 4-H Publications and Club Resources

Miscellaneous Resources
Questions for Guiding Experiential Learning – A field guide for adult volunteers, mentors, coaches, fair judges, etc.
Print and on-line materials available at Delicious.com. Delicious.com is a collection of web sites that contain resources which are useful in the 4-H program. Tags (keywords) are used to locate specific topics in the web sites. For example, if you click on the CommunityService tag, all the web sites that contain community service resources will be listed. Login and check it out! Username: Wyoming4H and Password: WY$HHHH