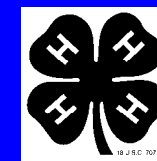


Garfield County 4-H After-School Program



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Background:

Garfield County, one of the most rural counties in Utah, has only 0.9 persons per square mile across 3.2 million acres. Extending 4-H programs evenly across the county has always been a challenge. Escalante and Boulder have traditionally had lower activity levels in the 4-H program, but due to the lack of resources there has been a severe drop off in enrollments. Garfield County 4-H needs a focused effort in underserved areas of the county to rejuvenate the 4-H program and build the foundation for a sustainable program. After-school programs create excitement in youth and potential adults will see the benefits of 4-H and volunteer as 4-H leaders.

Goals:

Reach underserved 4-H audiences and generate interest in the 4-H program with youth and adults.

Activities:

After-School activities have been planned from October 2006 to May 2007. Each week, activities are scheduled in Boulder, Escalante and Panguitch Elementary Schools and average weekly attendance at each is 10, 22, and 15, respectively. Below are a few of the topics presented.

- Nutrition, Healthy Hands, Healthy Body
- Composting
- Money, Money, Money
- Wildlife and Predator/Prey
- Physical Fitness
- Mask Making and Drama
- Atlas Bingo
- Archaeology
- Fire Safety and Career as a Fireman
- Leather Craft



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Outcomes and Impacts:

- To-date, conducted after-school at Boulder Elementary 15 times, Escalante Elementary 6 times, Escalante High 2 times and Panguitch Elementary 5 times.
- Over 400 youth have attended the activities.
- Activities will continue through in the above areas and also target Bryce Valley Elementary.

What the youth say:

- "4-H is way good! I think it's so fun. I want to do it everyday."
- "I like it because it teaches me lots of things. It's fun to learn new things. It gets me into a club that I can rely on and people I can trust."
- "4-H makes me smile."

What the parents say:

- "I'm always willing to send my child... I'm grateful someone will give of their time and I know it's safe." -- Mrs. K.
- "I like the wholesome activities that 4-H provides where my youth can learn." -- Melanie T.
- "I enjoy the educational activities and it's great... for my children to interact with other youth." -- Deann A.

I wish

By Lexi J. 3rd Grade

I wish I pray that someday I will be a 4-H leader.
 Things people teach in 4-H makes me want to,
 So I will wait, when the day comes and I'm old
 enough I will be a 4-H leader,
 and I will remember when I was a kid and I will
 remember the 4-H teachers.