



### Inside the Issue

#### LIFE SKILLS: THINKING

You will gain skills in service learning, critical thinking, problem solving, decision making and learning to learn.

#### IDEAS FOR SERVICE LEARNING

Find out what youth will learn by being engaged in service learning while getting ideas for service learning activities.

#### UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES - BEYOND THE COUNTY

## WHAT ARE THE 4 - H'S?

Now that you have started the 4-H year, you will have many families that do not understand why we say the 4-H pledge or what the 4 - H's stand for. Take a moment to explain to them that the 4 H's in 4-H stand for Head, Heart, Hands & Health.



# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential learning which is better known as *learning by doing*, allows youth to explore and discover rather than listening and reading. Youth are engaged in the five specific sequential steps that will help youth learn and identify what they have learned from a 4-H experience.

They are also able to apply their learning to other experiences throughout their life.

The sequential steps within the experiential learning model include:

- 1) **Experience:** perform or do an activity
- 2) **Share:** share the experience by describing what happened.
- 3) **Process:** process the experience to determine what was most important and identify common themes.
- 4) **Generalize:** discover what you can take away from the experience and relate it to their daily lives.
- 5) **Apply:** apply what you have learned to a new situation.

Each step within the model contributes to the youth's learning process. They learn from the thoughts and ideas about the experience as they experience and process the activity.

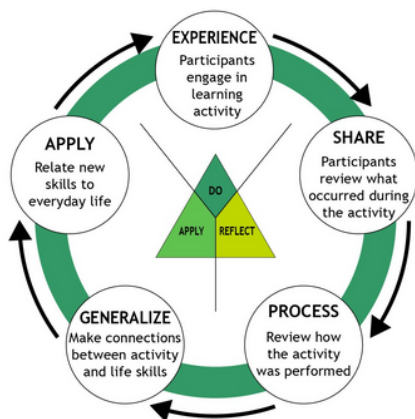
Keep in mind that providing a learning experience alone does not count as Experiential Learning or allowing youth to learn by doing. The 4-H member must truly understand what happened, see patterns through observation, generalize from the observations and understand how to use the generalizations in a new situation.

## How will using Experiential Learning benefit you as the leader?

- You will be able to assess the youth's knowledge of or experiences with a subject and build upon what they already know.
- You will serve as a coach who can use multiple methods to provide experiences for youth. You will serve in more of a learning leader or a guide rather than a lecturer.
- You will be able to learn with youth in a cooperative way.

## How will youth benefit from participating in Experiential Learning?

- Youth will learn from each other by sharing knowledge and skills.
- Youth will work together, sharing information and evaluating themselves and others.
- Youth will take responsibility of their own learning.
- Youth will relate experiences to their own lives.



## MORE IN DEPTH WITH THE FIVE STEPS

Begin with an **experience** - action. *The leader should provide guidance during the experience, but not be directive.* The youth should **experience** the activity in order to develop a life skill. Some ideas would be to play a game (life skill: teamwork, risk taking), experiments (life skill: decision-making, problem solving), giving presentations (life skill: communication), making products/models (life skill: problem solving, leadership, accessing resources)

Ask youth to **share** and reflect on what they did. *Ask questions to help them think about what they did, what they saw, felt, heard, smelled, tasted, what part of the experience was the most difficult and what was the easiest.*

Once youth have shared about their experience, the focus of the conversation should move to the **process** of the experience or activity. *The leader should pose questions about what procedures or steps they use in doing the activity, what problems or issues came up, how they dealt with the problems and more.*

After discussing the process, the discussion should move to a more personal focus where youth can **generalize** what the experience meant to them and what they learned from it. The discussion should be more focused on what life skill the youth developed through the activity. *Leaders can ask questions that address what the youth learned from the activity or experience, how this learning relates to other things they have been learning, and what similar experiences they have had with this life skill or subject matter.*

Finally, we should work to direct youth to **apply** what they have learned in their lives. During this step, youth should think about how the learning from this experience could be used at another time or under other conditions. *The leader can ask questions such as how what they learned relates to other parts of their lives, how they can use what they learned, and how they can apply what they learned to future situations.*

# WHY SERVICE LEARNING

## What youth gain from community service learning

By giving back to their communities, young people can:

- Learn the value of helping others.
- Develop leadership, communication, organizational skills and a sense of empowerment.
- Learn how important the connection is between subject matter and life in the community.
- Learn how to cooperate with one another and work as a team with diverse groups of people including adults, peers and others with different backgrounds and experiences.
- Succeed in an area different from academics, athletics or popularity.
- Build self-esteem from the positive results of their service.
- Develop problem-solving and decision-making skills by applying their knowledge to real-world situations.
- Develop a sense of being responsible for their community and a sense that citizenship requires them to actively participate in their community.
- Receive recognition for their efforts and possibly college scholarships.
- Experience the world of work.

Not only do young people gain by being involved in community service, the clubs and groups that they are in also experience benefits from planning and carrying out service projects.

## What clubs gain from community service learning

Carrying out service activities can strengthen a club or group because it:

- Boosts member commitment and involvement by giving members meaningful activities.
- Can involve families and youth in a joint activity.
- Fulfills the "hands to larger service" part of the 4-H pledge.
- Builds unity among members, allowing them to function better as a team.
- Allows members to get to know one another better as they work together on a common goal.
- Helps youth become invested in their club and community.
- Shows the community how youth can be resources and how they can get things done.

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/community\\_service\\_learning/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/community_service_learning/)

*Scan for more  
Community Service  
Ideas here:*



## IDEAS FOR SERVICE LEARNING

- Peanut Butter Challenge
- Operation Christmas Child
- Thank You Letters to Veteran Letters
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Toys for Tots
- Cleaning up a Public Park
- Gifts (socks & blankets) for a Nursing Home
- Help an Animal Shelter

## AGE APPROPRIATE SERVICE LEARNING SKILLS

Age-Appropriate Skills: Children and youth develop at different rates. The skills listed below are only general guidelines. (Adapted from the Iowa State Targeting Life Skills Training Manual)

**5- to 8-year-olds** should be able to:

- Help with appropriate tasks.
- Empathize with others.

**9- to 11-year-olds** should be able to:

- Participate in short-term group efforts to benefit the environment, school, community and other areas.

**12- to 14-year-olds** should be able to:

- Put forth effort and time for a cause.
- See the broader picture beyond self-interest.
- Participate in community service.
- Explore possibilities for addressing social issues.

**15- to 19-year-olds** should be able to:

- Make significant contributions to projects.
- Value contributions to a common good.
- Lead community service efforts.

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/resources/pdfs/hands\\_life\\_skills\\_sheet\\_\(4h1673\).pdf](https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/resources/pdfs/hands_life_skills_sheet_(4h1673).pdf)

# LIFE SKILL: THINKING

Through 4-H, our target goal is to teach youth life skills that they can use throughout their life. Within the head section of the life skills wheel, you will find the life skill section labeled **thinking**. As we work to increase life skills within thinking, we are working to help youth better understand and participate in service learning, critical thinking, problem solving, decision making and learning to learn. Lets dive a little deeper into each of these life skills.

**Critical thinking:** youth are engaged in projects which will help them gain life skills to strategize, analyze, compare, reason, and build connections with past learning. Within this life skill, youth should make thoughtful decisions, decide on their own what to believe or do, gather information to make good decisions, question themselves, and consider opposing viewpoints.

*Related activities: serve on a committee in your club to plan out the 4-H year; work with younger youth in your 4-H club; gather research and work on a project or issue in the county.*

**Decision Making:** Allows youth to think, develop good judgement, gather information to make good decisions and gain the ability to choose among several alternatives.

*Related activities: In a club setting, have members set goals and decide how to accomplish them; role-play in club settings on decision-making activities.*

**Learning to Learn:** youth should better understand the methods and skills for learning. When youth learn to learn, they can use their senses to gain new information, remember and retain learned information, question to gain more information, and apply what they learned in new situations.

*Related activities: Ask members open-ended questions that require them to pursue other resources to acquire more information; encourage teen leaders to learn and teach a new project to younger members; explore ways to use all senses in project area learning.*

**Problem Solving:** Youth should learn how to identify a problem, develop a plan of action to solve the problem, use the problem-solving process, and recognize if the problem was resolved successfully.

**Service Learning:** Youth will learn how to become active participants in the communities and apply their experiences to real-life situations. This is done through leading others, accepting responsibility, showing appreciation and putting facts and ideas into perspective.

*Related activities: assess the care and well-being of animals on the farm; role play ways to resolve conflict in a club or group setting.*

For more information about these life skills including how to make them age appropriate and where to find additional resources, scan this code!



Information derived from Michigan State University Extension Head Life Skills for 4-H Projects

## 2021 PEANUT BUTTER CHALLENGE

### OCTOBER 1-NOVEMBER 24

Donate unopened jars of peanut butter at the UF/IFAS Extension office in your county. All peanut butter donations go to local food pantries to help feed families in need. We thank the Florida Peanut Producers Association and Florida

Peanut Federation for their continued support and contributions. Support Florida's peanut producers and people in need in your community by generously donating the Peanut Butter Challenge. Find the Peanut Butter

Challenge drop-off location closest to you:  
UF/IFAS Charlotte County Extension Office  
UF/IFAS Charlotte County 4-H Office  
UF/IFAS Glades County Extension 4-H Office



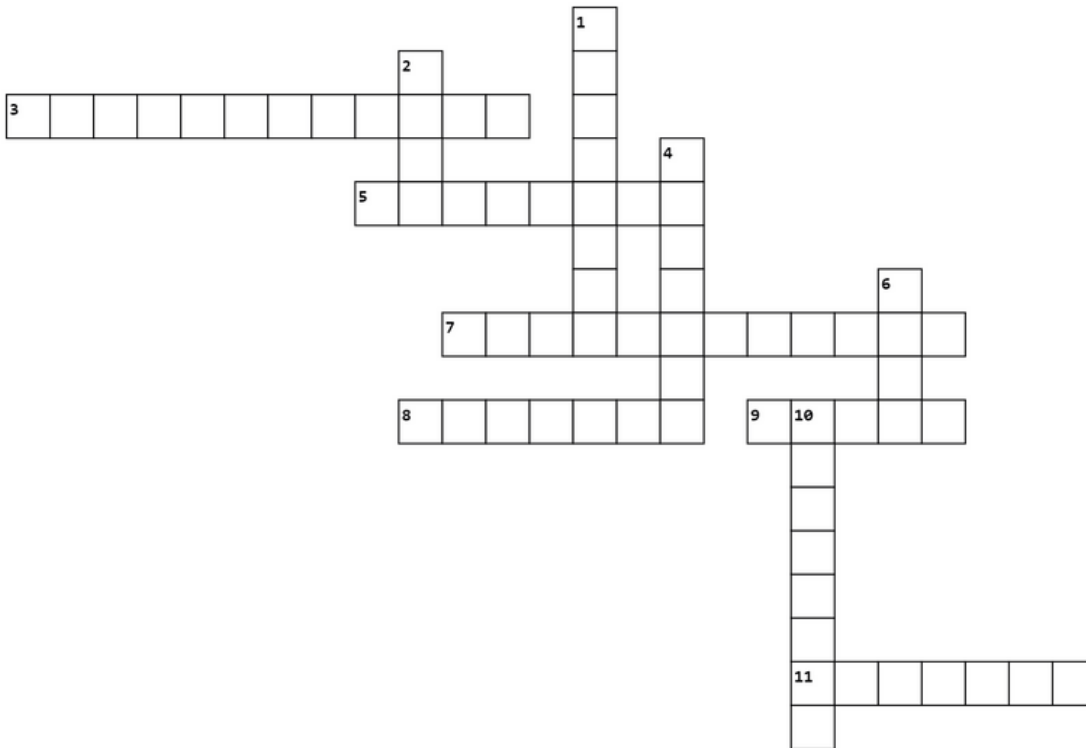
## Upcoming Beyond the Club Opportunities

- **Dairy Quiz Bowl** - Join a statewide Dairy Quiz Bowl Practice on Monday nights @ 6:30 pm  
<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95135790172>
- **Southwest Florida Lee County Fair Sunday, - Small Animal Clinic** - November 7th, Feather - 9:30am - 10:30am - Fur - 11am - 12pm @4-H Office, 2000 North Recreation Parkway Ft. Myers, FL
- **Dairy Goat Showmanship and Judging Clinic** - November 20, 2021 - 9am - 4pm @Alachua County Extension & Equestrian Center - register @ <https://www.fdga.net>
- **Sweet South Swine Classic Prospect Show** - December 4, 2021 @LaBelle Rodeo Grounds, Labelle, FL - on Facebook @Sweet South Swine Classic
- **Florida Youth Livestock Expo** - December 29, 2021 - January 1, 2022 @Okeechobee, FL - on Facebook @Florida Youth Livestock Expo
- **Manatee County 4-H & Open Horse Show** - March 6, 2022 @ Manatee County Fairgrounds 1402 14th Ave W, Palmetto, FL - Mary Collazo (Registration) at 941.224.9546 or email [isacollazo3701@gmail.com](mailto:isacollazo3701@gmail.com)

*If you know of upcoming opportunities please email them to [kpopa@ufl.edu](mailto:kpopa@ufl.edu) or [tyceerprevatt@ufl.edu](mailto:tyceerprevatt@ufl.edu).*



# NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 4-H VOLUNTEER CROSSWORD PUZZLE

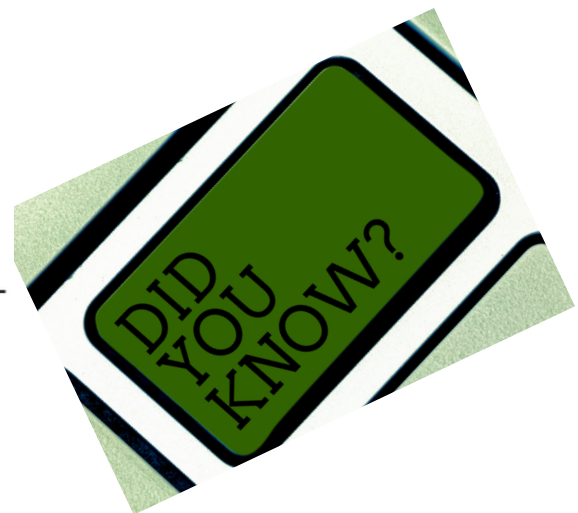


## Down

1. \_\_\_\_\_ making allows youth to think, develop good judgement, gather information to make good decisions.
2. The number of steps in the experiential learning model
4. The County hosting a horse show in March.
6. The first H in the pledge.
10. How often OYCS training must be completed

## Across

3. The type of learning known as learning by doing.
5. The University with 366 Community Service Ideas for 4-H and youth.
7. The item being collected statewide in October & November.
8. Learning that helps youth become active participants in their community.
9. The H that is associated with service learning.
11. Where the Sweet South Swine Classic is being held.



# Homemade Apple Butter Recipe

**Prep Time**  
20 mins

**Cook Time**  
2 hrs

**Total Time**  
2 hrs 20 mins

Went apple picking? Got lots of apples? Make this easy homemade apple butter recipe! Just a few simple ingredients and so much delicious Fall flavor!

Course: Breakfast, Brunch

Cuisine: American

Keyword: Apple Butter, apple butter recipe, crockpot apple butter, how to make apple butter

Servings: 32 servings

Calories: 23 kcal

## Ingredients

- about 4 pounds apples (roughly 9 medium-sized apples), peeled and cored
- 1 cup apple cider (NOT apple cider vinegar)
- 3/4 cup loosely packed light brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- juice of half a lemon (about 1 tablespoon)

## Instructions

1. Place the apples, apple cider, brown sugar, cinnamon, cloves, and salt in a large pot, and cook over medium-low heat, uncovered, (stirring occasionally) until the apples have become very soft (about 1 hour).
2. Use a hand blender to puree the mixture (or ladle it into a regular blender in batches) until smooth.
3. Place the puree back into the pot and continue to cook, uncovered, (stirring occasionally) until thick, velvety, and deep mahogany brown (about 1 hour).
4. Stir in the lemon juice, transfer the mixture to jars, and keep refrigerated.\*

## Recipe Notes

\*Apple butter can also be canned. Ladle into sterilized jars, wipe the rims clean, screw on fresh lids and submerge in boiling water for 10 minutes. Processed jars of apple butter will keep at room temperature for several months.

Makes about 4 4-ounce jars of apple butter.

A few more great topping recipes:

- Homemade Lemon Curd
- Salted Caramel Sauce



**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER  
VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE**  
COMPLETE THIS SURVEY  
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN  
A 4-H PRIZE.



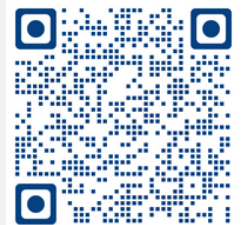
**Congratulations  
Kristyn Neuhofer  
to our September/October  
winner!**



## HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR OYCS TRAINING?

4-H requires Volunteers to take the OYCS training every year. The training is now housed in 4-Honline, and is easy to access. Please remember 4-H recommends that you use Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge, or Google Chrome as your web browser to access 4-H online. 4-H Online is not compatible with Microsoft Internet Explorer.

The link to 4Honline is <https://v2.4honline.com> or scan this code.



## Contact Us

### KRISTIE POPA

Charlotte County  
4-H Extension Agent II  
(941)833-3836  
kpopa@ufl.edu



### TYCEE PREVATT

Glades County  
4-H Extension Agent/CED  
(863)-946-0244  
tyceerprevatt@ufl.edu