

Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Our state's public school system has developed a set of learning objectives and standards for a variety of content areas, called the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs). Likewise, 4-H Youth Development is a research-driven organization, promoting only research-based curriculum, developed by educational and youth-development specialists. We are eager to show how our 4-H curriculum reflects the same high standards of our public school system. This year's KYG curriculum reflects most closely the EALRs for the content areas of Communication and Social Studies. Below you will find the specific learning objectives in these areas, all of which the 4-H KYG 2009 Curriculum supports.

Social Studies

2. Understand and use interpersonal and group process skills required by citizens in a democratic society.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 2.1.3a** Voice original ideas, demonstrate content knowledge; persuade audience; listen critically and build upon the ideas of others; ask clarifying questions and challenge statements of others; negotiate and compromise.
- 2.1.3b** Participate in developing group process; persuade; compromise; debate; resolve conflicts; and negotiate differences.
- 2.1.3c** Select appropriate people to gain needed information; identify bias of subject; ask questions to refine and verify understanding.

3. Understand and apply critical thinking and problem solving skills to make informed and reasoned decisions.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 3.1.4a** Identify central issue; formulate appropriate questions; identify multiple perspectives; compare and contrast; validate data using multiple sources; determine relevant information; paraphrase problem.
- 3.1.4b** Distinguish between fact, opinion, and reasoned argument; clarify point of view and context; identify assumptions and fallacies; recognize stereotypes, clichés, bias, and propaganda techniques; evaluate accuracy and timeliness of information; determine main message and identify target audience; analyze credibility and authenticity.
- 3.1.4c** Compare benefits and costs; suggest logical alternatives; predict probable consequences; provide evidence to justify best solution; select most effective manner of communicating solution.

Social Studies – Civics

1. Understand and explain the core values and democratic principles of the United States as set forth in foundational documents, including the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 1.2** Examine key ideals of the US democracy such as individual human dignity, liberty, justice, equality, and the rule of law.
- 1.3** Examine representative government and citizen participation.

2. Analyze the purposes and organization of government and laws.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 2.1** Understand and explain the organization of government at the federal, state, and local level including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

2.2 Understand the function and effect of law

4. Understand the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and the principles of democratic civic involvement.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 4.1 Understand individual rights and their accompanying responsibilities including problem solving and decision-making at the local, state, national, and international level.
- 4.2 Identify and demonstrate rights of US citizenship related to school, local, state, national, and international issues.
- 4.3 Explain how various stakeholders influence public policy.

Communications

1. Use listening and observation skills to gain understanding.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 1.1 Focus attention.
- 1.2 Listen and observe to gain and interpret information.
- 1.3 Check for understanding by asking questions and paraphrasing.

2. Communicate ideas clearly and effectively.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 2.1 Communicate clearly to a range of audiences for different purposes.
- 2.2 Develop content and ideas: *Develop a topic or theme; organize thoughts around a clear beginning, middle, and end; use transitional sentences and phrases to connect related ideas; speak coherently and compellingly.*
- 2.3 Use effective delivery: *Adjust speaking strategies for a variety of audiences and purposes by varying tone, pitch, and pace of speech to create effect and aid communication.*
- 2.4 Use effective language and style: *Use language that is grammatically correct, precise, and engaging and well suited to topic, audience, and purpose.*
- 2.5 Effectively use action, sound, and/or images to support presentations.

3. Use communication strategies and skills to work effectively with others.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 3.1 Use language to interact effectively and responsibly with others.
- 3.2 Work cooperatively as a member of a group.
- 3.3 Seek agreement and solutions through discussion.

4. Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of formal and informal communication.

To meet this standard, the student will:

- 4.1 Assess strengths and need for improvement: *Assess own and others' communication strengths and needs and set goals for improvement.*
- 4.2 Seek and offer feedback: *Seek and use feedback to improve communication; offer suggestions and comments to others .*