



# November Tips for 4-H Parents

## What Is a 4-H Project?

- 4-H projects are an extraordinary place to learn.
- They allow members to explore a specific area of interest—to find their **SPARK**
- Youth have a truly “hands-on” experience.
- They provide the opportunity for special partnerships to form between the youth and adults in the small group.
- A 4-H Project is the entire learning opportunity provided to your child during the 4-H Year. It includes:
  - ◆ Your child’s goals for the project
  - ◆ Planning for the project in your family
  - ◆ Project Meetings
  - ◆ Project work at home
  - ◆ Record keeping all year long
  - ◆ Special events to showcase the project
  - ◆ Reporting on the project in the record book

## Recommended Format for a Project Meeting:

About 90 minutes in length

- ◆ Interest Getter 15-20 minutes
- ◆ Skills Session 20-30 minutes
- ◆ Discussion 15 minutes
- ◆ Presentation 10 minutes
- ◆ Record Keeping 10 minutes
- ◆ Summary & Assignments 10 minutes
- ◆ Refreshments & Recreation 20 minutes

**SPARK** is a new term you will start hearing.

Sparks are what help youth see the potential within themselves. Sparking the inner passions, interests and talents of young people that inspire them on the path to thriving is central to youth development work. Volunteers partner with youth in the discovery process by encouraging young people to find their spark.

## How to Support Your Child’s Project Leader

- ◆ Make sure your child arrives and leaves meetings on time.
- ◆ Offer to provide refreshments and other assistance.
- ◆ Offer to be the 2nd adult present. (There always needs to be at least one leader and another adult present)
- ◆ Thank them for their commitment!

Check out your club’s by-laws and other important information about 4-H in Kings County at: <http://ceking.s.ucdavis.edu>

Ask for your copy of:

- Parent Packet—A Survival Guide for 4-H Parents
- Welcome 4-H Families
- 4-H Member Guide

