

What is County Contest?

County Contest is a one day event held each May/June and is **open to all 4-H'ers in Valencia County**.

County Contest offers a variety of judging and speaking contests which help 4-H'ers develop many necessary life skills which include public speaking, decision making, and teamwork. There are a variety of contests offered to engage 4-H'ers of all different backgrounds. County Contest is a great opportunity to make new friends and learn new things. This document is to provide you with information on all the contests offered to 4-H'ers.

Contests offered include Consumer Decision Making, Livestock and Horse Judging, Home Economics & Livestock Skill-A-Thons, Wildlife Identification, Shooting Sports, Clothing & Talent Reviews, Favorite Foods, Pledge & Creed Competitions, and so much more. Contest preparation begins in the late spring/early summer each year and is open to all 4-H'ers to explore and learn about the different contests.

Novice, Junior & Senior 4-H members compete in the various contests against members of their same 4-H age divisions. At the end of the day, 4-H'ers are recognized for the efforts during an Awards Ceremony. County Contest is the qualifying event for 4-H'ers to advance to District Contest (Novice & Junior 4-H'ers only) and State 4-H Conference (Senior 4-H'ers only). During District & State Contests, Valencia County 4-H'ers compete on teams with other kids from our county against 4-H'ers from across the state.

Example:

Consumer Decision Making Contest

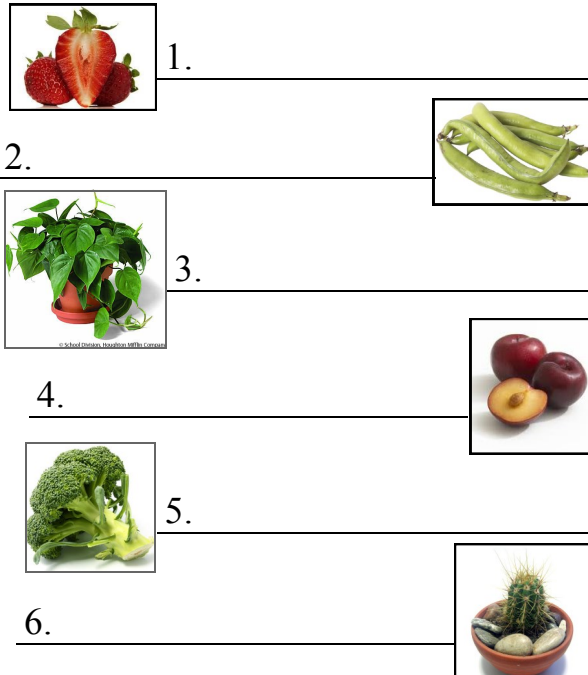
Chris Clover just got finished working out. He is tired and very thirsty. Chris needs a drink that will hydrate him, and is lactose free. Chris doesn't like oranges, and needs something without a lot of sugar. Please rank these drinks in order from best option to worst option.



Example:

Horticulture Contest

Identify the following fruits, vegetables and plants.



Example:

Pledge Contest

Please memorize and recite the 4-H Pledge.





4-H Contest General Rules



I. General Eligibility

1. Any enrolled 4-H member who has not passed his/her 19th birthday by January 1st of the current year may participate. Contests involving District, State, Regional and National events may have different age requirements. Please check with the County Agent to check any questionable age discrepancies.
2. All eligible 4-H members may participate in as many contest divisions as they wish.
3. In the event that the first place team is eligible for District or State, all members of the winning teams must meet all contest requirements including age.
4. When enough members are not available to make a team, individuals may be entered.
5. Some exceptions where a team of 4 members is necessary are: Home Economics Bowl, Wildlife Bowl, and Horse Bowl. Parliamentary Procedure Contest requires 6 members.

II. Entries

1. Entries for the Valencia County 4-H Contests are always due in May. Check the newsletter for entry dates.
2. Entering Contests: 4-H members may participate in more than one contest to the extent that the schedule, or rules, permits.
3. There are four age categories in all contest areas:
 - **Cloverbuds:** A Cloverbud member must have passed his/her 5th birthday and be enrolled in Kindergarten but cannot have passed his/her 9th birthday or be 8 years old and in the 3rd grade. (may participate, but do not actually compete)
 - **Novice:** Ages 9 to 11: A 4-H member must have passed his/her 9th birthday or be 8 years old and in third grade but cannot be in the 6th grade and have passed his/her 12th birthday prior to January 1st of the current 4-H program year.
 - **Junior:** Ages 12 through 13. A 4-H member must have passed his/her 12th birthday or be 11 years old and in the 6th grade but cannot be in 8th grade and have passed his/her 14th birthday prior to January 1st of the current 4-H program year.
 - **Senior:** Ages 14 through 18. A 4-H member must have passed his/her 14th birthday or be 13 years old and in the 8th grade but cannot have passed his/her 19th birthday by January 1 of the current 4-H program year.
4. In case of mixed ages, a team composed of Novice and Juniors, the team will compete in the Junior category.

III. General Instructions

1. Specific details on a particular contest area can be acquired from County 4-H Staff.
2. Contest involving District, State, Regional and National events may have different requirements.

IV. Judging and Selection of Winners

1. Score sheets and judging forms will be used for all contests, and are available to the contestant ahead of time.
2. Age of the contestant will be considered by the judge when evaluating charts, posters, etc.
3. The decision of judge(s) is final. In case of a tie, judges will determine the procedure for breaking the tie.
4. Ribbons/Certificates will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place individual; participation ribbons to all others
5. Good sportsmanship on part of the members, parents and leaders is expected throughout the contests.



4-H CONTEST DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES



CONTEST & ELIGIBILITY	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	LEVEL
<p>Favorite Food Show</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds</p>	<p>Members prepare a favorite food that is nutritious, and displays along with a day's menu, the recipe, and appropriate table setting. Display should include appropriate centerpiece. Member discusses recipe preparation and table setting with judge.</p>	<p>Each contestant's favorite food must be selected from one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Nutritious Snack or Beverage ⇒ Bread ⇒ Sandwich ⇒ Main Dish ⇒ Salad ⇒ Fruit or Vegetable <p>Please note: NO desserts allowed</p>	<p>County District State</p>
<p>Clothing Revue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds</p>	<p>Member may construct one or more articles from any given 4-H clothing project following project guidelines and construction requirements. Member is judged on appearance and fit, the article is judged on construction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Member must be enrolled in a clothing project ⇒ Refer to project book for detailed construction requirements and guidelines ⇒ Refer to 4-H Clothing Construction Project Summery for detailed exhibit requirements 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Consumer Decision Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds</p>	<p>This contest teaches how to observe, compare and make decisions based on standards of quality and facts collected, then tell why one item is better than another.</p> <p>Up to six (6) classes are selected and judged from the Consumer Decision Making Handbook</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Judging will be completed individual for County Contest and as a team of 3 to 4 members for District & State ⇒ Oral reasons are given on one (1) class for Novice, two (2) classes for Juniors and three (3) classes for Seniors 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Home Economics Skill-A-Thon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>Provides an opportunity for members to develop specific home economics and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of home economics practices and principles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Be enrolled in 4-H the current year. ⇒ Classes judged by 3 or 4 member teams as individuals, and as a team. ⇒ Individual classes include: Sewing/Clothing; Interior Design/Housing; Food Preparation; Consumer; Nutrition; Financial Management; Written Quiz. ⇒ Team competition involves responding to a set of situations. 	<p>County District State National</p>

4-H CONTEST DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

CONTEST & ELIGIBILITY	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	LEVEL
<p>Home Economics Bowl</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>This bowl game involves the 4-H'ers in a College Bowl type contest matching wits with the opposing team to see who can answer the most questions. The contest covers materials from all areas of home economics—cooking, baking, money management, crafts, clothing, nutrition, consumerism.</p>	<p>⇒ A written test is taken at County Contest as an individual ⇒ Teams of 4 individuals compete at State Contest</p>	<p>County State National</p>
<p>Fashion Magic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>Members enrolled in the Fashion Magic project series learn about clothing selection, coordination, accessorizing, and care. Project requirements include selecting and coordinating an outfit, and keeping a notebook of their project activities. The contest involves completing and submitting the notebook for judging, and modeling their coordinated outfit. The outfit may be constructed, purchased, or recycled into a new outfit.</p>	<p>⇒ Must be enrolled in one of the Fashion Magic projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wardrobe Planning (required to complete the series) • Clothing Coordination • In the Market Place <p>⇒ Complete and submit a project notebook. ⇒ Coordinate an outfit, and model it.</p>	<p>County State National</p>
<p>Parliamentary Procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>County teams are asked to demonstrate their skill at organizing and running a business meeting, following Roberts Rules of Order, by running a mock meeting. The mock situation includes 3 problems in new business and at least 6 different types of motions.</p>	<p>⇒ May be enrolled in any project. ⇒ Each county may send 2, six member teams—president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, reporter, recreation leader.</p>	<p>County State National</p>
<p>Talent Contest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds.</p>	<p>The contest provides members the opportunity to develop cooperation skills and self-confidence by working together, or individually, to plan and participate in a public appearance. Talent categories include: comedian, poet, vocal, musical, choreographed routines, drama, Celebrate 4-H.</p>	<p>⇒ May be enrolled in any project. ⇒ Each county may send one or two entries in each category. ⇒ Talent must fit into one of the 7 categories. ⇒ Acts are to be for youth, by youth</p>	<p>County District State</p>

4-H CONTEST DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

CONTEST & ELIGIBILITY	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	LEVEL
<p>Horse Bowl</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>The Horse Bowl contest provides an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H Horse projects to demonstrate their knowledge of equine-related matter in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. These contests will provide an educational experience for both participants and spectators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Be enrolled in any 4-H project ⇒ Each county may send one or two teams. ⇒ A team must have 4 members. It is recommended that each team have 1 alternate. 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Horse Judging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>Consists of two to four halter classes for Novice and Juniors; halter classes and performance classes for Seniors. Classes will be judged via video at County Contest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Judging will be completed individually for County Contest and as a team of 3 to 4 members for District & State. ⇒ Oral reasons are given on one (1) class for Novice, two (2) classes for Juniors and three (3) classes for Seniors 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Livestock Judging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>Consists of classes of cattle, sheep, market goats and swine. Classes will be judged via video at County Contest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Judging will be completed individually for County Contest and as a team of 3 to 4 members for District & State ⇒ Oral reasons are given on one (1) class for Novice, two (2) classes for Juniors and three (3) classes for Seniors 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Livestock Skill-A-Thon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>Provides an opportunity for members to develop their livestock production skills and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of animal science and livestock management practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Be enrolled in 4-H the current year. ⇒ Classes judged by 3 or 4 member teams as individuals, and as a team. 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Hippology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>Hippology is an activity that can make learning fun for 4-H members by letting them exhibit their knowledge and understanding of equine science and husbandry in a friendly but competitive setting. The Hippology Contest has four (4) different phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination Phase • Station Phase • Judging Phase • Team Problem (Optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Be enrolled in 4-H the current year ⇒ Counties may enter 2 teams of 3 to 4 members. ⇒ Contestants may not have participated in an official, post secondary Hippology, horse bowl, or horse judging contest. 	<p>County State National</p>

4-H CONTEST DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

CONTEST & ELIGIBILITY	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	LEVEL
<p>Public Speaking ~ Prepared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds.</p>	<p>The participant selects a topic to speak about. Examples of topics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports • Hobbies/Interests • 4-H Projects • School • Current Events 	<p>⇒ Novice time limit: 2 to 4 minutes ⇒ Junior time limit: 4 to 6 minutes ⇒ Senior no longer than: 8 minutes ⇒ Member may be enrolled in any project</p>	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Public Speaking ~ Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds</p>	<p>The participant selects topic. Poems may be original poems or obtained from a book.</p>	<p>⇒ Novice time limit: 2 to 4 minutes ⇒ Junior time limit: 4 to 6 minutes ⇒ Senior time limit: 6 to 8 minutes</p>	<p>County District</p>
<p>Public Speaking ~ Impromptu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds</p>	<p>Contestant prepares speech at the contest site on a pre-selected topic. The contestant chooses a provided topic and begins formulating the speech. After two minutes of preparation the speaker gives the impromptu speech. The speech should have an introduction, body and summary.</p>	<p>⇒ Novice time limit: 1 minute minimum ⇒ Junior time limit: 2 minute minimum ⇒ Senior time limit: 3 to 5 minutes</p>	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior <p>Available as an activity for Cloverbuds</p>	<p>Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Agriculture</u>: Members currently enrolled in an Animal Science, Horticulture and Agronomy, and Natural Science project • <u>Home Economics</u>: Members currently enrolled in a Clothing, Foods, Food Preservation, Housing, Consumer, or Family Life project • <u>General</u>: Members currently enrolled in an Engineering, Personal Growth and Development, Creative Arts or Arts and Crafts project <p>Presentations can either be a <u>Demonstration</u> or <u>Illustrated Talk</u>. Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks are judged against each other. A Demonstration, demonstrates how to do or make something and an Illustrated Talk tells the audience how to do/make something.</p>	<p>⇒ Novice time limit 3 to 5 minutes. ⇒ Junior time limit 5 to 10 minutes. ⇒ Senior time limit 10 to 15 minutes.</p> <p>⇒ Two (2) individuals are allowed and are considered a single entry. Teams will be judged against individuals.</p> <p>⇒ Must be currently enrolled in project.</p>	<p>County District State National</p>

4-H CONTEST DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

CONTEST & ELIGIBILITY	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	LEVEL
<p>Horticulture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>Provides an opportunity for members to develop their plant identification skills and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge and understanding of horticulture.</p>	<p>⇒ Be enrolled in 4-H the current year ⇒ Classes judged by 3 or 4 member teams as individuals and as teams. ⇒ Individual classes include: Identification, Judging and Information.</p>	<p>County District State National</p>
<p>Crops Judging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>This contest provides Senior members the opportunity to develop their crop/seed identification skills and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge.</p>	<p>⇒ Be enrolled in any 4-H project ⇒ Participants will be given ten minutes to judge each seed sample and one minute to identify each seed or plant specimen in the identification part of the contest.</p>	<p>County State National</p>
<p>Land Judging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>This contest provides Senior members the opportunity to develop their land/soil identification skills and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge.</p>	<p>⇒ Participants will be given 15 minutes to judge each pit.</p>	<p>County State National</p>
<p>Range Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>This contest provides Senior members the opportunity to develop their range identification skills and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge.</p>	<p>⇒ May be enrolled in any project. ⇒ The participants score will consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range Plant ID • Range Utilization, Sites & Practices • Range Placing Portions 	<p>County State National</p>
<p>Entomology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>Provide an opportunity for 4-H members to demonstrate their knowledge of entomology, the study of insects.</p>	<p>⇒ Any 4-H member currently enrolled in any phase of 4-H project work may participate ⇒ Teams of 3 to 4 members</p>	<p>County District State National</p>

4-H CONTEST DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

CONTEST & ELIGIBILITY	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	LEVEL
<p style="text-align: center;">Wildlife Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior 	<p>The contest consists of five activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying Common Wildlife Foods • Interpreting Wildlife Habitat from Aerial Photographs • On-Site Habitat Management Recommendations • Wildlife Management Plan and Urban Landscape • Backyard Habitat Plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Members may be enrolled in any 4-H project. ⇒ Team consists of 3 to 4 members. If there are not enough members for a team, the county will be entered as individuals. 	<p>County District State National</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Meats Identification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior 	<p>Provides an opportunity for Senior members to develop their meat identification skills and life skills in a friendly but competitive setting by demonstrating the breadth of their knowledge of the meat industry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Identify 30 retail cuts of meat. ⇒ Place one class of retail and one class of wholesale cuts ⇒ Give oral reasons 	<p>County State National</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Shooting Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novice • Junior • Senior** 	<p>4-H members learn and practice the rules of rifle safety, archery safety, sportsmanship, accuracy with firearms and achieve advancing degree of proficiency.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***This contest is held on a different date. Check Newsletter for dates***</p> <p>*Novice & Juniors can now participate in Air Rifle, Archery, and .22 Rifle. Shotgun is available for Juniors only.</p> <p>**Senior's shooting sports qualifiers for State Shooting are in March/April and State is the first weekend in May.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Must be enrolled in shooting sports project ⇒ Shooting will be completed individually for County Contest and as a team of 3 to 4 members for District & State 	<p>County District State National</p>