Swine Projects Improve Life Skill Development

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4-H teaches life-skills that lead young people to become self-directing, positive, contributing members of society.

These skills give young people the tools necessary for successful adulthood.
Purpose of the 4-H Program

• Raise Blue Ribbon Kids!
• Create Future Leaders
• The project is the means to the end
  – 8 major project categories
    • Animal Science big in 4-H & FFA!
    – Over 80 projects + self-determined
The National FFA Organization is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.
Life Skill Wheel

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension
Targeting Life Skills Model

Patricia A Hendricks
VI-9600601 PH.
November 1996

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Targeting Life Skills Model – 1996
Life Skill Wheel

Provides the framework to:

- More clearly define life skills
- More clearly defend life skill development
- Incorporates the 4-H Clover Head, Heart, Hands, Health
Life Skill Wheel

- HEAD
  - Managing & Thinking
- HEART
  - Living & Being
- HANDS
  - Giving & Working
- HEALTH
  - Relating & Caring
Life Skills from Swine Projects

☑ Decision making
  – Ability to select a project animal
  – Observation – seeing differences and similarities
  – Learn to make good decisions

☑ Goal setting
  – Finished weight for the pig
  – Learning goal for the project
  – Exhibition goals
  – Record keeping

☑ Time management
  – Busy youth
  – Balance time between school, sports, family, project

☑ Responsibility & commitment
  – Feed, water, care for animal day
  – 6 month project or all year
Life Skills from Swine Projects

☑ Leadership
- Within club, chapter, school or community
- Teamwork, conflict resolution

☑ Cause & Effect – consequences
- Feed & water~pig grows
- Work with pig~do well in fair or show

☑ Competencies & Self-confidence
- Gain abilities that can share with others
- Gained skill that feel good about

☑ Cope with Grief – death loss
- Market animals ~ terminal project
- Loss of animal ~ euthanasia decision
6 “C’s” of Success

- Competence
- Confidence
- Connection
- Character
- Compassion
- Communication
Career Opportunities in the Swine Industry

Positive life skill development

Success in college

Many satisfying career opportunities

- Business
- Bio-technology
- Public Relations
- Agronomy
- Communications
- Marketing
- Animal Science
- Education
- Veterinary Science
Yes, Swine Projects most definitely improve life skill development!
Sources of information:
http://4h.wsu.edu
http://www.ffa.org

Thank You!