

## **Independent Study, Self-Determined and Teen Leadership Projects**

There can be many questions about the purpose and leader support of Independent Study, Self-Determined and Teen Leadership Projects. All three project areas are geared for youth who want flexibility and creativity to expand on their learning experience in 4-H. However, each project requires serious planning, implementation and evaluation.

After the plan is developed and approved by your leader, please submit to the Extension Office for final approval by May 1 for fair eligibility. Plans will be kept with the member's enrollment information.

### **Independent Study, Montana 4-H Clover 2009-2011, page 6**

Under each project area in the Montana 4-H Clover, a youth has the opportunity to take an Independent Study Project. This project area is for youth who have spent several years in a project and are looking for new challenges. This provides the youth the opportunity to create their own learning plan for the 4-H year rather than it being determined by a specific project book. Independent Study proposals must include all the criteria described in the Montana 4-H Clover.

If a youth is signing up for Independent Study, they must create an individualized learning plan that is approved by the Organizational Leader. If there is a club or county-wide project leader in the area of your Independent Study, have them look over the plan and provide input for research-based resources to be used in the project and ensure the level of the work is appropriate.

Recommended Project Manuals: You Decide, 5314 (Member Guide, \$2.50) and Helping Them Decide, 5315, (Leader Guide, \$1.50)

### **Self-Determined, Montana 4-H Clover 2009-2011, page 37**

This project area is similar to Independent Study except it is designed to offer the opportunity to older youth to develop and carry out a project of individual design. It would be appropriate for a Project Leader to develop an educational plan for their 4-H members to follow. Use the project books listed in the Montana 4-H Clover to develop the goals that will be accomplished and describes what will be learned.

If a youth is signed up for Self-Determined, they must create an individualized learning plan that is approved by the Organizational Leader. If there is a club or county-wide project leader in the area of your Independent Study, have them look over the plan and provide input for research-based resources to be used in the project and ensure the level of the work is appropriate.

### **Teen Leadership, Montana 4-H Clover 2009-2011, page 34**

The Teen Leadership Project provides youth an opportunity to hone their skills as a leader in 4-H and their community. The project requirements and goals are outlined in the Montana 4-H Clover. Teens in Ravalli County have the opportunity to be a part of Teen Council, a committee geared for creating events and promoting 4-H in the county. Ravalli County Junior and Senior Ambassador work in partnership with the Key Leader to lead the Teen Council Team. Contact the Extension Office to find out how you can participate with Teen Council.