

belonging, mastery, independence, generosity



Wyoming 4-H Philosophy

4-H Core Concepts



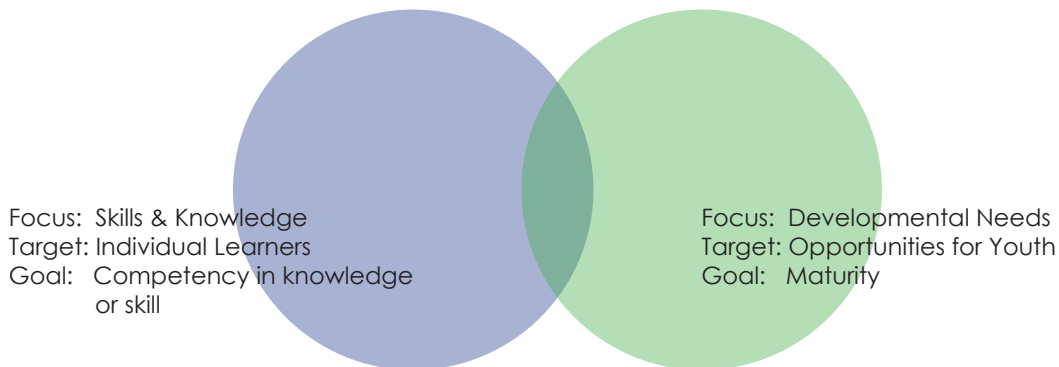
Each county 4-H educator has the unique opportunity to work with youth and adults on the county level of the Wyoming 4-H Program. With that comes the responsibility to effectively educate youth and efficiently manage adult volunteers. This guide outlines the viewpoints and ideas of the Wyoming State 4-H Office in relation to the Wyoming 4-H Program.

4-H is an informal educational program facilitated by adult volunteer leaders and encompasses many different activities and project areas. Education is delivered with an emphasis placed on achieving each of the essential elements of youth development – belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity. The organization of the 4-H program creates the opportunities to achieve this goal. Ultimately, we would like every child in the state involved in the Wyoming 4-H Program.

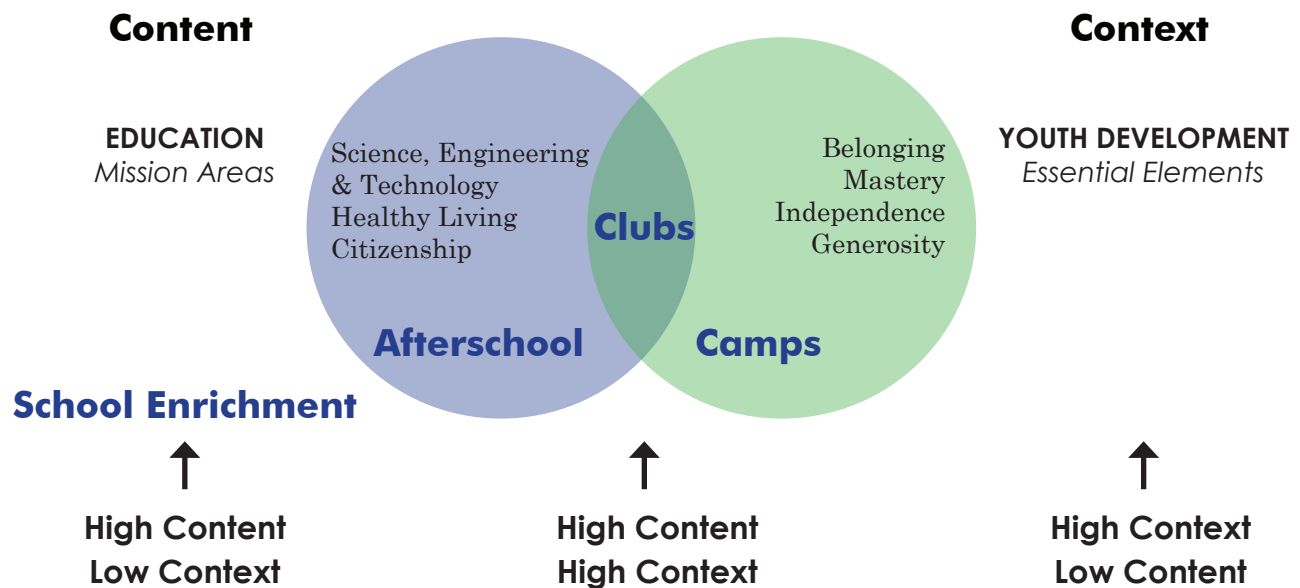
The diagram below illustrates the relationship between EDUCATION and YOUTH DEVELOPMENT. In *education*, the targeted audience is the individual learner. Individual learners are taught information with the focus of trying to obtain specific subject matter skills and/or knowledge. The ultimate goal of *education* is for individual learners to become competent in that skill or knowledge. The goal of *youth development* is to provide opportunities that create competent, caring, and contributing adults. *Youth development* focuses on helping youth meet their developmental needs by providing opportunities to gain life skills.

Education

Youth Development



Education is focused on **CONTENT** while youth development emphasizes the **CONTEXT** in which developmental opportunities exist. Wyoming 4-H clubs utilize subject matter interests of members (i.e. beef, photography, dogs, computer, etc.) as the opportunity to foster youth development principles. Without *content* area experiences, the *context* for positive youth development cannot occur.



Delivery Methods

There are several methods effective for delivering opportunities within the 4-H program to a wide variety of youth. A balance of these delivery methods can help you become an effective educator.

- Clubs
- Special interest/camps
- School enrichment
- School-aged care programs (after-school programs)