



Science Contest work plan/timeline

October 2014-April 2015

Overview

4-H Canada is launching the 4-H Science & Technology Leadership Development Pillar on October 22, 2014, during National Science and Technology Week (October 17-26, 2014). As 4-H Canada moves into the development of programming in the science field, it will be recruiting expert organizations – such as Youth Science Canada – that excel in providing experiential science and technology learning opportunities for youth. Bayer CropScience is the primary sponsor of the 4-H Science & Technology Leadership Development pillar. There are 3 initiatives planned as part of the Science & Technology programming:

- 1) Science Contest (October 17, 2014-January 16, 2015)
- 2) 4-H Hands-on Science powered by Smarter Science (staff and leader training at the Leadership Summit in February 2015)
- 3) 4-H as its own stream of the Canada Wide Science Fair (October 2015)

Science Contest Information:

4-H members will be invited to explore the following question: “If you could invent something that would change the world of agriculture, what would it be?”

Members will be encouraged to submit creative ideas and provide an explanation of what the invention is and how it improves the world of agriculture. The contest runs from October 17, 2014 to January 16, 2015. Members can participate as a Club or group, or as an individual. The contest will be managed through 4-H Canada’s contest site at <http://enter.4-H-Canada.ca>.

Please see attached promotional poster and fact sheet. Please also refer to the following work plan and timelines for further details about the contest.

Contest Objectives:

- Increase awareness of science and technology among 4-H youth
- Create opportunities for 4-H youth to be engaged in science and technology activities, and expand their science knowledge and skills
- Demonstrate leadership in action and positive youth development as part of the 4-H philosophy
- Promote 4-H Canada’s new Science & Technology leadership development pillar and strategic priorities

Key Messages:

- 4-H Canada is one of Canada's leading positive youth development organizations.
- 4-H members are leaders in Canada and have a vested interest in their community.
- 4-H builds responsible, caring and contributing young people that are empowered to be successful.
- 4-H Canada engages young Canadians to "Learn To Do By Doing" in a safe, inclusive and fun environment.
- 4-H members can discover the world of science and create something amazing!
- The science contest is a stepping stone activity to get 4-H'ers engaged in Science and Technology
- The science contest begins to build skills using tips and tools based on STEM education models.

Target Audience: 4-H members across Canada

Contest Timeline:

October 17
Contest goes live –banner on website, out through social media, e-blast of database; one page fact sheet up on fluid landing page; activity book up on fluid
October 18
Trivia question sent out on social media
October 19
Trivia question sent out on social media
October 20
Trivia question sent out on social media Load activity book onto Fluid
October 21
Trivia question sent out on social media
October 22
Media Release with Shannon and Brad at Farm in main floor of Learning Centre Trivia question sent out on social media
October 23
Media Release Last push for contest/reminder?
October-November 30
Confirm criteria for judging/score sheets Establish judging panel to include 2 YAC, 2 sponsors, 2 4-H Canada staff Confirm list of custom prizes for club winners Confirm trip for individual winner + chaperone

November 20
1 page e-blast #1 to all registered members
December 10
1 page e-blast #2 to all registered members
January 5
1 page e-blast #3 to all registered members
January 16
Contest closes
January 19-23
Judging takes place on-line (judging panel: 2 YAC, 2 sponsors, 2 4-H Canada staff)
January 27-31
Winners are notified
Media release?
February
Leadership Summit-show video or feature photo collage of entries
Finalize prizes for each winner
March-April
Award prizes
Develop evaluation of contest
Send out evaluation
Summarize evaluation feedback

Criteria for assessing inventions:

- **Creativity and innovation** –Entry demonstrates a new idea, creative solutions, imagination and “reaching for the sky”.
- **Attention to detail** – Entry demonstrates critical thinking, outlines a process or set of steps that were taken, explanations are provided using good sentence structure and grammar.
- **Realistic** –Entry addresses a real issue or challenge in the world of agriculture. It has the potential to actually work and function. Logic and some form of scientific thought were used in the process of creating this idea.
- **Youth-led** – Entry demonstrates that club members took on leadership roles throughout this project. Leaders, mentors, and parents provided support and guidance but did not “run the show”.
- **Teamwork**– Group entry demonstrates that everyone participated. Older club members helped younger club members. Roles were shared and cooperation, collaboration, and communication took place among members. Individual entry demonstrates that that member got advice and input from potential users of their invention

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING YOUR INVENTION, PLEASE GIVE US A CALL OR EMAIL US. WE’D LOVE TO HELP!

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