

idea corner

Los Ninos Chicanos y 4-H

Does your county board or state administration provide extra money for you to involve migrant children in your 4-H program? Ours doesn't, but we've discovered a way to involve these sometimes "forgotten" kids in a hands-on 4-H youth organization.

In searching for money and feasible programming ideas, we learned of the Title I summer school for migrant children in our area. They're equipped with a bilingual staff, funds for supplies and transportation, and a willingness to involve other community agencies in their program. This 6-week summer migrant program is designed fo

3 age groups: 3-5 year olds, 6-9 year olds, and 10-14 year olds.

For the past 3 years, we (professional staff and youth and adult 4-H volunteers) have involved these kids in a concentrated 5-week program. Our main purpose in getting involved was two-fold:

1. To give migrant kids a chance to belong to 4-H.
2. To help the children adjust to the change of another new culture.

Project areas covered were Wild Animals of the Area, Animals on the Farm, Horse and Pony, Dogs and the Kennel, Nature Awareness, Camp Craft Skills, Food and Nutrition, Senses, Posture, House Plants, and Arts and Crafts.

The summer migrant programs are under control of the State Department of Instruction in virtually every state. Wisconsin has 15 of these service centers.

Are you working near a potential 4-H migrant program? Why not call your State Department of Instruction for information on summer educational programs for migrant children in your state. You'll never find a more appreciative bunch of kids!

DONNA MENART
*4-H and Youth Agent
Sheboygan County
Sheboygan Falls,
Wisconsin*

GENE ROHRBECK
*Area 4-H Agent
Casper, Wyoming*

