



# Experiential Learning

## SIGNATURE PRIORITY AREAS



Our Experiential Learning programs use the interests and curiosities of today's youth (Sparks) to foster and support educational opportunities for youth.

How do we help find and fuel youths' interests and curiosities, fostering thriving through life skills development?

## Why

All youth have the potential to identify their **Spark**—the inner flame within that excites them and taps into their passion. Youth who connect with and are supported in exploring their Sparks are more likely to thrive. The learning journey that begins with their Spark may lead to a career, lifelong passions, interests, or hobbies, as well as life and leadership skills they can use throughout life.

## Intended Outcomes

Experiential Learning is where youth find and explore their Sparks. Older youth leaders and adults encourage them to learn and grow in their interests, learning resilience as they build life and leadership skills.

## State Experiential Learning Programs

- Arts Camp
- Virtual Project Kits
- Horse Youth Leadership Conference
- Summer Academy

## Local Experiential Learning Programs

- 4-H Projects
- School Enrichment
- Shooting Sports
- Arts and Communication Festivals
- Sparks Day



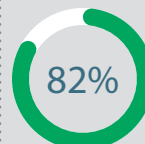
Spark—The inner flame within that excites youth and taps into their passion.



Only 1/3 of adolescents have found their Spark.<sup>1</sup>



Only about 25% of youth have someone they know who nourishes their Spark.<sup>2</sup>



82% of youth felt that 4-H programs enabled them to explore their interests in 2024, an increase from 2023, when the figure was 68%.<sup>3</sup>



## References

1 Facilitating Youth Sparks (helping-youth-thrive.extension.org)

2 Understanding Sparks (helping-youth-thrive.extension.org)

3 Wisconsin 2024 Thriving Youth Survey. <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/josset.gauley6772/viz/shared/BZJX3H75P>



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