Beyond Ready

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Beyond Ready Story Formula

Skills + Experiences + Impact = Future Readiness

1. **Skills**: What skills has 4-H helped you build?
   - Example: leadership, communication, teamwork, resilience.
   - Prompt: "Through 4-H I have learned..."
   - *Encourage young people to name at least one work skill and a life skill.*

2. **Experiences:** What experiences allowed you to practice those skills?
   - Example: showing livestock, leading club meetings, teaching workshops, community service.
   - Prompt: "One experience that stands out..."
   - *4-H'ers will have many experiences to draw from. Help them identify the experience that best fits the situation and matches the skill they have identified.*

3. **Impact**: How did you change because of that experience? What did you learn about yourself - your values or spark? How have these skills and experiences shaped you? Why does this matter to you?
   - Example: increased confidence, stronger leadership, ability to face challenges, discovered spark.
   - Prompt: "This matters to me because..." or "Although ____ was once difficult, I now have..."
   - *Encourage 4-H'ers to describe their emotions or a key turning point in their story here.*

4. **Future Readiness**: How have all those elements made you feel ready for whatever your future holds?
   - Example: future goals, leadership roles, pursuing college/career, giving back to others.
   - Prompt: "Now, I am Beyond Ready to..." or "I know all of this will be important for when..."
   - *Encourage youth to consider how their skills will benefit their future, connecting these experiences to health, productivity, and engagement for Beyond Ready alignment.*

Sample Beyond Ready Story

Through 4-H, I have learned how to **better manage my time and show empathy to others**, especially during our **Lead To Change canned food drive project** with my club. By organizing the drive and rallying the entire community to help stock a local pantry, **I saw firsthand just how much need exists in my area** and **discovered a real passion** for getting people involved in giving back. This experience taught me the importance of leadership, collaboration, and compassion. Now, I feel Beyond Ready to **head to college**, where I will be studying Political Science with the goal of becoming an **elected official**, so I can **continue serving my community** in meaningful ways.

In Action

When engaging with media, aim to connect all your answers to either those skills, experiences or impact. Expand on your future opportunities as relevant!