Nebraska 4-H Continuum of Youth Entrepreneurship Curricula
For youth to be able to return to their rural communities, they need a vision for how they will prosper and thrive, build and provide for their families and find success for their future. Research has shown that given those opportunities, many rural youth would like to return to their home communities.

The prevailing mindset for over the last half century has been that communities educate their youth so that they are able to go out into the world, and get a job. That mindset has resulted in many youth from rural places relocating to where they can build their careers, often not back to the community that invested in their education.

Entrepreneurship education offers youth a new mindset; that of getting a good education so that they are able to remain in their home communities, creating their own business opportunities, and jobs for others as well. When rural youth embrace the entrepreneurial spirit, rural communities will begin to revitalize with new generations of businesses and younger population bases.

UNL Extension’s ESI & Beyond team is dedicated to lowering the median age in rural communities by teaching youth to be entrepreneurs. Their work offers a continuum for entrepreneurship education from 3rd grade through baccalaureate degrees. As learners progress in entrepreneurial training, they go from simple lemonade stands in elementary school, through product focused businesses, to brick and mortar businesses, and after immersion in the UNL Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program, to visionary, innovative, entrepreneurial businesses providing good jobs in rural places.

**ESI & BEYOND**

A Continuum for Entrepreneurship Education
LEAP into Careers

LEAP INTO CAREERS!
An activity book to help 3rd - 5th graders explore careers

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA LINCOLN EXTENSION
Community Connections is a Website

- **Curriculum** to help adults work together with youth in the community who are learning about entrepreneurship, & thus to revitalize the community through new enterprises
- **Resources** offering connections to service providers, resources, books, websites and much more.

Available Online at

http://www.extension.unl.edu/communityconnections

University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Pilots  Fall 2013 and Spring 2014
- 3 states
- 12 schools
- 168 youth
Shelby Kittle Youth Entrepreneur, age 14
Questions?

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