Focus on Children, an individual or team event, recognizes participants who use Family and Consumer Sciences skills to plan and conduct a child development project that has a positive impact on children and the community. Child development encompasses birth through adolescence. Participants must prepare a display and an oral presentation.

Project Connections

Top 5 Skills Students Report Learning Through Participation

- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Public Speaking
- Creativity
- Responsibility and Time Management

Career Clusters

National Family and Consumer Sciences Standards

Reasoning for Action Comprehensive Standard
1.0 Career, Community and Family Connections
2.0 Consumer and Family Resources
4.0 Education and Early Childhood
6.0 Family
7.0 Family and Human Services
12.0 Human Development
13.0 Interpersonal Communications
14.0 Nutrition and Wellness
15.0 Parenting

Common Career Technical Core/Career Ready Practices

2.0 Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
3.0 Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
4.0 Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason.
5.0 Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
6.0 Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
8.0 Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
9.0 Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
12.0 Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.

FCCLA Programs

Projects may qualify to compete at the annual National Leadership Conference.

Turn this page over to see examples of projects from across the nation and participation data.

For more information on state participation, contact your state adviser.
Focus on Children
FCCLA STAR Events Information
(Students Taking Action with Recognition)

Examples of Focus on Children Projects:

“We invited the kindergarten students that attend the local elementary school to make Christmas cookies with us. While in the Culinary Arts room we taught them about germs, why it is important to wash your hands, and how germs spread. We used age appropriate activities and songs.” – Florida FCCLA Members

“In our child development classes we have been studying about the social-emotional challenges faced by children growing up in today’s technological world. We decided to develop a series of lessons aimed at preschool children that focused on the concept of friendship. We read books, taught songs, and had children participate in hands on activities that were aimed at qualities of healthy relationships: kind words, taking turns, and cooperation. We created a display to showcase our project.” – Kansas FCCLA Members

“Our project focuses on helping first graders at a local elementary school understand the process of growing plants, because we think it’s important for kids to foster a connection with nature from a young age. We created our own book to teach them about what plants need to grow in story format, made a word search worksheet to go along with the book, and helped the kids contribute to a "classroom garden" by allowing them to plant seeds. Our goal for the kids to continue caring for the classroom gardens as the flowers they planted grow.” – North Carolina FCCLA Members

“For our project, we visited students in grades Pre-K through 1st to teach them about car seat safety. We watched a video, read a book, and discussed the importance of general car safety. We provided handouts for the parents from our local hospital. We also encouraged kids to remember that ‘every time you step into a car, buckle up!’” – Indiana FCCLA Members

Focus on Children by the Numbers:
2019-2020

Participants Nationwide: 968 teams, 1,918 participants
Levels: Level 1 (through grade 8); Level 2 (grades 9-10); Level 3 (grades 11-12), Level 4 (Postsecondary)
Type of Event: Foundational
Nationwide Impact: 237,421 people

91% of Focus on Children participants indicated this event is extremely or very useful to their future. 50% of Focus on Children participants indicated they would pursue higher education related to the career chosen in their project.

This information sheet does NOT include the guidelines for competition. To prepare for competition, affiliated FCCLA Chapters and Members should download the complete Competitive Events Guide in the FCCLA Adviser and Student Portals.

Adviser Login: https://affiliation.registermychapter.com/fccla#
Student Login: https://affiliation.registermychapter.com/fccla/members#

To learn more about FCCLA STAR Events, visit the national FCCLA website, www.fcclainc.org, or email starevents@fcclainc.org.