

PVAMU 4-H Youth Attend YEA Spring Break Camp for Leadership and Agriculture Exploration

Prairie View A&M University 4-H proudly supported youth from McLennan and Harris Counties as they participated in the Youth Innovators Empowering Agriculture Across America (YEA) Spring Break Camp, held March 12–14 at the Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood, Texas, with Extension agents Kaila Pipkins (Harris County), Chisa Brigham (McLennan County), Shawn Russell (Waller County), and Jose County (Fort Bend County) participating as chaperones and program support for the youth.

The YEA program, a collaboration among 1890 Land-Grant Universities, is focused on preparing youth for leadership, college readiness, and careers in agriculture. Throughout the three-day camp, youth engaged in hands-on activities including archery, fishing, kayaking, and high ropes, all designed to build confidence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

In addition to outdoor learning experiences, youth participated in structured team rotations and leadership development sessions that encouraged communication, resilience, and community awareness. For many participants, this was an opportunity to connect in person with peers they have been engaging with virtually throughout the program year.

This experience supports PVAMU Extension's commitment to developing youth who are prepared for the future through exposure, skill-building, and meaningful engagement. By participating in YEA, youth are gaining a broader understanding of agricultural careers and strengthening their ability to lead and collaborate in diverse environments.

PVAMU 4-H continues to create impactful opportunities that empower youth to grow as leaders while exploring pathways in agriculture and beyond.

Shawn Russell— Extension Agent— 4-H Youth Development