

# Enlistment for Victory (1943)

COMMENTARY AND SIDEBAR NOTES BY DAVID WALBERT

North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, "4-H Mobilization for Victory, 6-14, 1943" (1943), pp. 4-5. Special Collections Research Center, North Carolina State University Libraries.

## As you read...

This "Enlistment for Victory" letter was given to boys and girls as part of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service's "Mobilization for Victory" campaign. The first part introduces the program. The second part, which you'll need to open as a PDF file, is a list of projects that kids could take on.

1. What does the letter say was the job of people on the home front?
2. What kinds of things did the letter say boys and girls do for the war effort?
3. What kinds of projects (in the attached PDF) were suggested for boys and girls? Do any of them surprise you?
4. How would these projects help the war effort?
5. How would extension agents help boys and girls who wanted to take on one of these projects?
6. Why was parents' approval required for participation?
7. How much work do you think these projects require?
8. If you were to take on one of these projects, which would you choose? Why? What would you need to get started?

The men of our ARMY, NAVY, MARINE CORPS, COAST GUARD and AIR FORCE are giving all of their strength and vitality to defend the freedom and continued existence of this country. Those of us who remain here at home must do our fighting on the "home front." It is our job to see that these men have all the supplies of food, clothing, munitions and necessary equipment needed to wage a successful and victorious war.

You can help win this war by enlisting in the 4-H Victory Program and conducting one or more of the projects recommended by your county farm and home demonstration agents. They will be glad to assist you by furnishing information and guidance in conducting the projects. Some of the most important things you can do are:

1. Produce food — vegetables, poultry, meat and milk.
2. Preserve and store food produced — canning, drying, storing.

3. Assume your share of farm and home labor.
4. Build up your health, develop good habits.
5. Keep farm and home equipment in good repair.
6. Protect forest and farm property from fire.
7. Buy war stamps and bonds.
8. Collect salvage material needed — scrap metal, rubber, tin, etc.
9. Be a good citizen, interested in your community, state and country.

*On the other side of this sheet [reproduced below] is a list of 4-H Club projects recommended for your county that will help in winning the war. Go over this list carefully, discuss it with your parents and select the project you can do best; check it in the space provided. Study the jobs listed under the project you have selected and place a check mark by the job on which you will need information or assistance from your county farm or home agent or “Neighborhood” 4-H Leader. In selecting a project you should consider the following:*

1. What you are most interested in doing.
2. What you can do best.
3. Resources available, such as land, machinery, housing, pasture, feed, stock, seed, canning and other equipment or supplies that would be needed.
4. Available markets.
5. Available transportation facilities.

If you do not find a suitable project listed on this sheet, consult your farm or home agent. Information on other projects is available.

TAKE THIS FORM HOME. GET YOUR PARENTS TO HELP YOU SELECT A PROJECT, CHECK IT AS INSTRUCTED ABOVE; THEN SIGN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS AND RETURN IT TO YOUR TEACHER OR CLUB LEADER.

## Recommended projects

This media is available in the web edition only.

---

### On the web

#### More from LEARN NC

Visit us on the web at [www.learnnc.org](http://www.learnnc.org) to learn more about topics related to this article, including 4-H clubs, North Carolina, World War II, children, civic participation, farming, food, history, and victory gardens.

### About the author

#### DAVID WALBERT

David Walbert is Editorial and Web Director for LEARN NC in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Education. He is responsible for all of LEARN NC's educational publications,

oversees development of various web applications including LEARN NC's website and content management systems, and is the organization's primary web, information, and visual designer. He has worked with LEARN NC since August 1997.

David holds a Ph.D. in History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is the author of *Garden Spot: Lancaster County, the Old Order Amish, and the Selling of Rural America*, published in 2002 by Oxford University Press. With LEARN NC, he has written numerous articles for K–12 teachers on topics such as historical education, visual literacy, writing instruction, and technology integration.