

Start your Mini 4-H Adventure today!



Join 4-H Here



Extension - Elkhart County



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Mini 4-H Guide 2024



Welcome to Elkhart County's Mini 4-H program! Mini 4-H introduces Kindergarten, first, and second graders to 4-H. Elkhart County 4-H sponsors many activities to help youth learn and have fun. We are excited to have you as a part of one of the best organizations around and we hope to learn and grow with your children for years to come!

This newsletter will give you details for the activities planned for Mini 4-H. Though attendance is not required, we hope you will take part in these events planned just for you. Please call us at the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office at 574-533-0554 for more information.

Handwritten signature of Sthele Greybar in cursive.

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Handwritten signature of Robert Kelly in cursive.

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Handwritten signature of Corey Sharp in cursive.

Corey Sharp
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I am excited to be working with the Mini 4-H group of Leaders, Educators and future 4-Hers! I have been involved in 4-H since I was a youngster! I was a "Club Kid" and desperately wanted to be a "Livestock Kid". My parents were city folk and had careers that did not allow for that dream to become my reality. When I became a parent, my three kiddos did clubs and livestock. Mind you we were still learning, but I found 4-H to be the best of the best! We were involved with Rabbit Club for over 14 years, and I served in almost every role imaginable. I was a Project Leader, Advisory Board Member and Assistant Leader. While sharing that with all three of my children, my daughters were in Cat Club for 4 and 6 years and my middle daughter was also in Saddle Club. We covered quite the variety of animals. I look forward to working along side of you as we embark on another Mini 4-H adventure.

Handwritten signature of Mary Kay Longacre in cursive.

Mary Kay Longacre
Mini 4-H Organizational Leader

Mini 4-H Events 2024

(Subject to change)



Welcome Event

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 6:00pm-7:00pm

Elkhart County Community Center

*Project selection and manual distribution



Workshops:

Saturday April 20, 2024 8:30am-10:30am

Registration and Welcome 8:30-8:45. Workshops

8:45-10:30

Elkhart County Community Center

*Pre-registration required



Day Camp:

Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 8:30am-2:45pm

Registration and check-in 8:30-9:00

Bonneyville Mill County Park, Bristol, Indiana

*Pre-registration required



Livestock Camp:

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 9:30am-2:30pm

Beef/Dairy & Saddle Arenas @ Elkhart County 4-H
Fairgrounds

*Pre-registration required

Project Check-In:

Thursday, July 11, 2024 12:00pm-6:00pm

Elkhart County Community Center

*Parent tickets distributed

Project Check-Out:

Sunday, July 28, 2024 2:00pm-5:00pm

Elkhart County Community Center

*Leftover projects will be discarded

Mini 4-H Welcome Event

All Mini 4-H'ers and their parents are invited and encouraged to attend the Mini 4-H Welcome Event on Wednesday, February 21. It will be held in the Elkhart County Community Center on the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds from 6:00pm-7:00pm.

This event gives you a chance to meet the Mini 4-H leaders and ask questions about the Elkhart County 4-H program. Project manuals will be handed out at this event and project leaders will be available to help you choose one project to complete this year. We encourage you to check out all of the Mini 4-H Project Descriptions in this packet before choosing your project at the Welcome Event.



Mini 4-H Workshops

The Mini 4-H Workshop will be held Saturday, April 20 at the fairgrounds in Goshen from 8:30am-10:30am. At the workshop, project leaders will provide fun hands-on activities so that youth can learn more about the project. Since the actual project for display will be completed at home, youth can participate in any of the workshops (even other projects that they will not exhibit this year). Mini 4-H manuals will be available for those who did not attend the Welcome Event.

- The models workshop participants need to bring a model to complete at the workshop.
- The cake decorating workshop participants need to bring their own bags, tips, frosting and a form to practice on.

All other workshop supplies will be provided.



Mini 4-H Day Camp



Mini 4-H Day Camp is a chance for Kindergarten, first, and second graders to meet older 4-H'ers. Day camp activities are planned and conducted by teen 4-H members with the assistance of adults. Youth travel around Bonneyville Mill County Park and stop at various stations to participate in fun activities.

When: Wednesday, June 19, 2024
Registration and check-in 8:30-9:00am
Day camp:9:00am-2:45pm
Where: Bonneyville Mill County Park
County Road 131, Bristol, Indiana

Parents are not required to stay. Pre-registration is required for both youth and adults wishing to stay. Please call 574-533-0554 to reserve your space.



Mini 4-H Projects



Arts & Crafts

In this project you will experiment with different colors and textures to create an art project of your choice. For your exhibit you will mount your art work on a poster.



Beef

Complete a poster project and be paired with an animal by Beef Club leaders. Participate in a non-competitive show with the animal's owner.



Bicycle

This project will teach you how to care for your bicycle and ride it safely. For your exhibit you will make a poster about what you have learned.



Collections

Do you save rocks, buttons, butterflies or anything else? This project helps you organize your things.



Cake Decorating

This project will teach you the basics of cake decorating to prepare you for a future cake decorating project in 4-H.



Dinosaurs

In this project you will learn about dinosaurs and how they lived long ago.



Pets

This project teaches how to have fun and care for your pet.



Sewing

In this project you will begin to collect the tools you will need to start sewing.



Tractor

In this project you will learn about tractors, how they are used, and safety precautions.

Mini 4-H Projects



Farm Animals

In this project you will learn about farm animals. You may choose from dairy cows, beef cattle, goats, sheep, rabbits, poultry, horses and swine.



Foods

In this project you will learn about the food groups and My Plate guidelines. As you learn to mix and measure ingredients, you will have fun making cookies.



Flowers & Garden

You will learn how to plant and care for your flowers & garden.



Models

This project helps you learn to follow directions. You will complete a snap together model.



Bugs

In this project you will explore some of the things that make bugs different from each other.



Forestry

In this project you will study types of seeds and leaves of trees. You will also learn how animals make their homes in trees, what trees give us and how trees help us.



Wildlife

This project helps you learn what animals need to survive.



Mini 4-H Leaders

Listed below are the names of the Mini 4-H Project Leaders.

Building Superintendent: Mary Kay Longacre

Assistant Superintendents: Samantha & Dustin Mast & Jill Garris

Arts & Crafts: Denise Rush & Morgan Rush

Beef Pam Vanderwey & Taylor Thwaits

Bicycle: Elaine Mast

Cake Decorating: Nicki Plank

Collections: Jan Nunemaker

Dinosaurs: Taylar Clanton

Farm Animals: Kandy Walter

Flower & Garden: Darlene Byland

Foods: Holly Leeper

Models: Dustin Mast & Amanda Ellsworth

Nature Projects (Bugs/Forestry/Wildlife): Britt Calentine

Pets: Brittany Leazenby & Pat McKinley

Sewing: Lauren Whalen

Tractor: Emili Zahner

Where do I find supplies?

In an effort to assist you, below are listed some sources of supplies. This list is not all inclusive. No endorsement by 4-H of products or services is implied or intended.

Foam poster board in 11" x 14" size and clear plastic sleeves that will fit your Mini 4-H posters will be available at Mini 4-H events or can be purchased in the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office.

Cake Decorating Forms are available for a fee in the Extension Office. Dioramas should be in a standard size shoebox (no oversize boxes, please) and covered with roll vinyl.

Models should be mounted on a base no larger than one inch larger than the model, in all directions. This can be a piece of cardboard with toothpicks on each side of the tires, to keep the model from rolling off the base or a decorative base of your choosing. Legos are acceptable!

4-H Friday Nugget

The 4-H Nugget is our newsletter that is emailed every 1st and 3rd Friday to your email account after enrollment. If you would like to receive a paper version, please visit our office. We will be more than happy to provide a paper copy in our office or in the open foyer which open to the public 24/7.



Contact Elkhart County 4-H

Purdue Cooperative Extension Service – Elkhart County
Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds
17746 County Road 34 Ste E
Goshen, IN 46528-6898
574-533-0554

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Elkhart County 4-H website: www.extension.purdue.edu/elkhart

Forms, deadlines, and information about upcoming events are available.
Mini 4-H manuals are also available on the website and can be printed
at home to avoid a trip to the Extension office.

Find and Follow us on Facebook:
Elkhart County 4-H and Purdue Extension Elkhart County

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November 2023



Mini 4-H program!

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