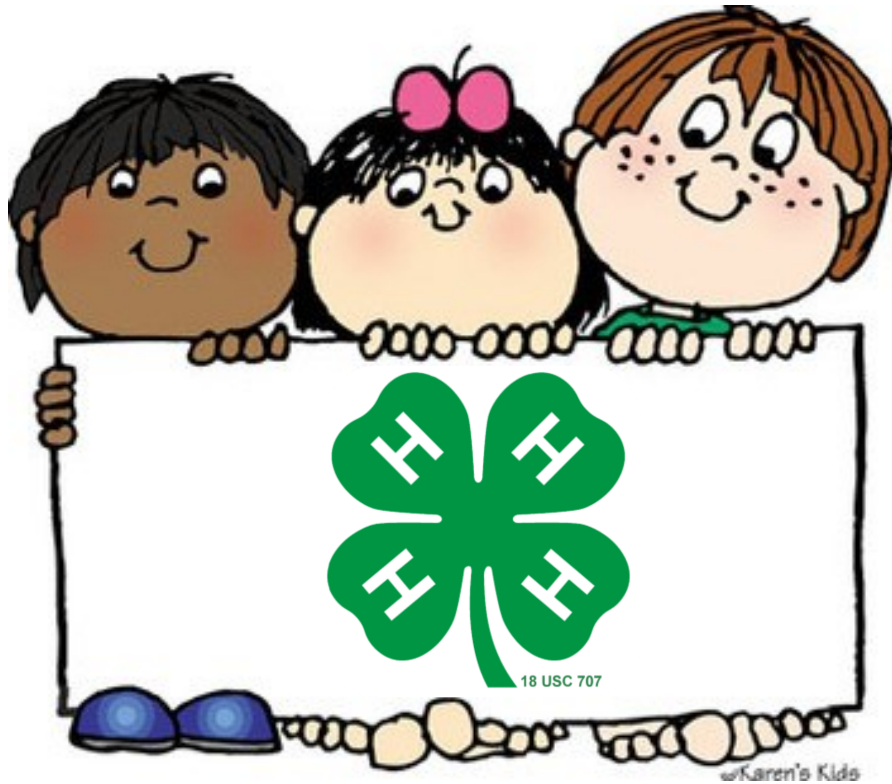


Gibson County



Mini 4-H Guide

What is Mini 4-H?

Mini 4-H is a chance for youth in grades K-2 to experience 4-H in a non-competitive manner. The goal of Mini 4-H is to help young children explore friendships outside the family, explore the way in which things work, and think about the ways people work together on projects. Mini 4-H members are able to gain new skills and increase their self-esteem. Members can choose projects based on their interests. Youth participate in community service opportunities, make new friends, and have fun!

How Do I Join?

Enroll in Mini 4-H at <http://in.4honline.com> between October 1 - January 15. The program fee for Mini 4-H members is \$5 and can be paid online or at the office.

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.

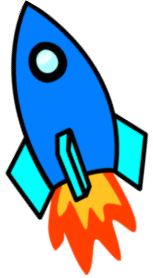


What Projects Can I Make?

Mini 4-H members can choose up to 2 of the following projects:

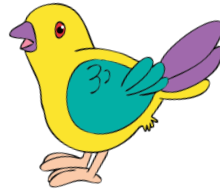
Aerospace

If you are interested in exploring and learning about how things fly, then the aerospace project will help you learn just that. You will choose from a variety of activities designed to help you learn about this fascinating science that takes you into space!



Birds

Explore Indiana birds by observing their habits, where they live, and what they eat. If you are interested in animals and their habits, this is the project for you! Make a field guide for birds, a poster about birds, or a bird feeder for your exhibit.



Collections

If you like to save rocks, buttons, stamps, butterflies, pennies, or anything else, this project will help you get it all together. Display your unique collection!



Crafts

If you like to create designs or enjoy drawing or painting, this project is for you. Examples of exhibits you could make are drawings, paintings, clay sculptures, collages, or paint-by-number pictures.



Dogs

Do you love dogs? Learn about dog breeds, care of dogs, and parts of a dog. Exhibit a poster about dogs or create a display of dog grooming items.



Farm Animals

Do you like cows, pigs, sheep, goats, or chickens? Then this projects is right for you! Make a poster or write a story about your favorite farm animal, make a model of your favorite farm animal, or interview a farmer.



Foods

Do you enjoy baking? Learn new recipes, the importance of healthy food, and table settings. Exhibit baked cookies, no bake cookies, or a poster of a table setting.



Forestry



Do you like to take walks in the park or sit under the trees in the summer? Create a story about your favorite tree, a poster of the uses of trees, or make an art collage of items collected on a nature walk.

Gardening

Do you like growing vegetables or flowers? Become a better gardener by learning how to plant seeds, care for your garden, control insects, and harvest your garden. Exhibit your home grown vegetables with this project.



Geology

Are you fascinated by the shapes and colors of stones and shells? Learn about the rocks you collect. Exhibit crystals, rock models, or a rock collection.



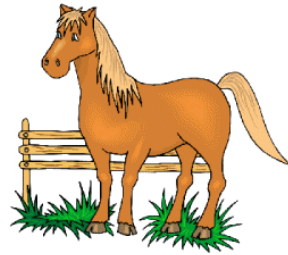
Health

Do you know what it takes to live a healthy life? Learn more about healthy living with this project. Exhibit a poster or display about what you learned.



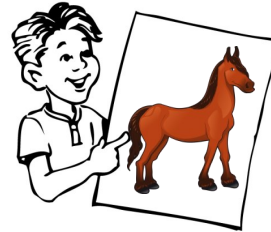
Horse

Do you like riding horses and learning about their care? Exhibit your horse. **Be sure to read and abide by the safety policy on page 8 of this manual.



Horse Poster

Do you love horses? Learn about the uses of horses, the breeds of horses, and the parts of a horse. Create a poster of what you learned about horses.



Recycling

Find out what recycling means and how it helps the environment. Exhibit a can crusher, newspaper bundler, bird house, or composting display.



Self-Care

Learn about yourself in this project - learn how to express feelings, what to do in emergency situations, and how to prevent accidents. Exhibit a game you created or a first aid kit.



Tractor (Club)



Learn how tractors and lawn mowers work by joining the 4-H Tractor Club. Participate in the club and display a poster about tractors.

Trees

Have you ever wondered how old a tree is? Can you tell the name of a tree just by looking at its leaf? Learn all about trees in this project. Exhibit a scrapbook, collage, tree collection, or leaf rubbings.



Weather

Ever wonder why the sky is blue or what makes the wind blow? Learn these answers and more! Exhibit a rainbow drawing, a kite, or a picture of your favorite weather.



What Do I Do With My Projects?

You will bring your projects to Mini 4-H Project Check-In the Thursday afternoon before fair at the 4-H Exhibit Building. All exhibits receive ribbons and will be placed on display during the Gibson County Fair. Projects will be released on the Friday evening and Saturday morning of the fair. Please make arrangements with a friend if you cannot be there to pick up your exhibits.

Safety Policy of Mini 4-H Members

The safety and well-being of our 4-H youth is of the utmost importance. Although kindergarten is specified as the time when a child may begin participation in some 4-H events and activities, parents are encouraged to take into consideration their child's physical and mental development before agreeing to let the child begin to show, work with, or care for animals. Each child matures at a different rate, and children in grades K-2 may still be too young to begin showing, working with, or caring for animals. The State 4-H Youth Department at Purdue University has agreed to allow Mini/Exploring 4-H members in grades K-2, to participate in some animal projects subject to certain conditions. These conditions are specified below.

Each county may determine its non-competitive programs, classes, and participation requirements subject to the following safety guidelines:

"Mini 4-H members, in grades K through 2, will be allowed to show, work with, or care for animal projects after their parent or legal guardian has signed a liability release. Mini/Exploring 4-H members may independently show, work with, or care for animals that weigh 300 pounds or less. Mini/Exploring 4-H members may only show, work with, or care for animals over 300 pounds when they are assisted by a parent, legal guardian, or another adult designated in writing by parent or legal guardian." (*The word "assisted" means that the adult has control of the animal at all times.*)

Mini/Exploring 4-H members exhibiting horses must wear ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified helmets whenever mounted. The 4-H member is responsible to see that this specified headgear is properly fitted with the approved harness in place and fastened whenever a rider is mounted. Youth in grades K-2 must be assisted by a parent or legal guardian (horse or pony on a lead line) at all times when youth is mounted.

If the guidelines stated in this policy are not followed for a particular event or activity, then such event or activity shall not be considered to be a 4-H event or activity and shall not be under the auspices of Extension 4-H educators or covered by Purdue University.

How Can Parents Help?

- Help your child as they go through their workbooks and create their projects
- Guide your 4-H member but don't do the project for them
- Read newsletters and mailings
- Keep up to date on 4-H happenings
- Ask questions
- Stay positive
- Have fun!



What's After Mini 4-H?

Once you're in 3rd grade, you can enroll in 4-H. There are even more opportunities in 4-H, such as:

Trips & Camp
More Projects
Awards
Scholarships
Judging Contests
AND MORE!

4-H



Making Friends!



Helping Others!

Is...

Learning Skills!



Having Fun!

What If I Have Questions?

That's why we're here! To help you! There are many people you can go to for help:

- Talk to your club leader or other 4-H volunteer
- Consult your 4-H handbook
- Read your 4-H newsletter
- Find us on Facebook: Gibson County 4-H or Twitter: @GibsonCo4H
- Check out our website:
<http://extension.purdue.edu/Gibson>
- Call Purdue Extension at (812) 385-3491



We hope you have a great year!

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