

GEOLOGY

(State Fair Exhibit)

Exhibit Introduction: Geology involves studying the earth's crust, its layers, and their history. Youth learn to identify Indiana rocks, minerals, and fossils. You may find information about and view examples of State Fair exhibits at https://www.asec.purdue.edu/natural_resources/4-H,NR,Projects/Projects/geology/index.html

State Fair Entries: 3 per county; one per level.

General Exhibit Guidelines & References: See page 47 for more information

Manual Information: See page 11 for more information.

Overall Exhibit Guidelines:

Specimens may also be displayed in a collection box no larger than 24"x 18"x 3", displayed horizontally.

You may purchase your specimens and may display rocks, fossils, and minerals. If you purchase a specimen, indicate when and where you purchased it and the location where you would expect to find the specimen. If you collect a specimen, indicate the county and township where you found it.

Posters and display boxes will be exhibited "standing up" at the fair. Therefore, you need to mount your specimens securely. Subject matter experts suggest the following methods: soaking ½ cotton ball in Elmer's glue, hot glue, or clear tub sealant. Place the cotton ball in your box and put your rock (or fossil or mineral) on the cotton ball and let sit. It will take 1-2 weeks for Elmer's glue to fully harden. Specimens mounted with Elmer's glue can be removed by soaking the cotton ball in water. Glue remaining on the rock may be brushed off with an old, damp toothbrush. When exhibiting rocks show a fresh surface (recently cracked or broken surface) to help judges identify the rock.

Labels - Include the specific geographical location where you would expect to find any specimens and where you acquired it (found, purchased, etc.).

Do not identify your specimens any further than phylum and class. There is one exception to this for fossils identified to phylum OR class. Class should only be used for fossils of mollusks, backboned animals, and arthropods.

BEGINNER (Grades 3-5 suggested): Create an educational poster, notebook or display about any manual

activity or on any geology topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

INTERMEDIATE (Grades 6-8 suggested): Create an educational poster, notebook, or display about any manual activity or on any geology topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate, or collection of 8-16 minerals and/or fossils.

ADVANCED (Grade 9-12 suggested): Create an educational poster, notebook, or display about any manual activity or on any geology topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate, or collection of 15-25 minerals and/or fossils and/or jewel stones. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.