

October 2025

Project Title: Auto Mechanics

Description:

The 4-H Auto Mechanics project teaches youth the basics of automotive maintenance.

State Fair Entries:

No state fair entries.

Auto Mechanics Skill-A-Thon

Youth will be judged on the following criteria for each division. A champion and reserve champion can be given in each division. A grand champion and reserve grand champion can be awarded by the judges.

See poster requirements on page 2

Note: A poster is only an option if the 4-H'er cannot make the Skill-A-Thon.

Beginner (grades 3-5)

Item Identification

- Youth are required to identify 10 common tools / vehicle parts in 10 min or less. 5 points awarded per incorrect answer.

Skills Test

- Youth are required to properly disassemble and install a new headlight bulb in 5 minutes. Points are given for improper technique (see Beginner Skills Test Scorecard). You want the least number of points.
- Youth are required to properly inflate a flat tire in 5 minutes. Points are given for improper technique (see Beginner Skills Test Scorecard). You want the least number of points.

Intermediate (grades 6-8)

Item Identification

- Youth are required to identify 15 common tools / vehicle parts in 10min or less. 5 points awarded per incorrect answer.

Skills Test

- Youth are required to properly change a "flat tire" in 8 minutes. Points are given for improper technique (see Intermediate Skills Test Scorecard). You want the least number of points.
(1)
- Youth are required to properly Jumpstart a vehicle (with jumper cables) in 5 minutes. Points are given for improper technique (see Intermediate Skills Test Scorecard). You want the least number of points.

Advanced (grades 9-12)

Item Identification

- Youth are required to identify 20 common tools / vehicle parts in 10min or less. 5 points awarded per incorrect answer.

Skills Test

- Youth are required to properly perform an oil change in 15 minutes. Points are given for improper technique (see Advanced Skills Test Scorecard). You want the least number of points.
- Youth are required to properly execute a battery replacement in 10 minutes. Points are given for improper technique (see Advanced Skills Test Scorecard). You want the least number of points.

Poster Requirements: (If not participating in skill-a-thon)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Beginner (grades 3-5)

Create an educational poster about how to properly inflate a tire or how to change a headlight bulb. Title your poster Experiences in Auto Mechanics.

Intermediate (grades 6-8)

Create an educational poster about how to properly change a flat tire or how to jumpstart a vehicle with jumper cables. Title your poster Auto Mechanics 101.

Advanced (grades 9-12)

Create an educational poster about how to do an oil change or how to replace your vehicle's battery. Title your poster Advanced Auto Mechanics.

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