

# 4-H Reading Project



## **4-H Reading Project**

In the reading project, the 4-H member will explore reading for pleasure, be it fiction or non-fiction, and present a portion of the reading experiences in a project of choice.

### **Reading Levels**

Early Grades 3-5

Middle Grades 6-8

High School 9-12

### **Project Guidelines**

- Members are required to read new materials each year. Materials should be read between the end of the previous 4-H Fair and July 1 of the present year.
- Reading requirements:
  - Early Grades (3-5) will read three books of at least 70 pages each.
  - Middle Grades (6-8) will read four books of at least 100 pages each.
  - High School (Grades 9-12) will read five books of at least 110 pages each.
  - Please contact the project leader if questions arise regarding page requirements.
- Members will complete a brief reading log for submission to the 4-H Club Leader prior to the fair as a record sheet of completion.
- All work is to be original and without plagiarism.
  - For each graphic that is included, it should be original. If it must be found on the web, it should be cited properly on a sheet that is attached to the back of the poster. Make sure to use free or shared work. The project leader will explain this during the meetings.
  - Drawings, illustrations, photos and other embellishments that are created by the 4-Her are encouraged.
- Project options for the reading project are described in Reading Project manual.

## **Project Options for the Reading Project (For the Manual)**

For all grade levels, choose one of the following:

- Write a fully rendered resume for one character in the book. Must be one page in length on 8 ½" x 11" computer paper, 12-point Calibri font. Mount the resume on a poster board (22" x 28"). Mount 6 computer printed sheets (half of an 8 ½" x 11" sheet) surrounding the resume. These sheets could contain any of the following information that expands on points contained in the resume. Make sure that there is a ruler-drawn line from the half sheet to the corresponding portion of the resume.
  - Character reference: Have another character in the story talk about the character in the resume.
  - Setting: Explain the significance of the address in the resume to the story as a whole.
  - Plot: Explain points along the resume (jobs, hobbies, skills) that help the viewer to learn more about the reading you did.
  - Be creative and add your own. Whatever it is, the resume and the additional six points around the resume should tell the viewer about the book and what you enjoyed / learned.
- Design a map of a location in the novel. The map should be on a poster board (22" x 28"), contain at least 6 locations/points of interest important to the story and be in color (hand drawn and colored with pencils, crayons, or markers). Mount 6 computer printed sheets/cards (3" x 5" or 4" x 6" or combination of the two) surrounding the map. Each sheet should contain a description of one of the locations/points of interest and its significance to the story.
- Design a social media profile and page for a character in your novel. Using the format found in Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, complete a minimum of 12 posts (May contain illustrations/pictures/original images but MUST contain text) that illustrate at least 6 points in the novel and/or explain the character's motivations, thoughts and/or actions. Use a poster board (22" x 28" portrait orientation only) and model the format of your chosen social media platform. Utilize uniform print, clean lines, and illustrations/pictures/original images are acceptable in addition to text. The posts should consume the width of the poster.
- Artifact Collection poster. Using a poster board (22" x 28") mount 6 artifact bubbles (rounded edge squares) that contain a drawing, illustration, original picture or item and a multi-sentence description of the significance of this item to the story. This poster will not require a sleeve for protection if the artifacts are too large to cover properly. This poster can be designed to lie down on a table instead of lean up on a shelf. Please indicate when dropping off if this is the case.

- Awards poster. Using a poster board (22" x 28"), award 6 books that you have read awards for first through fifth place. Your sixth bubble will contain a list of runner ups or a single honorary mention. Make sure to list title, author, date of publication and genre for each title. Include a short summary, why others should read it and what personal statement would you make to explain why you gave the rating you did.
- Newspaper poster. Using a poster board (22" x 28"), create 6 newspaper articles, advertisements, help wanted or personal opinion pieces that work together to express what you learned/enjoyed in your reading. In this project, utilize one work or several to create your newspaper. Be sure to include title, author, and genre for each work you are mentioning. Hint: Quotes from the reading would be great to incorporate in your newspaper poster.
- Timeline poster. Using a poster board (22" x 28"), create a timeline of the story containing at least 12 points from the reading. Add drawings or other decoration around the timeline that coordinates with the reading. For example, if the book you read is about an American war hero, perhaps there would be some red, white and blue color combination, American flags, and perhaps important points from the war itself. Make the poster visually appealing and informative to the viewer.
- Poem poster. Using a poster board (22" x 28"), create a collection of original poems that you create after your reading. The poems can be inspired by one reading or all of your readings taken together. If multiple works are tied to multiple poems, make sure each title, author and genre is matched with its poem(s).
- Which is better? The book or the movie? Using a poster board (22" x 28"), compare the book to the movie with at least 6 points from the movie that were or were not in the book and explain why these were good or bad in your opinion. Conclude your visual display by declaring a clear winner.
- Informational poster. This lends itself to those that prefer to do non-fiction reading. However, if you are reading fiction books that are based in fact, this may appeal to you as well. Historical fiction often falls into this category.
  - For non-fiction readers: Using a poster board (22" x 28"), design an informational display with at least 6 points. Each point should contain a quote from the book, an explanation of the significance to the book as a whole, and why the information stands out to you. Illustrations, graphics, infographics, original photos or artifacts should be included for visual interest. A point on the poster that pulls together the various facts into a clean summary of learning should be included as well.
  - For fiction readers: Using a poster board (22" x 28"), design an informational poster display with at least 6 points. Each point should contain a short explanation of the portion of the story that is based in fact and a cited source

that supports this. Use MLA formatting for your citation. Illustrations, graphics, infographics, original photos or artifacts should be included for visual interest. A point on the poster that pulls together the various facts into a clean summary of learning should be included as well.

- Painting or drawing. This project is meant for the 4Her with training in the area of art. The painting or drawing should reflect the meaning and power of the book or books that have been read. A one page typed reflection should accompany the art. No larger than 12 point font, this reflection should explain the title and author of the book(s) along with why and how you were inspired to create the painting or drawing. Colored pencil, pencil, acrylic, oil, markers, watercolor, pen, or pastels are all valid mediums for this project. The canvas should be no larger than a poster and at minimum a 12" x 18" canvas or paper. Paper should be mounted on a foam board for additional support. All art work must be original.
- Flip Chart Lap Book: Using a plain manila folder, create a lap book. Open the folder in front of you on a table. Fold the right side into the center and make a good crease. Fold the left side into the center and make a good crease. Decorate and include the following elements.
  - Open the folds and adhere cardstock or construction paper to the back. This strengthens the lap book, but also adds color.
  - On the right side flap on the front, in the upper right corner, include a title and author panel. This can be hand drawn or made digitally, but be sure to use free resources. Do not plagiarize.
  - Under the title square, include at least three flip ups with new vocabulary words you learned while reading the book. Under the flip up should be the definition of the word and the example sentence from the book.
  - On the left flap on the front, include flip ups with information for the following:
    - Author
    - Genre
    - Theme
    - Setting
  - On the inside flat portion, list the following.
    - Beginning
    - Middle
    - End
    - Why you liked or disliked the ending
  - On the inside right side flap, list some other books by this author (with a description), the other books you read this summer with a short description, and

or other books of this genre. However you choose to cover this information, it should take up the entire flap.

- On the inside left flap, define at least two of the main conflicts in the story and two of your favorite parts about the work.
  - This project would work for fiction or non-fiction books. For assistance in how to design the parts for non-fiction books, see your project leader. Non-fiction elements may include some or all of the following:
    - Timeline
    - Cause and effect
    - Infographics, data, or diagrams
    - Vocabulary important to the subject
    - How to information
    - What you knew, what you wondered, and what you learned
  - Google “book report lapbook” for more ideas and examples.
  - The lapbook should reflect your age and ability in its final form.
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- Flip Chart Poster: Using a poster board (22” x 28”), create five flip up covers for each of the following:
    - Beginning
    - Setting
    - Middle
    - Characters
    - End
      - Each flip card should be decorated in some way and contain the five words listed above. Under the flip card should be a description of that component of your favorite book you read.
      - Make sure to be creative, neat and complete. The viewer should have a pretty good idea of your book after reading underneath each flip up.
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- Out and About to Learn Even More. Using a poster board, explain any five of the following activities that you did in addition to your reading. Your sixth entry should be an explanation of your favorite book that you read.
    - Read at least three issues of the same magazine or three different magazines. Explain what you read and what you learned in reading it. Include at least three points of interest. You can use parts of the magazine for visual interest if you own them and want to cut out of them.

- Read to others. This could be reading to a younger family or community member or an older family or community member. Have someone take a picture for you to include in your poster.
- Read three picture books. Picture books are lots of fun!! Choose any three you like. List the titles and authors and discuss what you learned, liked, read, or enjoyed about these books.
- Volunteer at your local library or school library for an event or to help for at least one hour. Have someone snap a picture of you working or take a picture of the work you did to add visual interest to your poster.
- Make bookmarks. Include one and explain how you did it. It should be original work. Please do not use computer generated graphics for this element.
- Watch the movie for a book and draw up at least three similarities and differences along with which you liked more.
- Attend a library event as a participant and explain what you did and what you enjoyed.
- Visit the library and interview a librarian or clerk to discover at least eight other resources the library offers besides books. Explain what those things are and how to access and/or how long you can use them. Explain if it is an item that can only be used in the library.

#### Project Reminders:

- All text is to be computer generated print when possible. Handwritten entries are discouraged and may not be considered neat. A minimum 12-point font is a minimum size. Arial, Calibri and Helvetica are considered ADA friendly for viewing.
- Neatness is encouraged and will be judged.
- Creativity will be judged. The project manual will provide many ideas to present your work, but how you fulfill each project is where your creativity will show.
- Judges will be looking to understand the elements of what you have read. Be sure to include in your project some or all of the following:
  - Characters and how they came alive for you. (Characterization is the combination of what the character says and does, how the author describes the character, and what other people say about the character.)
  - The plot should be clear. Plot is defined by a number of conflicts that lead to a culminating event and then a wrap up of the story. Including the ending is not always required, but do make sure to relay some of the conflicts that make up the plot.
  - Setting is often integral to a story. Include it somehow if it is important.
  - Theme(s).

- For non-fiction books, make sure to include some of the more surprising details of what you have learned in your reading.
- All posters should be white or black and with a foam backing for support. Foam backing is available through the 4-H office or local hobby stores can cut one to size for you.
- All posters should be covered by a clear sleeve available for purchase through the 4-H office.
- Each project should have an identification card attached to the back of the poster in the upper right-hand corner.



Ribbon: \_\_\_\_\_

## Reading Scorecard

Early Grades (3-5) : 3 books

Middle Grades (6-8) : 4 books

High School (9-12) : 5 books

Element	Excellent	Good	Fair
All elements listed in project book are included in project			
Neatness			
Viewer learns about the books the 4-Her read			
Creativity/Originality			
No spelling errors or plagiarism			

**Judge's Comments:**

## 4-H Reading Project Log/Record Sheet

Please make sure your writing is legible.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club Leader Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Reading requirements:

- Beginner- Early Grades (3-5) will read three books of at least 70 pages each.
- Intermediate- Middle Grades (6-8) will read four books of at least 100 pages each.
- Advanced- High School (Grades 9-12) will read five books of at least 110 pages each.

Title of Book	
Author of Book	
Number of Pages	
Fiction or Non-Fiction?	
How would you rate this book on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is the worst and 5 is the best?	
Write a short description of the book that includes information about the beginning, middle and end of the story or at least three elements of what you have learned from a non-fiction book.	

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