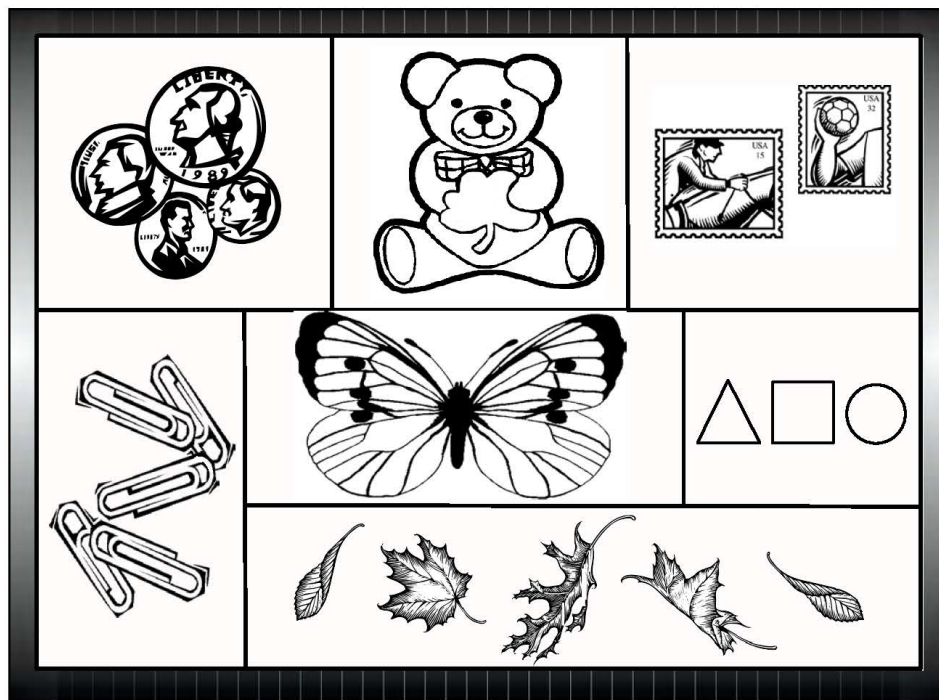


Mini 4-H Collections



Mini 4-H Helper's Page

Welcome to the Johnson County Mini 4-H program! Mini 4-H is designed for youth to explore a variety of project activity areas and to interact with caring adults and other children.

Children receive this project activity manual when enrolling in Mini 4-H. This manual and the manuals on various other topics will provide fun age appropriate learning activities throughout their year(s) in Mini 4-H.

As a Mini 4-H adult helper your job will be to guide and encourage each child through the activities. A wide range of activities are provided to allow you to choose the ones most appropriate for the children you are working with. It is highly suggested that you do not complete the activities for them. Instead help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all that they possibly can. 4-H believes in allowing children to learn by doing. The Mini 4-H project activities are hands-on learning opportunities designed to provide a meaningful educational experience for youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow children to display a project activity that is based upon information within this manual. Most children will choose to exhibit their project at the 4-H fair. The 4-H fair is an exciting week that allows community youth to showcase their enthusiasm for learning. Children may choose to display a project activity they did by themselves or one they did with a group.

Please help the child to bring their Mini 4-H project to the fairgrounds during the designated Mini 4-H judging time. Each exhibit will need a Mini 4-H exhibit tag and their Mini 4-H Project Record Sheet. Mini 4-H exhibits are non-competitive meaning they all receive a special Mini 4-H blue ribbon. Once the fair is over, be sure to pick up the project during 4-H Project Release.

Mini 4-H is fun! Children will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as children participate in the program. Encourage and praise the children as they have fun learning and sharing with you. If you have any questions regarding Mini 4-H or other 4-H programs, please feel free to contact Purdue Extension Johnson County at **317-736-3724**.

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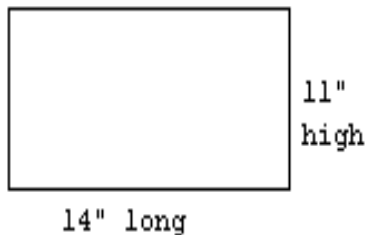
Mini 4-H Program Rules

The Mini 4-H program is designed to supplement and introduce kindergarten, first, and second graders to the Johnson County 4-H program.

RULES

1. Mini 4-H is open to any boy or girl who is enrolled in kindergarten, first, or second grade on January 1st of the current 4-H year.
2. Any Kindergartener may enroll in one (1) project.
Any first grader may enroll in one (1) or two (2) projects.
Any second grader may enroll in one (1) to four (4) projects.
3. Mini 4-H members are enrolled in the Mini Clovers 4-H Club, which is led by the Extension Educator & Volunteers. Meetings are not required, the project(s) will be done at home.
4. Mini 4-H projects include: Arts & Crafts, Bugs, Cookie Decorating, Collections, Flowers, Foods, Forestry, Horse & Pony, Livestock, Models, Sewing, Small Animals, and Wildlife.
5. Enrollment of Mini 4-H begins October 1st.
6. **ALL POSTER EXHIBITS MUST:**
 - A. Have a solid, stiff backing, which is 11" high by 14" wide.
This can be 1/4" plywood, HEAVY cardboard, foam board, or masonite.

Exception: Wildlife poster is 11"x 22".



- B. Be positioned **HORIZONTALLY**.
- C. Have a total exhibit board no larger than 11" high by 14" wide.
(Wildlife- 11"x 22")
- D. Be completely **COVERED BY A CLEAR PLASTIC** material.

Mini 4-H Collections

Learn to collect and display articles such as stamps, collector cards, toy cars, etc. The exhibit is a sample of your collection and should be no larger than 11" x 14". If the exhibit is in a notebook, only one notebook should be displayed.

WHAT TO EXHIBIT:

1. Exhibit a collection of 3 items or pairs of items.
2. If you repeat the Mini 4-H Collections project, bring different items from the previous year.
3. Attach a name tag to your exhibit. You can use the name tag that is printed below.
4. The record sheet should also be completed and turned in with your exhibit.

The Mini 4-H Collections manual contains several activities to help practice skills like sorting, grouping and identifying items that are the same and different. These skills can make collecting a lifelong hobby.

****All Activity pages excerpted from Mini 4-H Collections, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service**

NAME _____
GRADE (as of January 1) _____
SCHOOL _____

Mini 4-H'ers Page

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things, which you can share with your family and friends.

Here are some things to know about 4-H:

The 4-H Symbol: A four leaf clover with a "H" on each leaf

The 4-H Colors: The 4-H colors are green and white. The four-leaf clover is green and the "H" in the leaf is white.

The 4-H Motto: "To make the best better."

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,

I promise to use my head to make good choices.

My **HEART** to greater loyalty,

I promise to use my heart to be a good friend.

My **HANDS** to larger service,

I promise to use my hands to do helpful things for others.

And my **HEALTH** to better living,

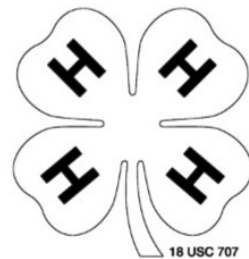
I promise to take care of my body and to show others to live in a healthy way.

For my club, my community,

I promise to help my group, my community,

My country, and my world.

my country, and my world be happy and safe for everyone.



Activity 1 – Shapes

Things you need:

- scissors
- 4 different color crayons or markers
- Shapes Activity Page
- Shapes Activity Page 2

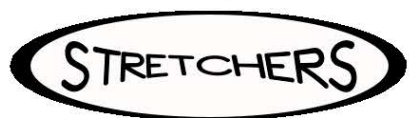


What you do:

1. Color each shape on both the Shapes Activity Page and the Shapes Activity Page 2. Some children may want to label each shape, either by using their own spelling or spelling you provide.
2. Cut shapes out on the dotted line. Children with more advanced cutting skills may choose to cut shapes out on the heavy, black lines.
3. Sort shapes into groups of the same color, shape, size.
4. Save shapes to use with Activity 2 – Caterpillar.

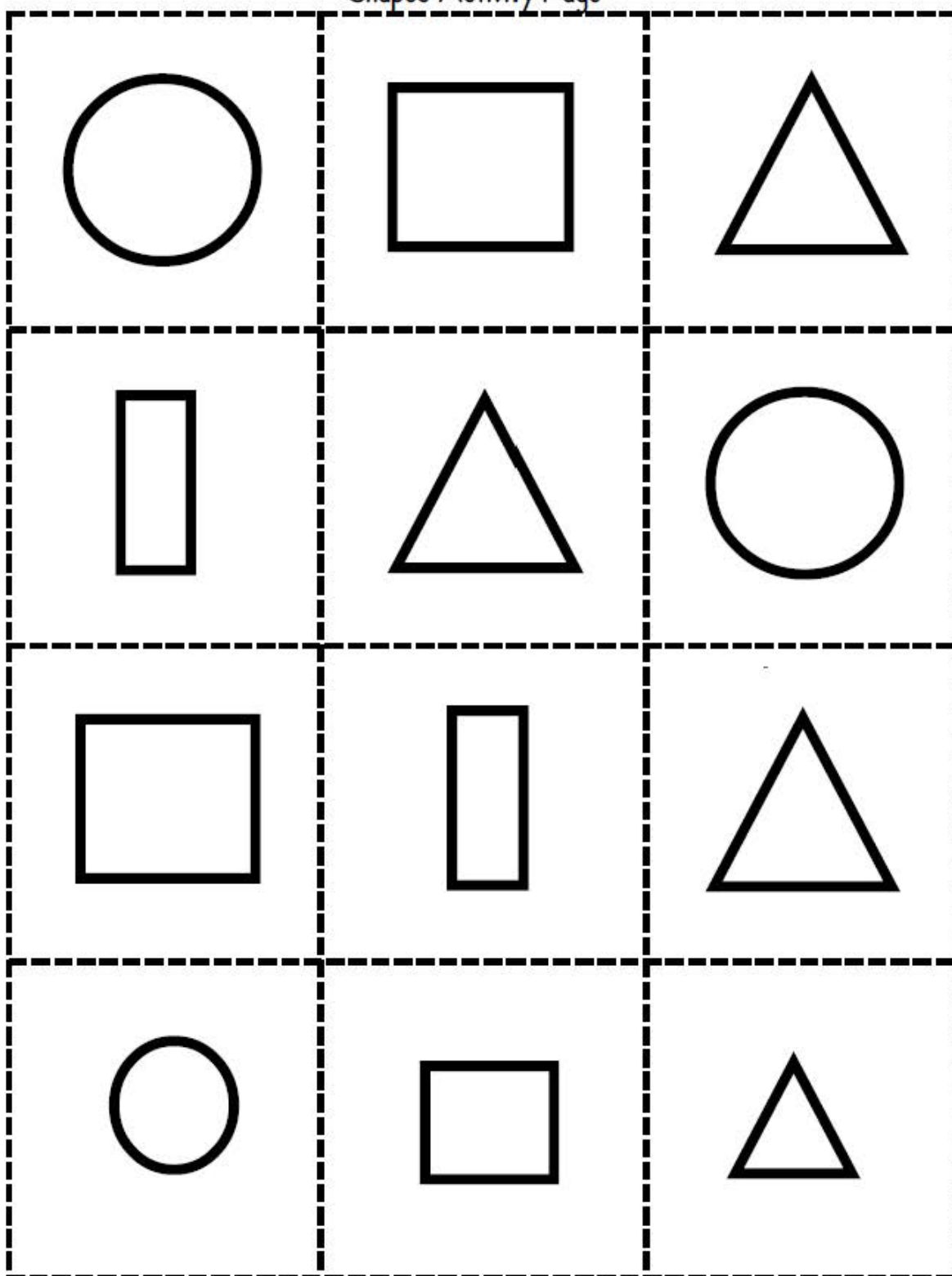
Things to talk about:

Color, size, shape, same, different, more, less

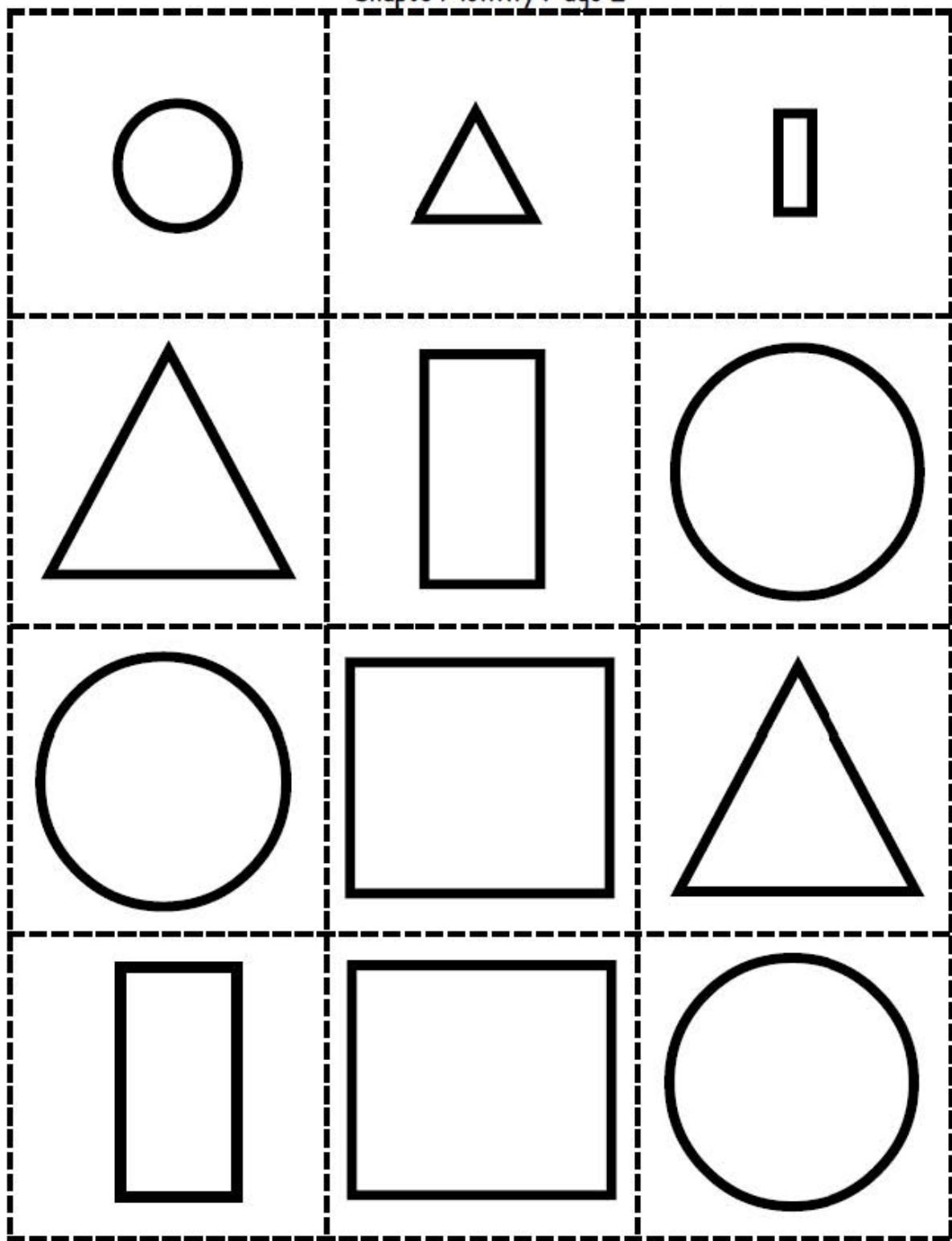


1. Encourage children to sort themselves into groups by hair color, eye color, age, or color of clothes.
2. Use shapes or small objects around the house (e.g., paperclips, buttons, nuts, bolts, bottle caps) to create simple patterns (e.g., 2 paperclips, 1 button, 2 paperclips, 1 button, etc.) and have children copy the patterns using the objects.
3. Choose a shape. Have children go through magazines to find objects with the same shape.

Shapes Activity Page



Shapes Activity Page 2



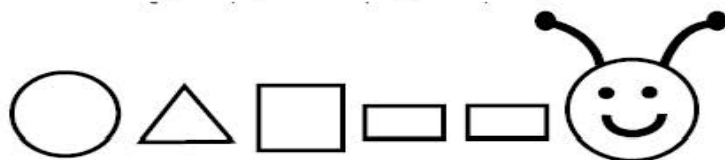
Activity 2 – Caterpillar

Things you need:

- shapes cut from the Shapes Activity Page and the Shapes Activity Page 2
- sheet of plain paper
- glue
- crayons

What you do:

1. Draw a face on one of the largest circles and glue to a paper.
2. Glue shapes on paper to form the body of a caterpillar.
3. Add antennas to the head.
4. Draw a background picture for your caterpillar.

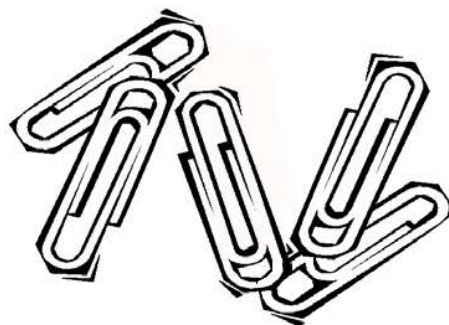


1. Encourage children to tell a story about their caterpillar. Older children may enjoy taking turns telling parts of the story. Have one child start a story. After the first child has said a few sentences, ask the second child to tell what happened next in the story. After the second child has stated a few sentences, have the third child tell what happened last.
2. Have children compare the length of their caterpillars with one another (longer, longest, shorter, shortest, same length). Older children can measure their caterpillars with rulers.
3. For groups, glue all the shapes on one big piece of paper to create one long caterpillar. Vote on a name for the caterpillar.
4. Encourage groups of children to lay on the floor and make shapes with their bodies.

Activity 3 – Grid

Things you need:

- 5 paperclips
- 4 buttons
- 3 small pebbles
- 2 erasers
- Grid Activity Page



What you do:

1. Place a paperclip in one of the circles at the bottom of the grid. Place a button in one, a pebble in one, and an eraser in one.
2. Put all the paperclips in the squares above the circle containing the paperclip. Put all the buttons in the squares above the button. Put all pebbles in the squares above the pebble. Put all erasers in the squares above the eraser.

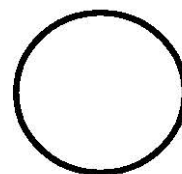
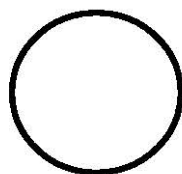
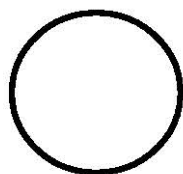
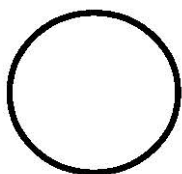
Things to talk about:

Number in each group, more, less, most, least



1. A grid is a good visual aid when discussing counting and showing less than, more than, and equal to.
2. Use tape on the floor to create a giant grid to sort and count large objects (e.g., toys, clothes, kitchen utensils).
3. Encourage children to help sort laundry into piles of lights, darks, whites.
4. Lay yarn in a circle around one group of similar objects. Put a second piece of yarn around another group of similar objects. Count objects in the first group. Count objects in the second group. Put a piece of yarn around all objects in the first and second group. Count the total number of objects. Talk to the children about addition.
5. Give each child a group of 5 pieces of popcorn. Count the pieces. Have children eat one piece of popcorn. Count the number of pieces left. Continue doing this until all popcorn is gone. Talk to the children about subtraction.

Grid Activity Page



Activity 4 – Patterns

Things you need:

- Patterns Activity Page
- piece of colored construction paper
- scissors
- Large Butterfly Activity Page
- glue

What you do:

1. Glue Patterns Activity Page on a piece of colored construction paper.
2. Cut out all patterned pieces on the thick, black line. *Tip: Scissors are always held thumbs up.*
3. Match pieces that are the same.
4. Glue one of the rectangle matches and one of the square matches on the large butterfly.
5. Color the large butterfly on the Large Butterfly Activity Page.
6. Play a game by turning all pattern cards upside down and then picking one and turning it over so you can see the pattern. Next, pick another card. If the pattern on it matches the first card, you keep both. If it doesn't match, you turn both cards upside down and try again.

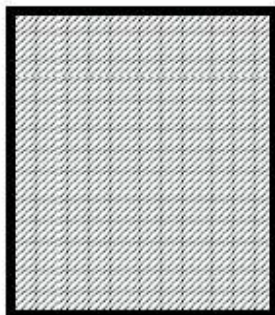
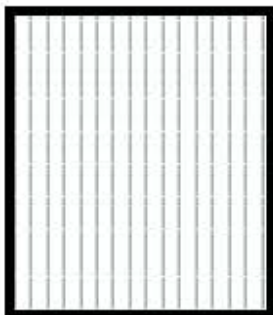
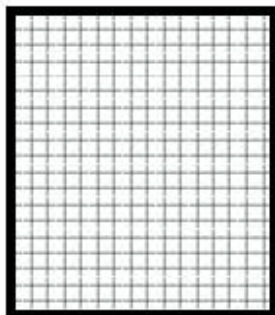
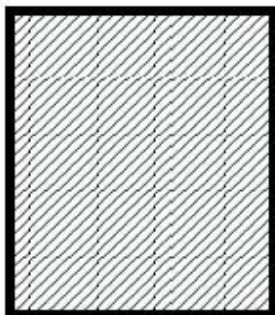
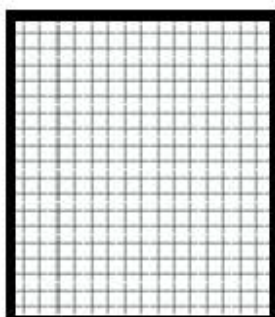
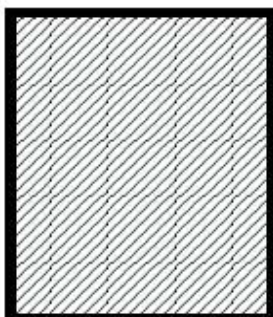
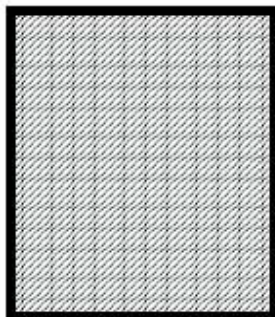
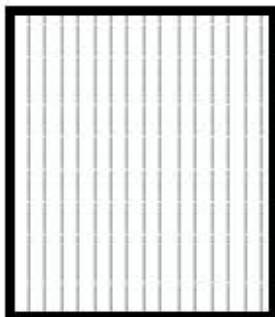
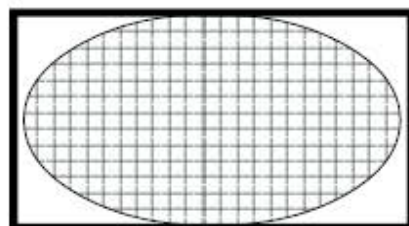
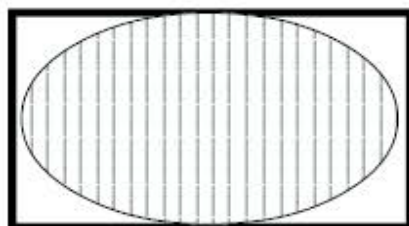
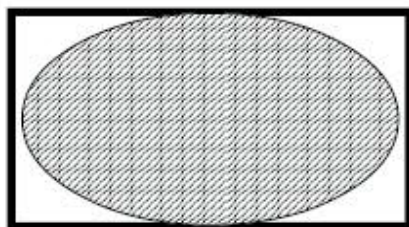
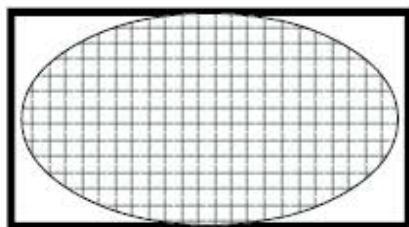
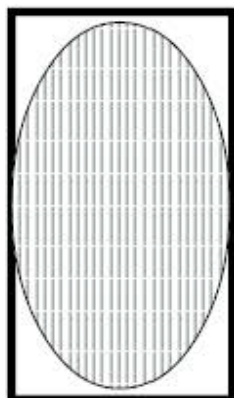
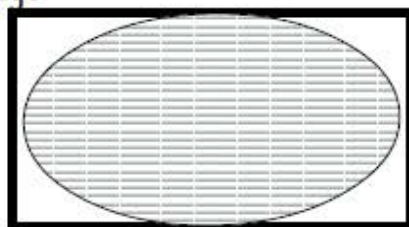
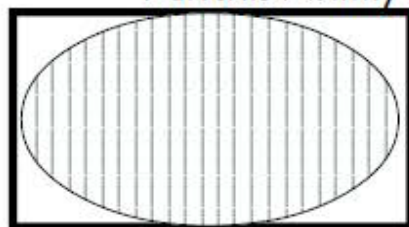
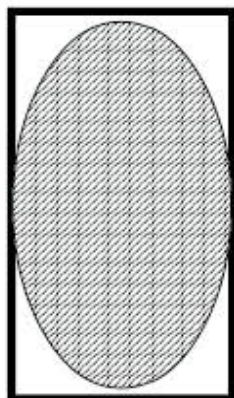
Things to talk about:

Same, different, match, rectangle, square, oval.

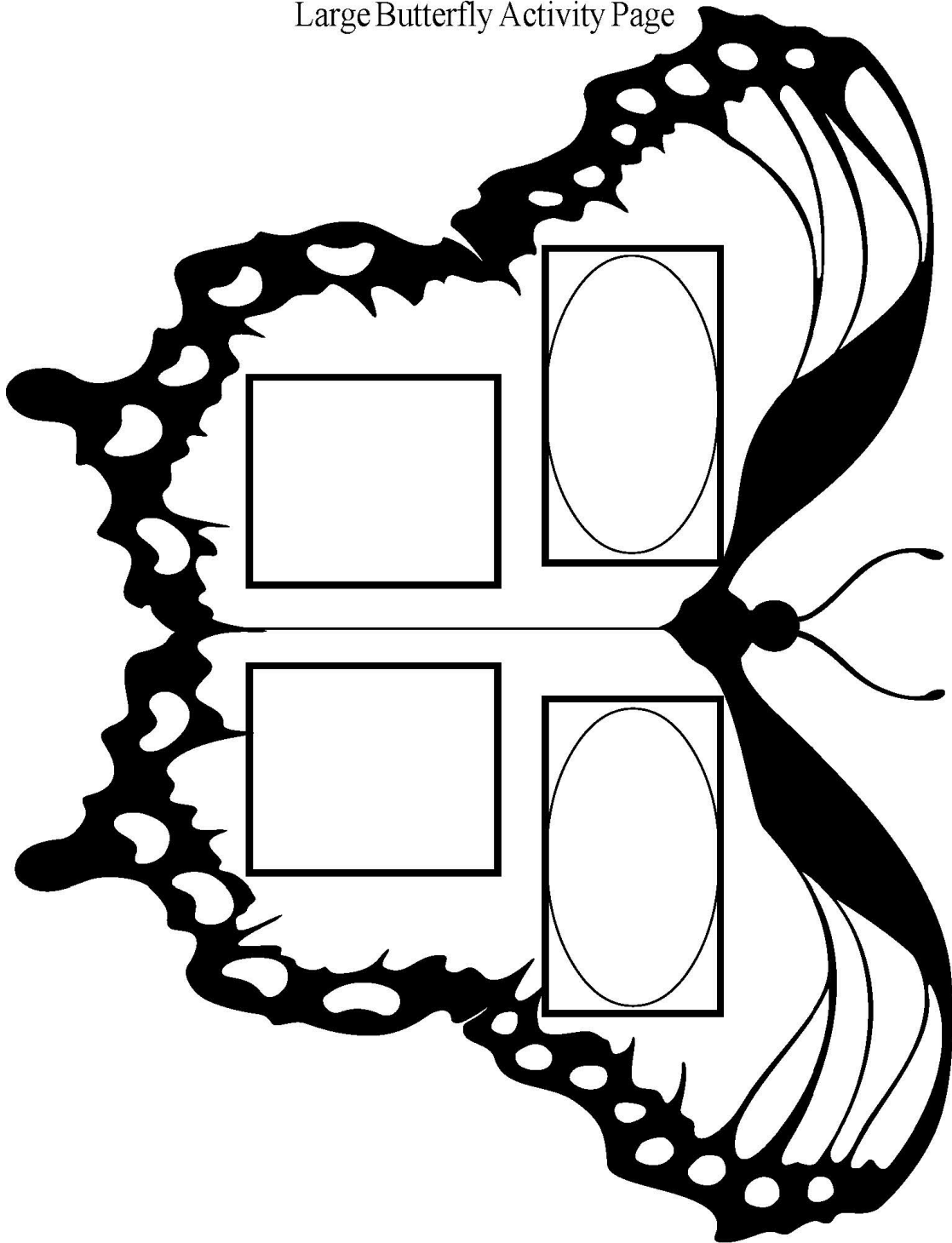


1. Choose a pattern like stripes, plaids, or checks on a chair, clothing, or wallpaper and encourage children to find a similar pattern. For older children, find a letter or word in a magazine or book and encourage them to find a match.
2. Show children pictures of butterflies and introduce the idea of symmetry (the same on both sides) illustrated by the wings of the butterflies. Draw or trace a butterfly and let the children decorate one wing anyway they choose. Fold the butterfly in half with the design on the outside. Hold the fold close to a mirror and let the children see the image of the second wing. Encourage the children to decorate the second wing to be the same as the image of the first wing they observed in the mirror.

Patterns Activity Page



Large Butterfly Activity Page



Activity 5 – Butterfly Collection

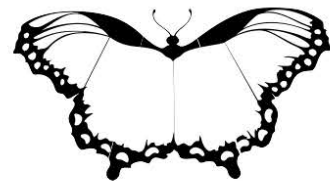
A collection is a group of items that have something in common. Almost anything can be part of a collection. Collections can be made from things you find, things you buy, or things people give you.

People collect things for a lot of reasons. For some people, it could have been favorite toys when they were young. Other people collect things their parents collected like cups, stamps, or baseball cards. Others collect things they enjoy finding like rocks, shells, or bottle caps.

Most people collect because it is fun! Many collections do not cost very much. Other collections may cost thousands of dollars. Everyone can collect.

Things you need:

- scissors - piece of construction paper
- glue - Butterfly Collection Activity Page
- crayons



What you do:

1. Color each butterfly a different color.
2. Cut the butterflies out on the dotted lines.
3. Glue butterflies on construction paper as a “collection” of butterflies.
4. Label each one by color.

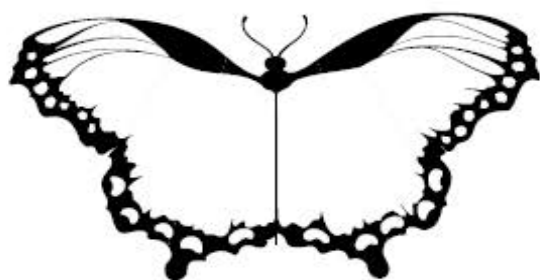
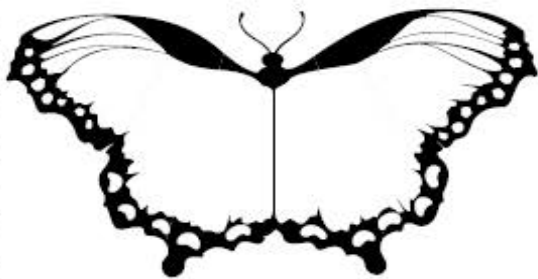
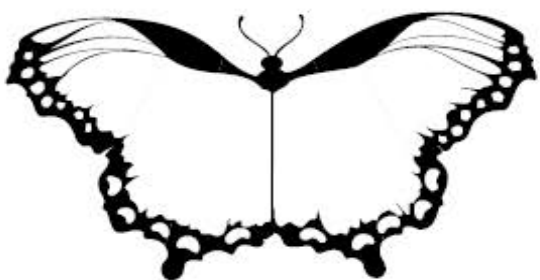
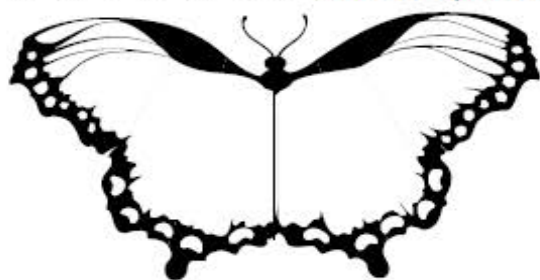
Things to talk about:

Color, letters in color names.



1. Gather several items (e.g., things for sewing, cooking, gardening). Have children group items. Ask why the items belong together.
2. Pick an item in the room or from a magazine. Ask children to choose another item that could be grouped with the first item. Ask why the items are in the same group.

Butterfly Collection Activity Page



Things People Collect (Beginner)

S	T	A	M	P	S	S	B	S
S	P	T	O	Y	S	T	O	T
S	D	O	L	L	S	I	O	I
O	E	K	W	S	V	C	K	C
T	B	V	V	B	U	G	S	K
C	O	I	N	S	U	E	D	E
V	T	Y	G	E	L	R	L	R
C	K	S	S	H	E	L	L	S
J	I	C	P	U	W	E	S	G
L	E	A	V	E	S	S	T	X

BOOKS

DOLLS

STAMPS

BUGS

LEAVES

STICKERS

COINS

SHELLS

TOYS



Things People Collect (Advanced)

S	L	A	D	E	M	S	S	S	S
S	P	M	A	T	S	T	K	L	N
S	D	O	L	L	S	I	O	L	E
O	E	K	W	S	V	C	O	E	Z
T	O	V	N	L	B	K	B	H	Y
K	O	I	A	U	U	E	D	S	S
V	O	Y	G	E	L	R	L	J	K
C	K	S	S	W	L	S	I	O	V
P	I	C	T	U	R	E	S	G	L
P	E	N	C	I	L	S	T	X	K

BOOKS

LEAVES

SHELLS

BUGS

MEDALS

STAMPS

COINS

PENCILS

STICKERS

DOLLS

PICTURES

TOYS



Activity 6 – Collections Around the House

Things you need:

- pencil
- Collections Around the House Activity Page

What you do:



1. Pick 2 rooms in your house.
2. Go to the first room and list all of the things that would be in a collection of round things. Use the first column on the chart below to help you keep track of the round things. Younger children may want to use the back of this page to draw pictures of the things they find for each group.
3. Next, go to the second room and list all of the things that would be in a collection of blue things. Use the second column on the same chart to help you keep track of the blue things. Help younger children answer the questions.

Room1: Round Things		Room2: Blue Things

Which room had the largest group of things? _____

Which room had the funniest things? _____

Activity 7 – What Do You Collect?

Do you like to collect things? Do you have special things you look for when you are with your family or friends? Do you ever go on a walk and pick things up along the way? Many of us do. This is one way collections start.

People collect many different things. Some examples of collections are stuffed animals, leaves, marbles, or cookie cutters.



Things you need:

- pencil
- What Do You Collect? Activity Page

What you do:

1. List some of the things you collect. Younger children may want to use the back of this page to draw some of the things they collect.
2. Fill in the chart. Help younger children answer the questions.

Thing	How many do you have?	Did you have to buy these things?

What is your favorite collection? _____

Why do you like to collect these things? _____

What are some things people in your family like to collect? _____

Activity 8—Where Did It Come From?

Many people begin collecting things because it has been given to them by a parent or friend. One item could be a special stamp. A person may get stamps from different people. Suddenly, they have several and that is a collection.

Things you need:

- pencil
- Where Did It Come From? Activity Page



What you do:

1. List one special thing from each of your collections. Younger children may want to use the back of this page to draw pictures of their special things.
2. Find out! Where did these things come from? Were they a gift? From who? Fill in the chart. Help younger children answer the questions.

Special Thing	What makes this thing special?

Were your things given to you? _____

Why do you think people gave you these things? _____

Activity 9 - Antiques

Antiques are things that are old. They have special value because of their age. Antiques are a favorite for many adults to collect. You can get an antique from family or friends. You can also buy antiques at special stores.

Things you need:

- pencil
- Antiques Activity Page



What you do:

1. Visit a museum, library or shop that has antiques. Find 4 antiques that you like. Younger children may want to use the back of this page to draw pictures of the antiques they liked.
2. Fill in the chart. Help younger children answer the questions.

Antique	How old is it?	How much money is it

What was the oldest thing you found? _____

What did you find that cost the most money? _____

What antique did you like the best? Why? _____



1. Be patient. Most children have a difficult time understanding ideas about money. Helping them understand that one item costs a lot and another item costs little may need to be your first step.

How to Begin My Collection

The fun thing about collecting is you can collect anything you want. There is not a right or wrong collection.

The best place to begin is to explore. What do you like to do? What kinds of things do you like?

Try collecting things that are easy to find around the house or yard. Many people collect leaves, rocks, feathers, seeds or insects. Once you get used to collecting, try a second collection. There are so many things that you can collect. Here is a short list. Can you name more?

Stamps	Pictures	Coins	Stickers
Pencils	Postcards	Medals	Shells
Buttons	Dolls	Toy Trucks	Coffee Mugs

Need help identifying them? You can look up your items in books at home or at your library. Many parents, friends, or hobby stores can help, too. Sometimes these items may have scientific names, however, there is no need for you to know these special names. So, what are you going to collect?

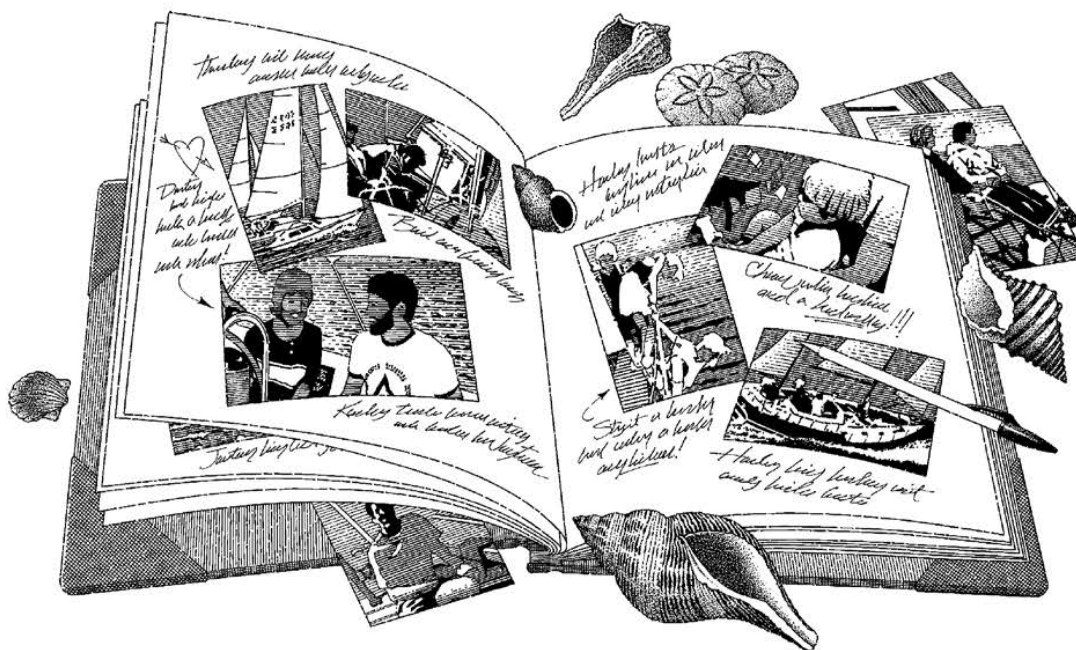


Excerpted from Mini 4-H Collections, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service.

How to Display Your Items

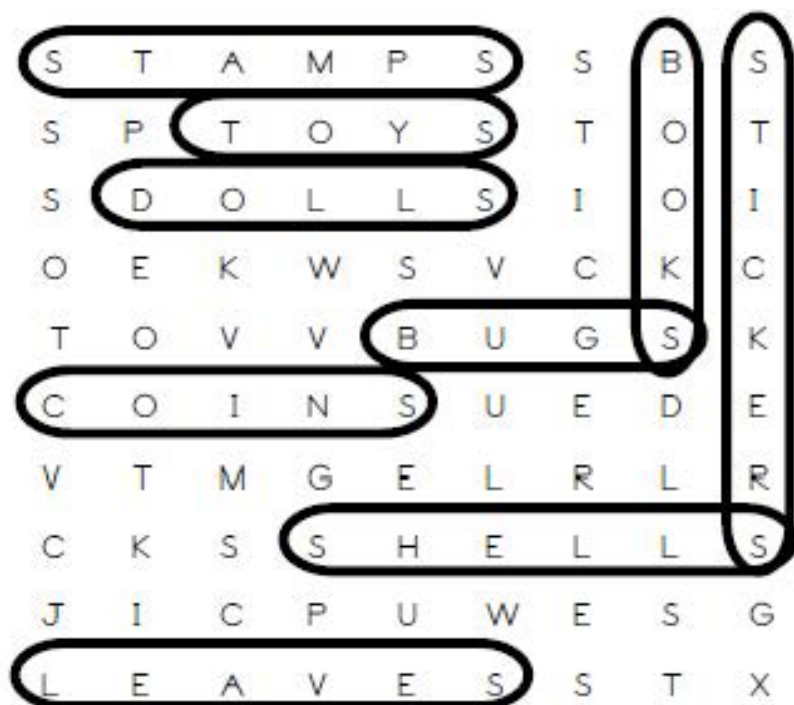
You can display your collection in many ways. Be creative! You can make a poster or a scrapbook, use a shoe or cigar box, and egg cartons work great, too! Are your items very small? Try plastic bags or bottles. Anything will work if it helps keep your collection neat and clean!

Remember, do not take things for your collection unless you get permission first. Be sure to keep any small things from your collection up and out of the reach of little children. Your parents will be able to help you decide where to keep your collection.

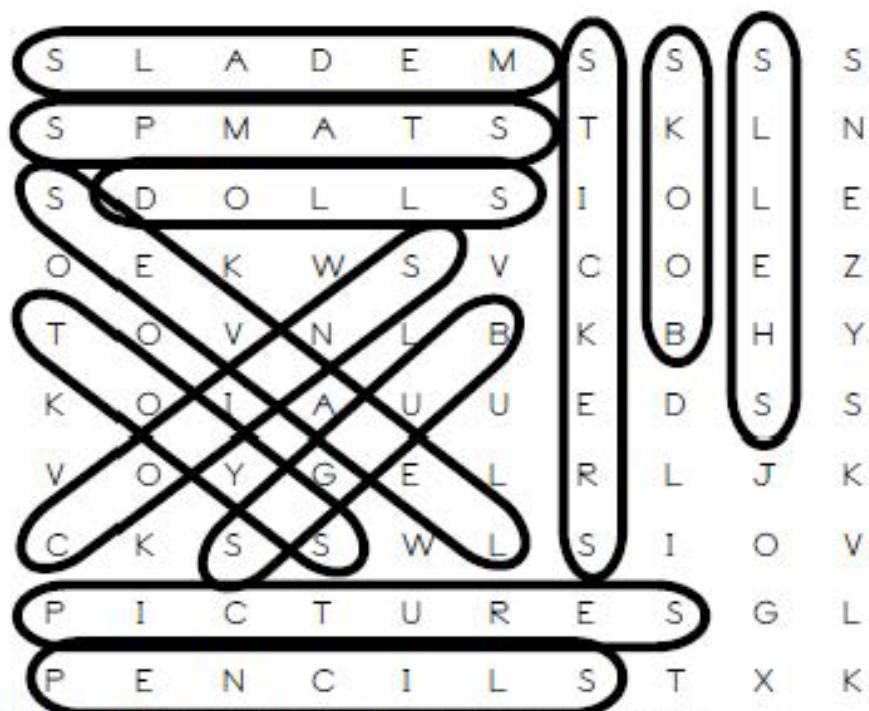


Excerpted from Mini 4-H Collections, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service.

Things People Collect (Beginner)



Things People Collect (Advanced)



RECORD SHEET

MINI 4-H COLLECTIONS

Name _____ Grade _____

School Attending _____

Please complete and bring with Mini 4-H Exhibit.

I choose to exhibit _____.

I like collecting _____

_____.

I learned _____

_____.

My favorite part of Mini 4-H this year was _____

_____.

List who helped you with the project _____
