

# Noble County

## Mini 4-H



# Photography



## Mini 4-H Helper's page

Welcome to the Mini 4-H Program! Mini 4-H is designed for children in grades K-2 to explore a variety of project activity areas and to interact with caring adults and other children.

Children receive this project activity manual when they enroll 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 is provided to allow you to choose the ones most appropriate for the children you are working with. It is strongly 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 in this manual. Some children may want to exhibit 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. Other children may choose to showcase their work in other ways, such as displaying it in a special place in their own home.

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 contact the Extension Office in your county.

## Helper's Tips

The Mini 4-H Program can be used with individual children, but it works best when used in a group of 2 or more children. Children working cooperatively in groups develop positive images of themselves and their ideas. Other ways adult helpers can maximize the benefits of Mini 4-H are to:

- **Work on a subject interesting to the child by encouraging children to choose the content area.** Look through this manual and choose the project activities based on the interests and skill levels of the children
- **Relax and have fun.** Some children will want to finished their activities, others may not. There is no need to pressure children of this age to finish an activity, because the real learning takes place while they participate in the activity and interact with others. The finished project should not be the main focus. The knowledge children gain while they explore new areas and experiment with new ideas should be the primary goal.
- **Remain flexible and adapt to the changing needs of the children.** Restlessness or boredom may indicate a need to stop the activity and come back to it later.
- **Encourage children to talk and work with each other.** Children learn best when they are encouraged to freely share their reactions and observations. You may want to ask the children about what they did during an activity, what happened, what was the easiest, and what they like the most.

This manual contains activities for children that allow for a wide range of abilities and provide practice for developing a variety of skills.



## Mini 4-H Page

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

Here are some things to know about 4-H.

The 4-H symbol is a four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf. Clover is a plant that grows in fields, yards and along roadsides. Most clovers have three leaves. Sometimes, if you look very carefully, you may get lucky and find a special clover with four leaves. A four-leaf clover is used as the symbol for 4-H to let everyone know 4-H is a special kind of group.



The 4-H colors are green and white. The four-leaf clove is green and the "H" in each leaf is white.

A group motto is a saying that tells people what is important to the group. The 4-H motto is "To make the best better." When something is better than all the others it is the best. Think about a time when you did your best. Maybe you threw a ball farther than you have ever thrown it before. Now, think about some ways you could do better. You may be able to throw farther by practicing for a while or by watching someone who can throw farther than you, to see how they throw so far. Even if you throw the ball farther than you have ever thrown it before. There are still ways that you can do better the next time. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best you have ever done.

*"To make the  
best better"*

## The 4-H Pledge

A pledge is a promise you make to yourself and to the people around you. The 4-H pledge is a bold print below.


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 do these words mean?

I Pledge my Head  to clearer thinking, means I promise to use my head to make good choices.

My heart  to greater loyalty, means to use my heart to be a good friend.

My hands  to larger service, and, means to use my hands to do helpful things for others.

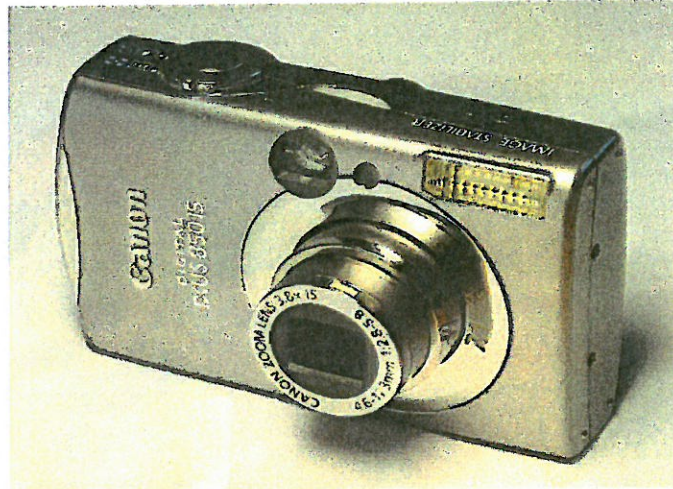
My health  to better living, means to take care of my body and to show others how to live in a healthy way.

For my club, my community, my country  and my world, means to help my group, my community, my country and my world be happy and safe for everyone.

Welcome to the Noble County Mini 4-H Photography project!

Everyone likes to take pictures, whether it is to remember a vacation with your family, those special moments of life, something really funny, or holding on to a memory of a loved one. Some pictures are spur of the moment, others take time to set up and get the proper lighting and positioning.

Taking pictures with a cell phone is good for those spur of the moment pictures, but the best pictures are taken with a camera, either digital, or with film.



A simple camera would be best for you to begin your photography career with. You may use your parents' camera, or maybe you have one of your own. Once you have decided on a camera, you need to learn the parts, and how to use it. One of the best ways is to "learn by doing".

1. Learn how to turn it on and off.
2. Learn how to turn the flash on and off.
3. Learn how to work the zoom.
4. Learn how to see the pictures through the view finder.
5. For digital cameras, you need to learn how to view your pictures after taking them.

**Get your camera ready to take pictures.** Does it take film, and if so, what kind? Does it take a memory card, and if so, is there room for the photos you want to take? Does it need batteries? Don't forget to take the lens cap off (if it a manual lens cap).



Once you have your camera ready to take pictures, look around for things/subjects to take pictures of. You can be indoors or outdoors. Try different things: people, animals, buildings, flowers, etc. Take pictures in the shade, or in full sun.

Hold your camera with 2 hands. Look through the viewfinder. Keep both eyes open. Make sure your fingers are away from the lens and flash. Find the shutter release button (the one that takes the photo), point your camera at your chosen subject, and gently push the button. Don't move your camera quickly after taking the photo.

## To take a better picture:

1. Keep your finger off the lens, and your hands away from in front of the camera.
2. Keep your camera horizontal. If you tip the camera, your pictures will look tilted.
3. Press the shutter release gently so the camera doesn't jerk.
4. Hold the camera steady and remember to hold your breath when you take the picture.
5. Watch your background. If the background is too cluttered, it will take away from the subject.

To get rid of clutter: Remove distracting things from the area.

Change your location. Take your subject to a different place.

Move yourself. Shift to a different location where the clutter is not visible.



**When taking pictures outside**, bright days with cloud coverage are much better than sunny days, because you don't have to worry about shadows, or reflections from the sun. On a dark day, you can use a flash, but keep in mind that your subject should be at a distance of 6-12 feet away to get the best picture. Any closer than 6 feet will make it too light, and any further than 12 feet will make it too dark. You should almost always use a flash indoors, unless you are in an extremely well-lit place. On days when the sun is out, always take your pictures with the sun at your back.

## Care and storage of your camera:

1. Dust and moisture are harmful to cameras. Store your camera in a dry, well ventilated place. Don't store it near moth balls or other chemical materials to avoid damage to metal surface.
2. Avoid dropping or hitting your camera.
3. Never store where temperatures are higher than 122 degrees. For example, a car sitting in the sun on a hot, summer day.
4. Never rub the lens surfaces with your fingers, clothing, tissue or paper towels. It is best to use lens tissues.

The best way to become a good photographer is by taking lots of pictures. Take your camera with you on vacation, to the park, when you visit friends, or any other activity. See what kind of pictures you like to take, and work on improving your skills.





# 4-H Fair Exhibit

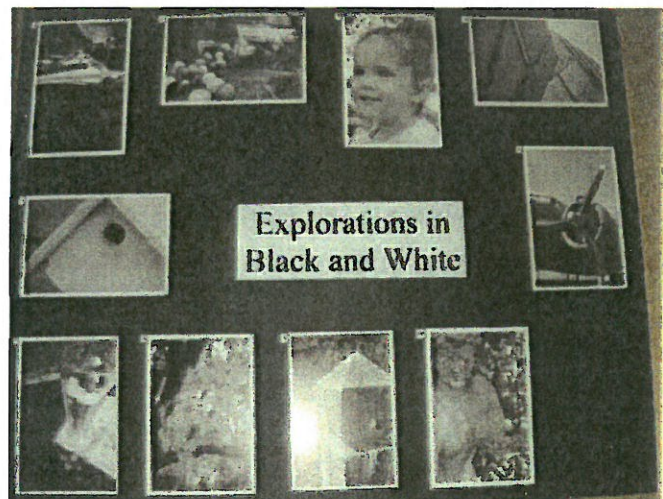
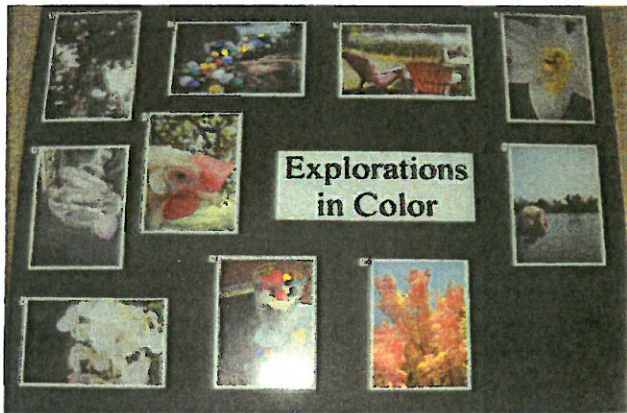


**Kindergarten:** 3 color pictures, attached with rubber cement or glue, on a 14" x 22" poster. Number each picture. A title of your choosing placed at the top of the poster.

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** 3 color pictures – one of an animal, one of a person, and one of scenery, attached with rubber cement or glue, on a 14" x 22" poster. Number each picture. A title of your choosing placed at the top of the poster.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** 5 pictures (color, or black & white, or a mixture), with a mixture of vertical and horizontal placement, attached with rubber cement or glue, on a 14" x 22" poster. Number each picture. A title of your choosing placed at the top of the poster.

All posters are to be covered with clear plastic (**poster sleeves are available in the Extension Office**) and have a stiff backing. All posters are to be 14" high x 22" wide. You may use any color of poster board. Each poster project should have a title. All posters are to have a name label on them placed in the lower right hand corner. You will receive a Mini 4-H newsletter in the mail prior to the Fair that will contain name labels.







# Noble County Mini 4-H Record Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years in Mini 4-H \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years in project \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

A. Project: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Estimated number of hours worked to complete project \_\_\_\_\_

C. Money spent on project:

Cost of supplies: (list) \_\_\_\_\_

OR \_\_\_\_\_

Foods – number of \_\_\_\_\_

times made \_\_\_\_\_

D. List the things that you learned while you were doing Mini 4-H:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_