



Mini 4-H

FLOWER & GARDEN





We would like to thank Purdue Extension-Elkhart County for developing the majority of this manual.

**Tippecanoe County Mini 4-H Flower & Garden Manual
Revised March 2020**



4-H Facts



The 4-H Symbol: A four leaf clover with an “H” in each leaf.

4-H Colors: Green and White

The 4-H Motto: To make the best better!

The 4-H Pledge:

I Pledge

My Head to clearer thinking

My Heart to greater loyalty

My Hands to larger service

My Health to better living

For my Club,

My Community,

My Country,

and my World.



Mini 4-H Parent's Page



We welcome you and your child to the Mini 4-H program. Mini 4-H is for children in kindergarten, first and second grades during the current 4-H year. Mini 4-H is designed to supplement and introduce Mini 4-H to the Tippecanoe County 4-H program.

As a Mini 4-H parent, your job is to guide your child through the activities. It is 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. Learning by doing is the best educational tool that we can provide for our youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow your child to exhibit a project at the 4-H Fair. This project is based on information within this manual. The 4-H Fair is an exciting time for 4-H members and families. It is a week that allows community youth to showcase their talents, interests and enthusiasm for learning.

Mini 4-H is fun! Your child will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as your child participates in the program. Encourage and praise your child as he/she has fun learning and sharing with you.

Flowers and Garden Rules

Kindergarten: Complete one activity in the Mini 4-H Plants and Gardening Manual and display one marigold or zinnia grown by the Mini 4-Her from a seed.

First Grade: Complete two activities in the Mini 4-H Plants and Gardening Manual and display an herb grown by the Mini 4-Her from a seed or one tomato, zucchini, squash or cucumber on a paper plate.

Second Grade: Complete three activities in the Mini 4-H Plants and Gardening Manual and display an herb grown from a seed in a pot of an appropriate size. The herb may be the same one used in first grade so long as it has been cared for by the Mini 4-Her and is displayed in a pot of an appropriate size for the herb. Or display a plate of three tomatoes, zucchini, squash or cucumbers on a paper plate.



What is Gardening?

Having a garden can be FUN! Plants are living things that you grow. We see plants all around us. You may enjoy growing houseplants (grown inside your house in a pot), a vegetable garden to put food on the table or a flower garden to make your yard more beautiful. All these plants need special care to grow. In this project you will learn how to grow plants successfully.



ACTIVITY 1 – WHAT PLANTS NEED

All plants have needs to grow and be healthy. Among these are water, soil, air and space to grow. Different plants like different amounts of sunshine and different temperatures. It is important to choose a plant that likes the conditions that you have where you want it to grow. For example, you wouldn't plant a flower that likes to be in the sun under a shade tree. Read the seed package when choosing seeds for your garden.

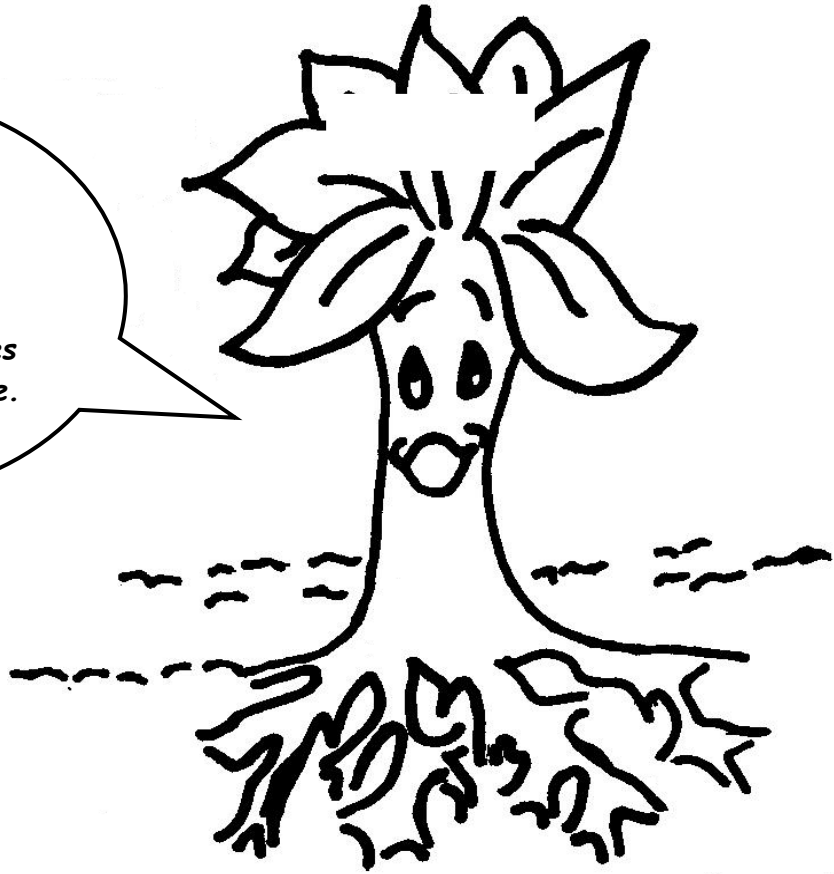
Materials needed for this activity: crayons activity sheets

What you will do:

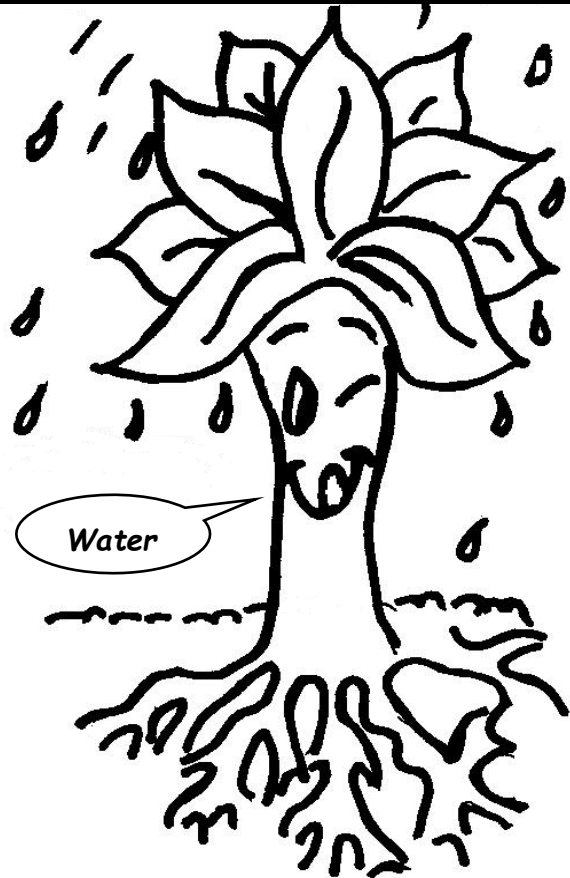
1. Read about the things plants need to grow.
2. Color the pictures.



Like you, plants have many needs. Plants need lots of soil, water, air, sunshine, the right temperatures and a lot of good care.



MMMM!!
Soil is like
food for



Water

What did you learn?

Name 4 things plants need to grow.

What would happen to your grass if we had no rain? _____

Why? _____

What can you do to prevent this from happening? _____



ACTIVITY 2 – GROWING A BEAN PLANT

This experiment will show you what happens when a plant doesn't get one of their needs met. In this case it will be light (or sunshine). This experiment also lets you see how a plant grows from a seed. The bean is the seed for the bean plant.

Materials needed for this activity:

pencil
water
ruler

2 clean plastic bags
2 paper towels

8 – 10 bean seeds
chart



What you will do:

1. Fold each paper towel so that it fits inside the plastic bag. Wet the paper towel and place it in the bag.
2. Place the seeds evenly inside the bag on the outside of the paper towel so you can see if they are growing.
3. Place one plastic bag in a warm, sunny place. Place the second bag in a dark place, like a closet.
4. Check the seeds every 2 days and record on the chart how they are growing.
5. Keep checking the seeds until they grow into a small plant.

Be sure to wet the paper towel if it dries out.
You may plant the small bean plant in your garden!



My Bean Plants

	In the Sun	In the Dark
Which grows first, the stem or the root?		
How many days did it take to sprout?		
How many days before leaves appeared?		
How long was the root the first day it appeared?		
What color is the root?		
How long was the stem the first day it appeared?		
What color is the stem?		

What did you learn?

Which seed grew the fastest? _____

Why? _____

What grew first, the root or the stem? _____

What was different about the plants in the sun and the plants in the dark? _____

Why do you think they were different? _____



ACTIVITY 3 – GROW A FLOWER GARDEN

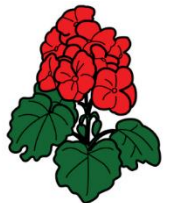
(Get permission from your parents.)

Materials needed for this activity: seeds of your choice fertilizer
a place to grow a garden garden tools



What you will do:

1. Prepare the soil. Turn the soil about 2 ½ inches deep and smooth with a rake.
2. Plant your seeds. Follow the instructions on the seed package. This will tell you how deep to plant your seeds and how long they will take to grow. ***(Be sure to plant early enough for your flowers to be ready for the Fair.)***
3. Care for your garden. Water it every week if there isn't any rain. Protect your garden from hazards such as too much water, too much fertilizer, weeds or insects. Remember to pull weeds!



What did you learn?

What kind of seeds did you choose? _____

How deep did you plant the seeds? _____

How long did it take for the plants to appear? _____



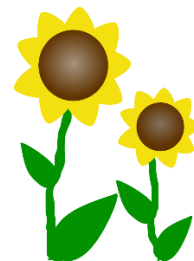


ACTIVITY 4 – DIFFERENT FLOWERS

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

Zinnia
Marigolds
Sunflower
Geranium
Petunia
Snapdragon
Gladiolus
Iris
Daisy
Roses

Tulip
Carnation
Sweetpea
Pansy
Orchid
Babys Breath
Black Eyed Susan
Lilac
Violet





ACTIVITY 5 – Growing Food

Materials needed for this activity:

seeds of your choice
garden tools

a place to grow a garden
fertilizer

What you will do:

1. Choose a vegetable to grow in your garden.
2. Repeat the steps in Activity 4 to plant and care for your seeds.
3. When your vegetables are ripe, pick your vegetables and eat them.

What did you learn?

Did you grow a vegetable? _____

Did you eat your vegetable? _____

Do you think your vegetable tasted better than what you buy at the store? _____

Why? _____

What other vegetables would you like to grow? _____



ACTIVITY 6 – DIFFERENT PLANTS

There are many kinds of plants you can grow. Think about some of these as you try the word search. Plants all need special care to grow.

Materials needed for this activity: pencil word search activity

Garden Words

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

asparagus
green beans
tomatoes
cantaloupes
peas
cucumbers

eggplant
sweet corn
cabbage
peppers
zucchini

squash
broccoli
onions
watermelon
cauliflower

beets
lettuce
turnips
carrots
potatoes



What did you learn?

Name a plant growing in your yard. _____

Who cares for the plants in your yard? _____

What is your favorite vegetable? _____

Name a vegetable you would like to try growing that you are not growing now. ____



Flower and Garden Record Sheet

Name _____ Grade _____

What did you bring to exhibit at the Fair? _____

How many flowers/plants did you grow? _____

When did you plant your garden, plant or flower (*date*)? _____

What did you enjoy most about this project? _____
