

MINI 4-H
PHOTOGRAPHY



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THE EXHIBIT:

Each Mini 4-H'er is to prepare six (6) pictures for exhibit. These pictures may be Black and White, or Color, or Mixed.

Pictures should **not** be mounted on poster board because it is difficult to do and ruins the photograph for later use. Use a page or two from a plastic photo album.

It is not necessary to use an album cover because they can be expensive. You can label the photographs if you wish but this is not necessary.

Each member should put their name, age, and grade level on a card the same size as your pictures, and insert it in a slot of one of the album pages as if it were a picture.

Pictures should all be the same size and uncropped. Custom processing is not necessary and is discouraged.

WHAT YOU NEED:

Camera: If you don't own one, borrow one from someone you know for a few days. Have them show you how to use it. A pocket instamatic should do well. Other cameras are suitable if you know how to use them. Make sure the camera you use is in good working order.

Storage card: Digital cameras store the pictures you take on a small card that is inserted into the camera. You can then take that card to a computer and save the images, or print the images directly from the card wherever you process your photos. Different cameras require different storage cards. They also come in a variety of memory sizes- some cards can store dozens of photos, other cards can store thousands.

USB cords and card readers: If you choose to print your own pictures or save your pictures to a computer, you will need a cord to connect your camera to the computer, or a card reader to connect to your computer. Often these come with the camera, or you can purchase these items in the electronics section of most stores.

THE 6 PICTURES:

Three of the pictures you exhibit can be of anything you like. The other three pictures should be one of the following:

1 picture of you - taken by a friend or parent using your camera. Studio pictures are not acceptable. You should try to look natural doing something you really enjoy rather than posing.

1 picture of where you live - whether you live in an apartment or house include a picture of where you live.

1 picture of a special friend - that friend may be your best friend, a brother or sister, your parents, or a dog or cat.

DO'S & DON'TS WHEN TAKING PICTURES

Make sure your eye is as close to the viewfinder as possible. This way you see the whole picture. It will probably help to close one eye (not the one you are looking through the viewfinder with). When pressing the shutter button, do it gently, and smoothly. This helps avoid blurring. Flash should be used at a distance of 6-12 feet. Closer than 6 feet you "burn" the subject. Farther than 12 feet and the subject will be too dark.

Bright sunny days are **not** the best days to shoot. The best days to shoot are bright days with good cloud cover. On these days there are no shadows.

When shooting color film try to use colorful subjects. If everything in the picture is black and gray then Black and White would have been a better choice. Reds always help brighten a picture. With most digital cameras you can change the settings for black and white and color.

Avoid shooting into the sun especially if it is bright. People make interesting subjects, but avoid poses. Have someone help you select the pictures you should display. To get six (6) good pictures you should shoot several pictures.

Try to be aware of what is in the background of the picture, before you shoot it. This is perhaps the most difficult thing to do in photography. Avoid messy or "busy" backgrounds and other backgrounds which don't let the subject stand out. A person in dark clothes should be against a lighter background so that they will stand out.

Try to fill the picture with the subject matter. Too often a problem with those just starting to take pictures is that they do not get close enough to the subject.

MINI 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY RECORD SHEET

NAME _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

A. LIST THE TYPE OF PICTURES YOU HAVE TAKEN.

B. ABOUT HOW MANY HOURS DID IT TAKE FOR YOU TO COMPLETE YOUR EXHIBIT?

C. MONEY SPENT ON YOUR PROJECT: _____