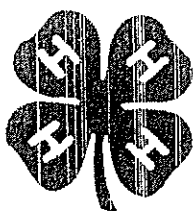
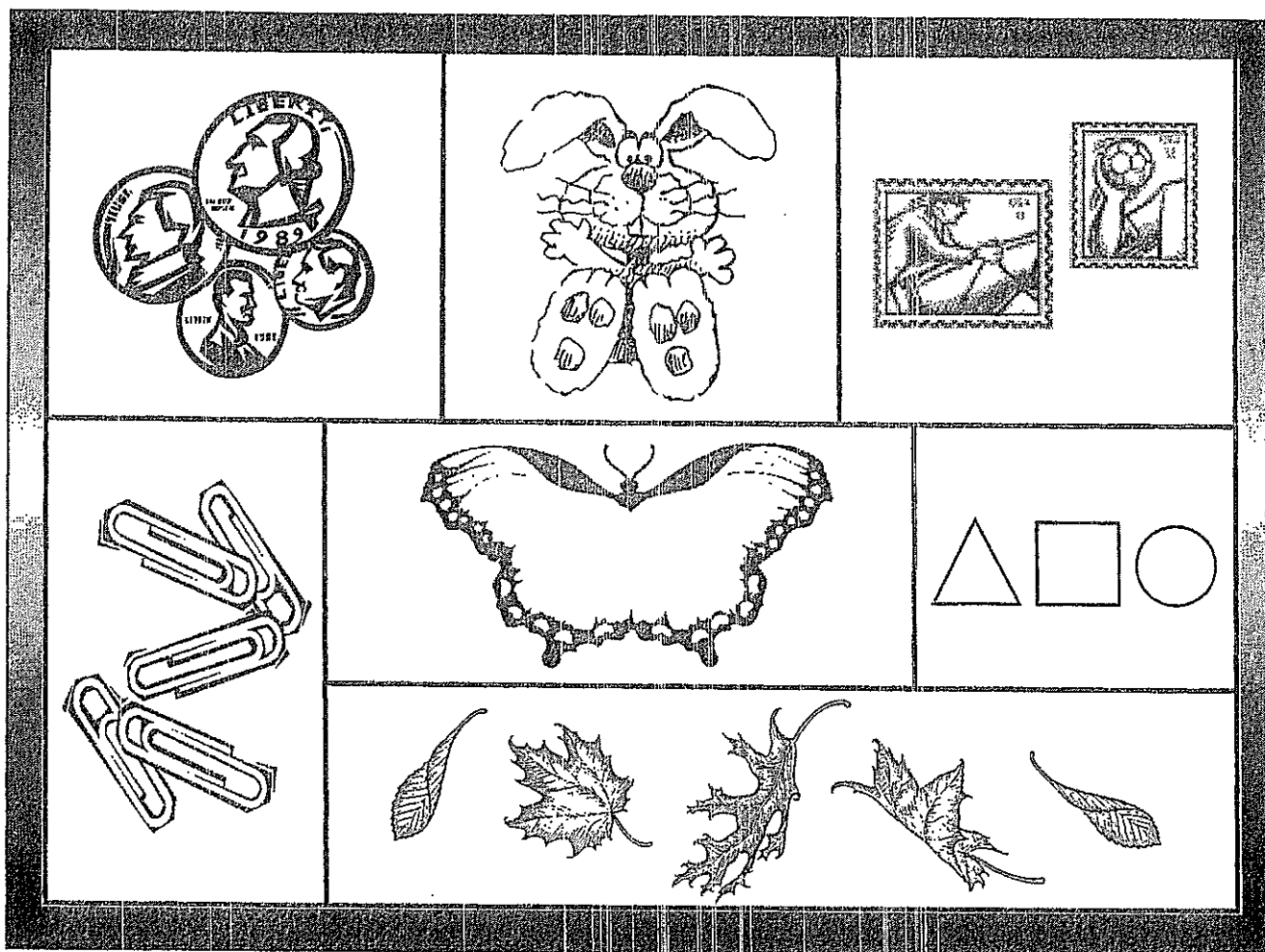


Mini 4-H Collections



Mini 4-H Helper's Page

Welcome to the 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. 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.

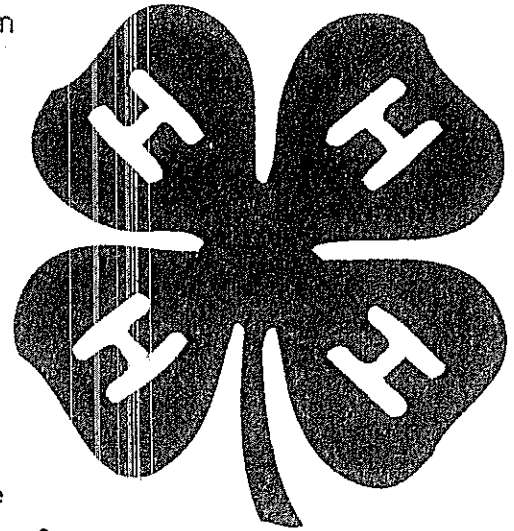
Mini 4-H is fun! Children will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as children participate in the program. Encourage and praise the children as they have fun learning and sharing with you. If you have any questions regarding Mini 4-H or other 4-H programs, please feel free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

Mini 4-Hers Page

Mini 4-Hers 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 clover 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 of 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.

Important Information About This Manual:

This manual is designed to help children gain the skills necessary to understand and fully participate in collecting. Children need to be able to identify how items are the same and how they are different. They also need to be able to sort and group items. The first few activities in this manual focus on these skills.

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:

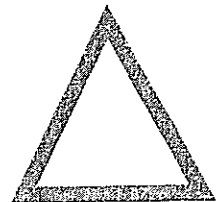
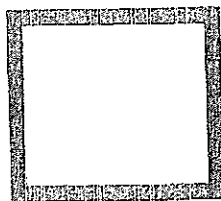
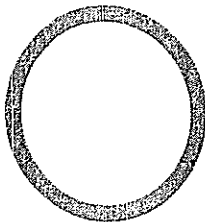
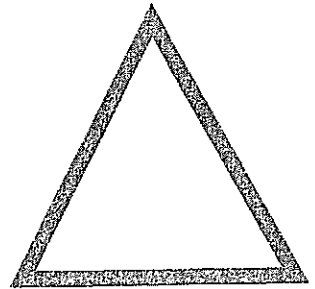
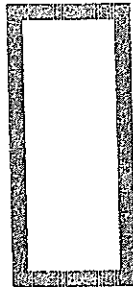
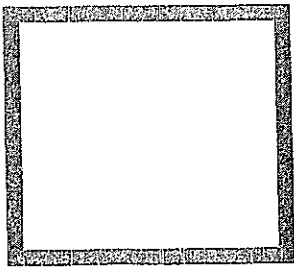
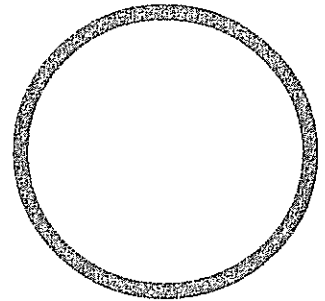
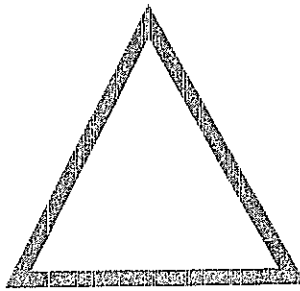
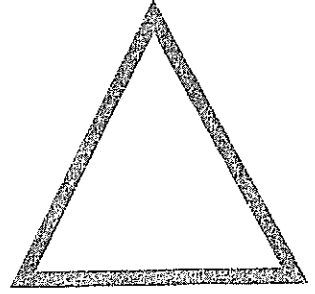
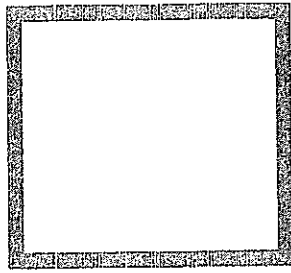
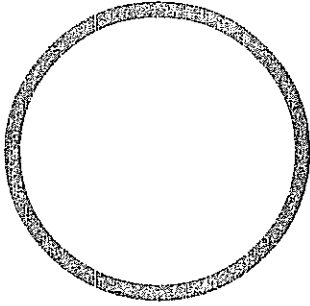
Color, size, shape, same, different, more, less



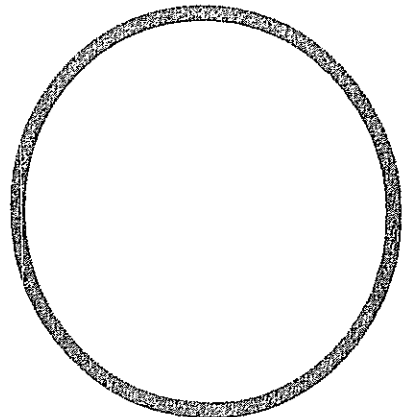
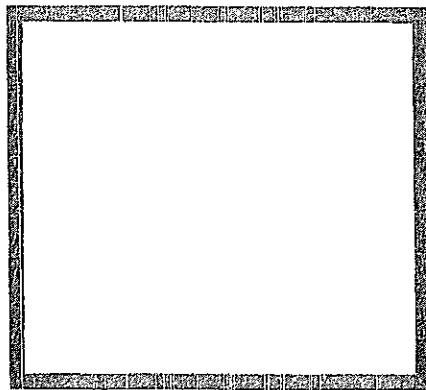
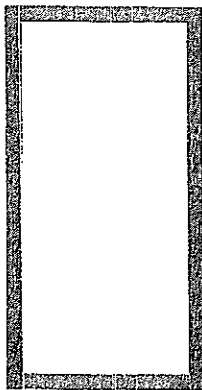
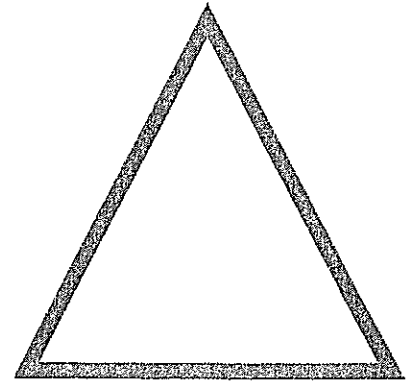
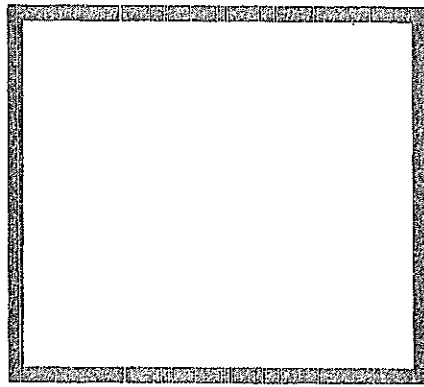
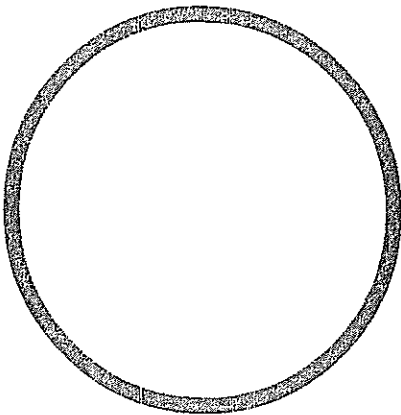
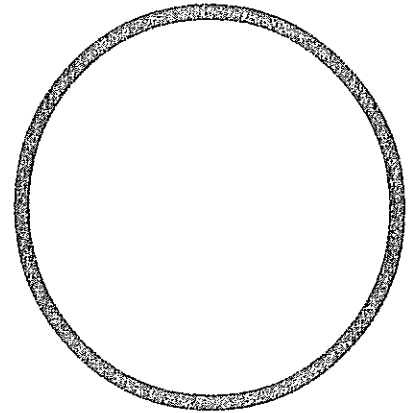
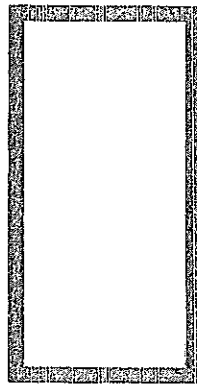
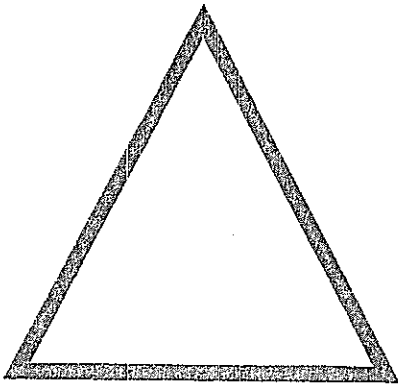
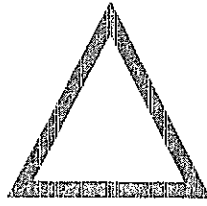
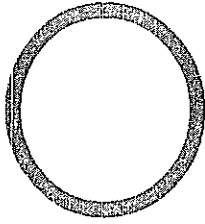
1. Encourage children to sort themselves into groups by hair color, eye color, age, or color of clothes.
2. Use shapes or small objects around the house (e.g., paperclips, buttons, nuts, bolts, bottle caps) to create simple patterns (e.g., 2 paperclips, 1 button, 2 paperclips, 1 button, etc.) and have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

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

Shapes Activity Page



Shapes Activity Page 2



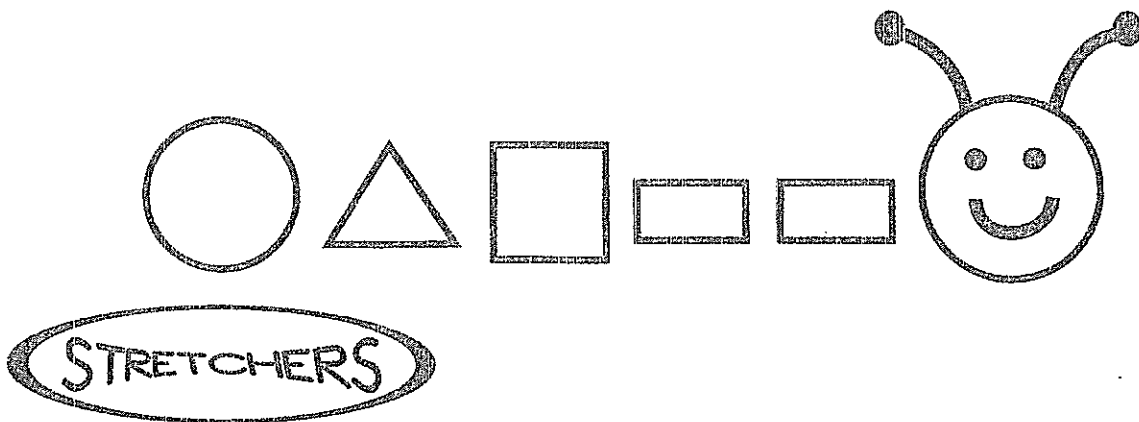
Activity 2 – Caterpillar

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:

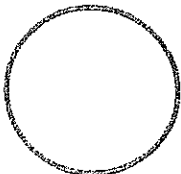
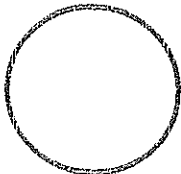
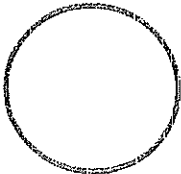
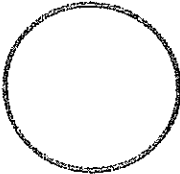
1. Draw a face on one of the largest circles and glue to a paper.
2. Glue shapes on paper to form the body of a caterpillar.
3. Add antennas to the head.
4. Draw a background picture for your caterpillar.



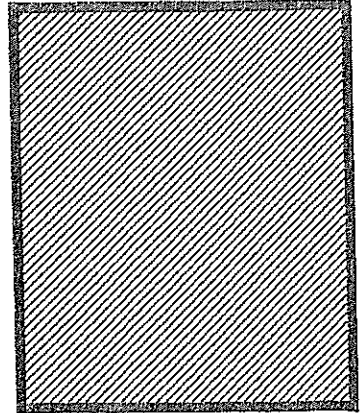
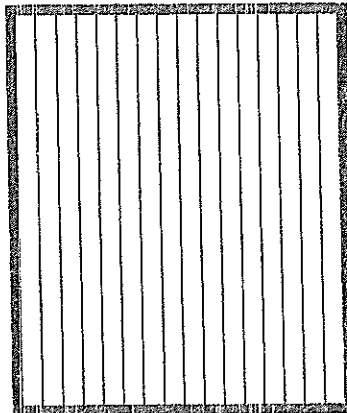
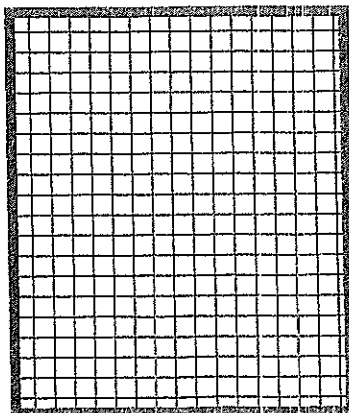
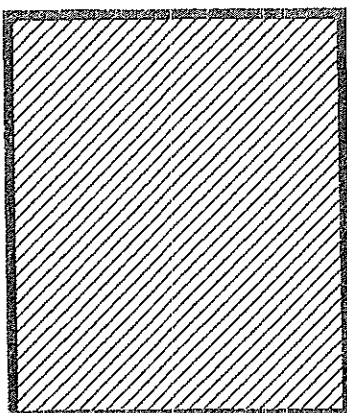
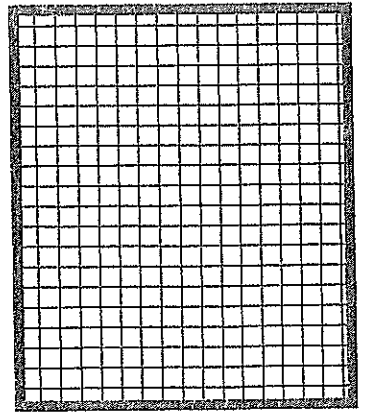
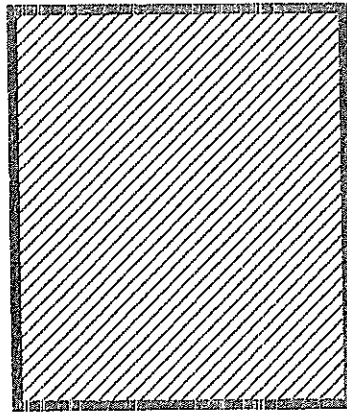
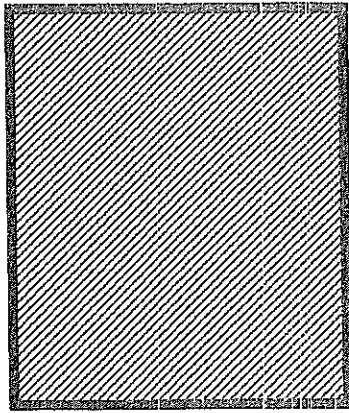
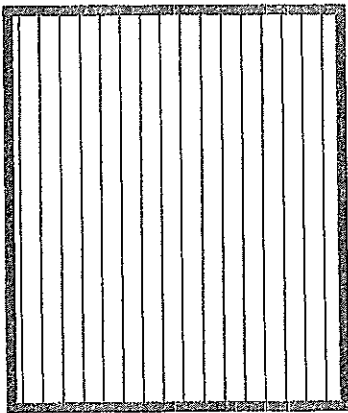
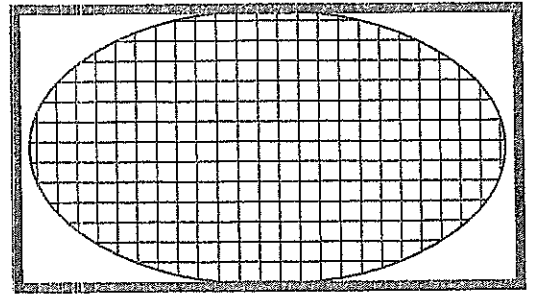
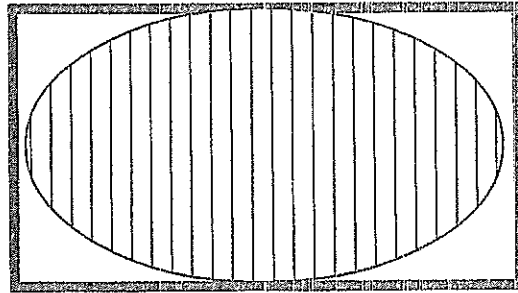
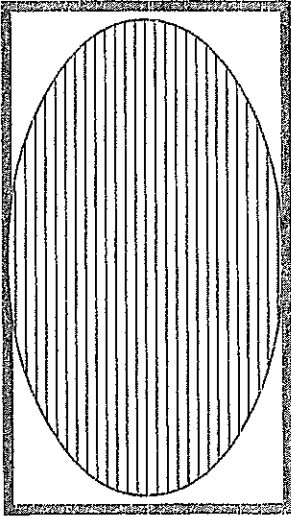
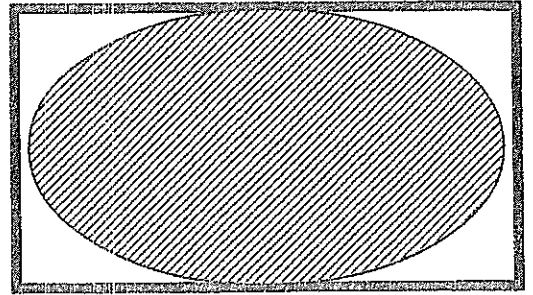
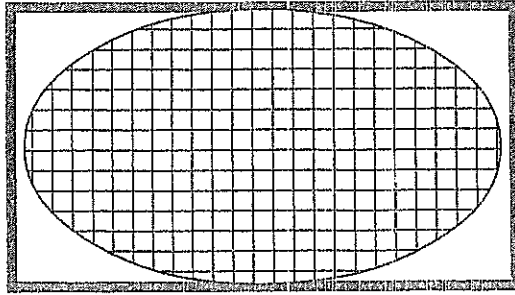
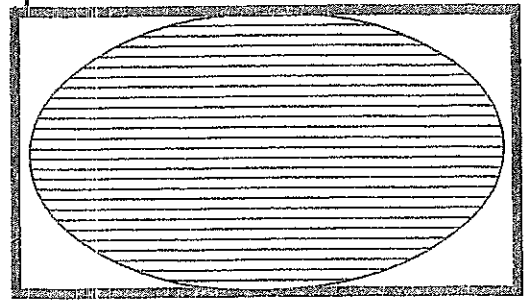
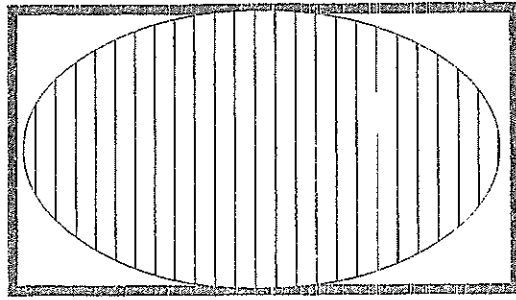
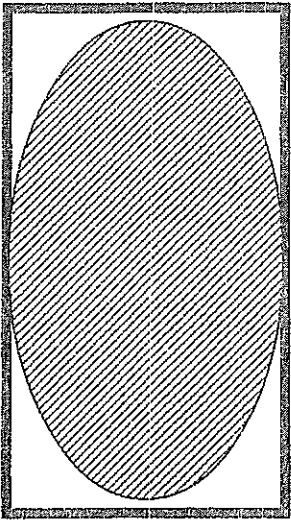
1. Encourage children to tell a story about their caterpillar. Older children may enjoy taking turns telling parts of the story. Have one child start a story. After the first child has said a few sentences, ask the second child to tell what happened next in the story. After the second child has stated 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.

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

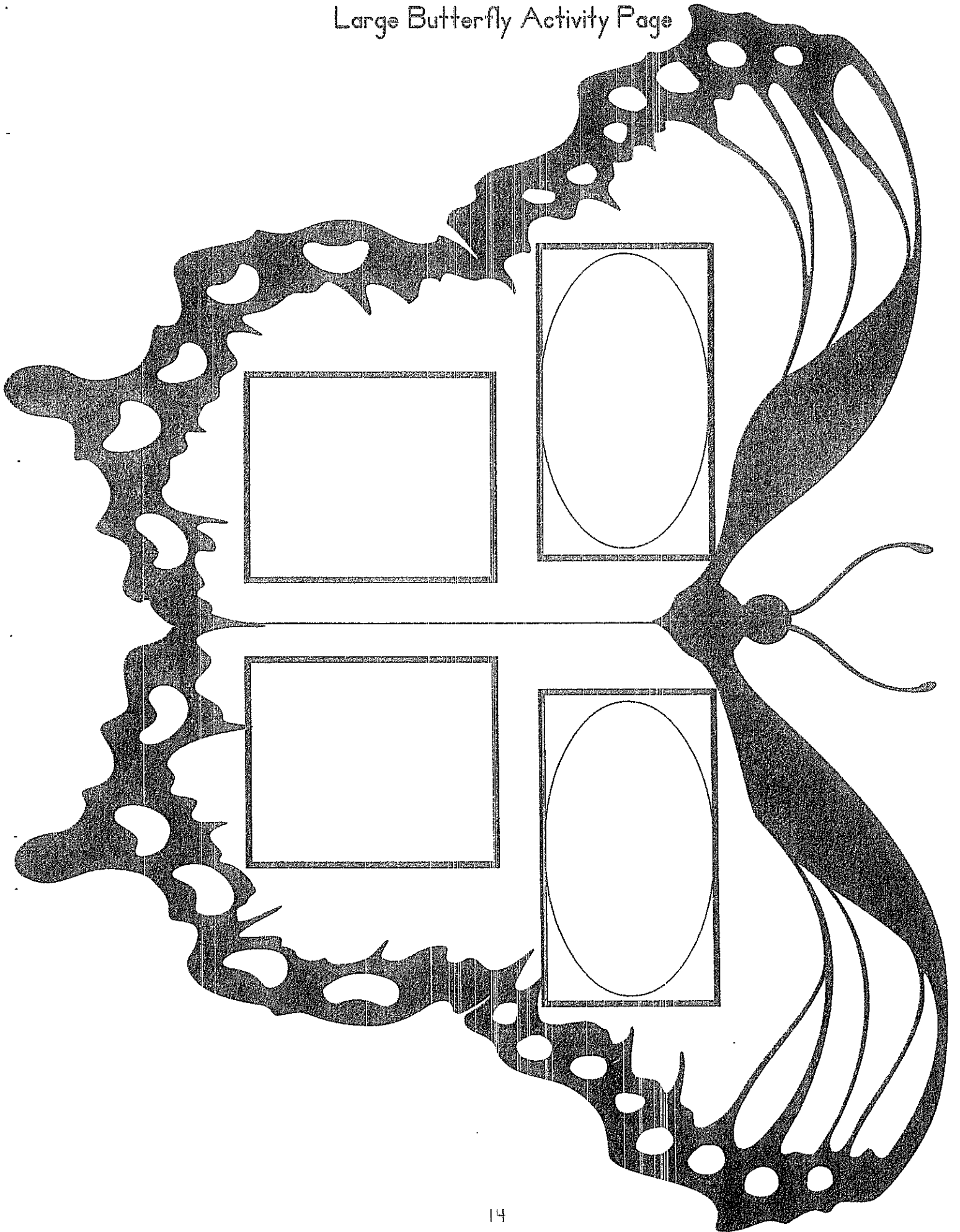
Grid Activity Page



Patterns Activity Page



Large Butterfly Activity Page



Activity 5 – Butterfly Collection

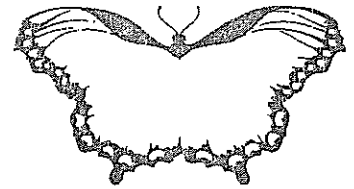
A collection is a group of items that have something in common. Almost anything can be part of a collection. Collections can be made from things you find, things you buy, or things people give you.

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



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.

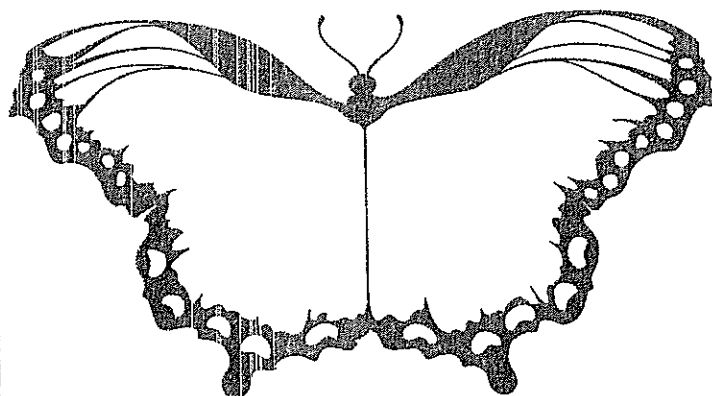
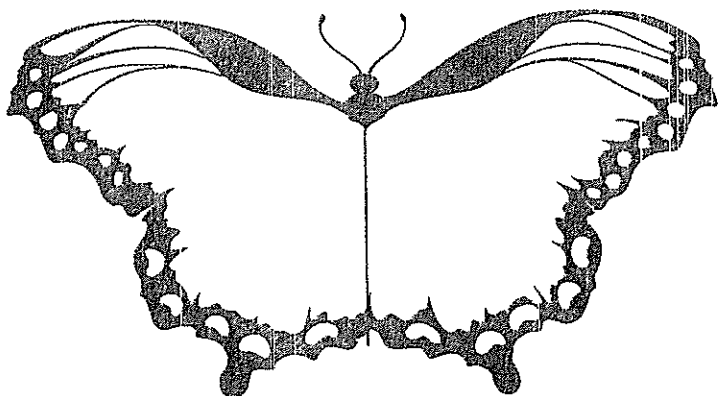
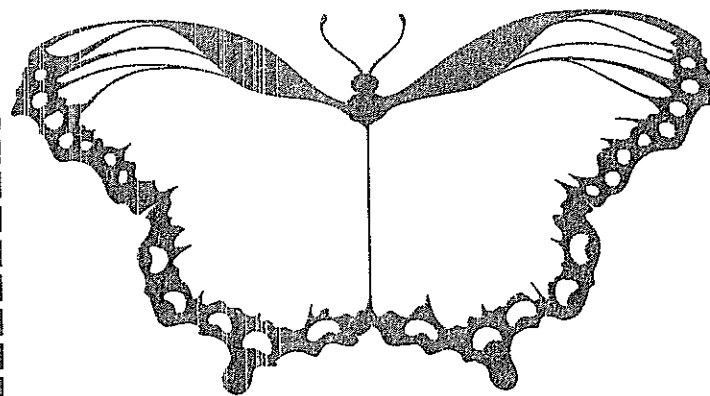
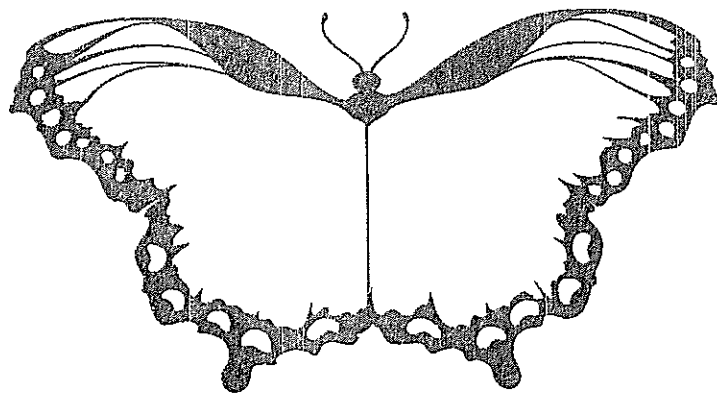
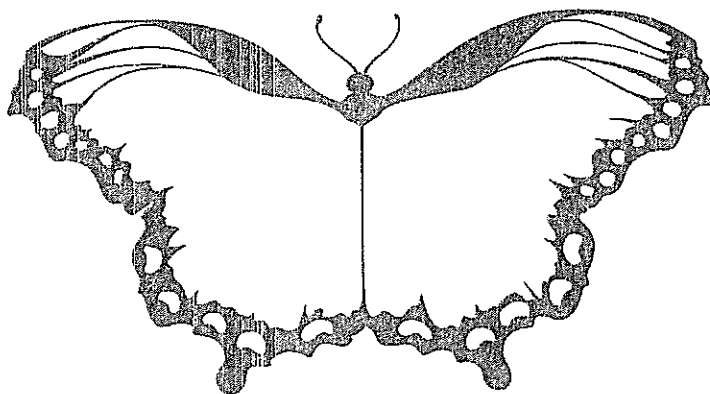
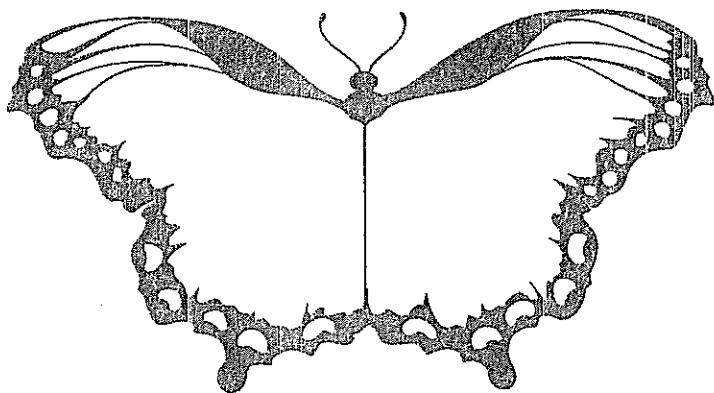
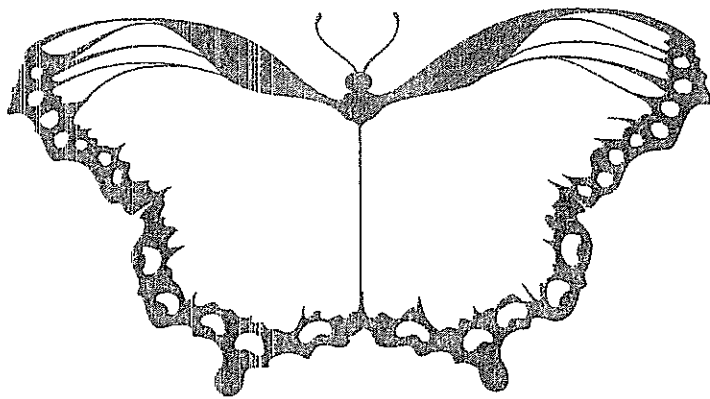
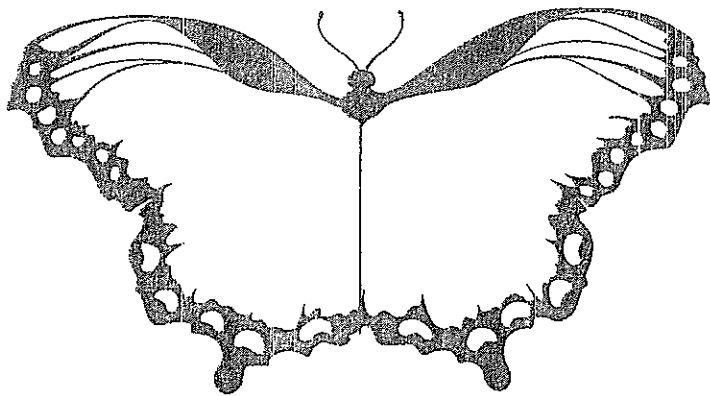
Things to talk about:

Color, letters in color names.

STRETCHERS

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

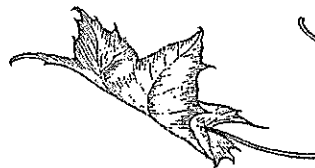
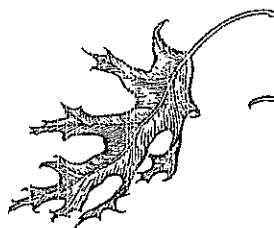
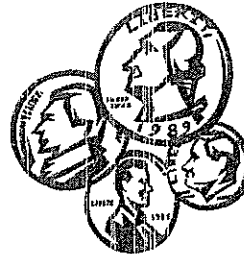
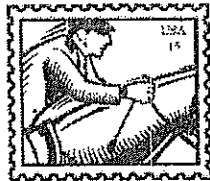
LEAVES

STICKERS

COINS

SHELLS

TOYS



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.

Room 1: Round Things		Room 2: Blue Things

Which room had the largest group of things? _____

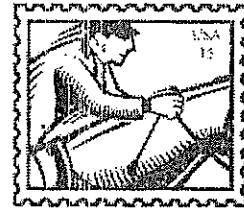
Which group had the funniest things in it? _____

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? _____

How to Begin My Collection

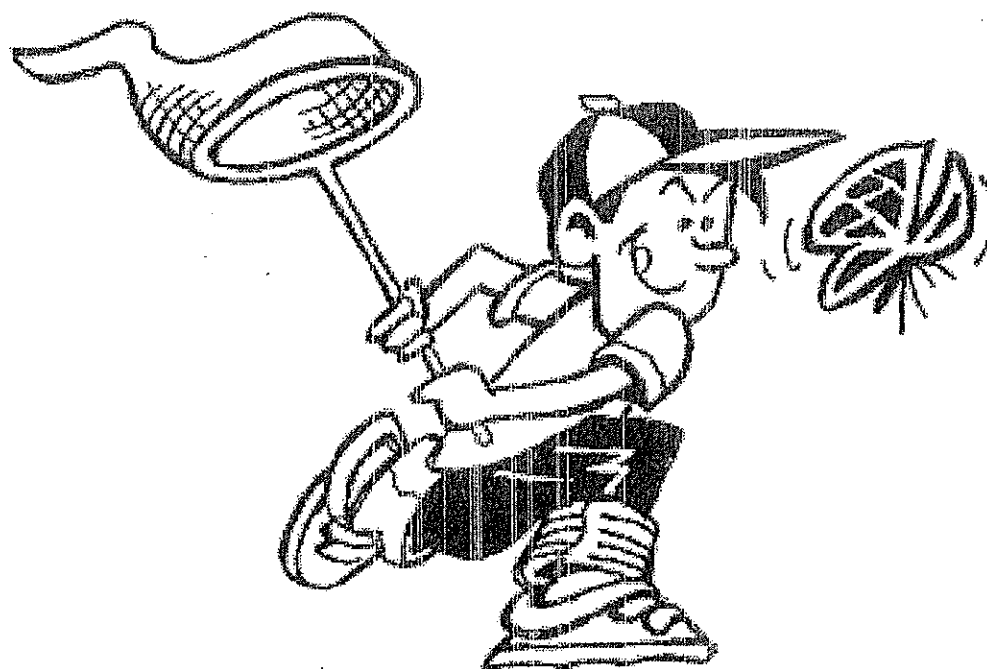
The fun thing about collecting is you can collect anything you want. There is not a right or wrong collection.

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?



What to Exhibit

This is a list of project activities that can be shown at the 4-H Fair or other places. Pick a project activity you would like to try. You do not have to make them in any order. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office. There are people there who can help you.

- Collect and exhibit 5 items or 5 pairs of items. If you take a collection to the fair more than one year, add 5 more articles to your collection each year.
 - These articles can be rocks, coins, insects, salt-and pepper-shakers, pencils, or any kind of fun collection.
 - Attach a card that tells what you are collecting and why you collected the items.
- Go to a museum and look around at the collection of things.
 - Draw a picture of the collection you liked best.
 - Try to find out why museums collect stuff. List some things that they collect.
 - Ask someone who works at a museum how they get things for their collections.
 - What is the most unusual collection you saw?
(If a museum is not in your home area, try the library.)
- Talk to family and friends. Ask them what they like to collect and why they like to collect it. Then make a chart to show your information.
- Make a project activity as a group and take it to the fair to show the kinds of things your group has been doing.
- Make a scrapbook of pictures showing your group having fun while making the project activities in this manual.

For information on when to take your project activity to the Fair and where it needs to go, please contact your Extension Office.

More Places to Look

Amazing Butterflies and Moths (Eyewitness Juniors, No. 9) (Knopf, 1991) by John Still and Jerry Young is a book of facts and photographs of butterflies and moths.

Collecting by Bonnie Dobkin and Rick Hackney (Children's Press, 1993) is a book about a collector talking about many things that have been collected.

Cache of Jewels and Other Collective Nouns (Grosset & Dunlap, 1987) by Ruth Heller is a book about the names given to groups of things.

Jelly Beans for Sale (Scholastic, 1996) by Bruce McMillan shows different amounts of money and what it will buy.

Joshua James Likes Trucks (Children's Press, 1982) by Catherine Petrie is about a boy that loves all kinds of trucks.

Moonbear's Books (Simon & Schuster, 1993) by Frank Asch is about a bear that loves all kinds of books.

