

Kindergarten MINI 4-H Gardening



Hi! Welcome to Mini 4-H and the Mini 4-H Gardening Project. You are going to have a great time this year as you learn about vegetables.

Before you begin this project, please read the helpful information listed on the next two pages.

Good luck on your project and, most of all, have fun!

INSTRUCTIONS

Before you start working on this project, please read these instructions with an adult or 4-H member who will be helping you.

1. Read the Exhibit Requirements, Note to Parents, Helpful Hints, and Project Goals.
2. You should begin working on your project when you get this manual.
3. Be proud of your project if you have done the best you can do.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Read this project book.
2. Exhibit a notebook containing pictures of 5-10 labeled vegetables. Also include seeds for growing each of the vegetables, completed growing discovery guide from the manual and a picture of your garden if possible in the notebook.

NOTE TO PARENTS

4-H is proud to be considered a "family affair." While it is expected that the 4-H member will actively complete his or her own project, please offer encouragement and guidance to your child throughout the project. Keep in mind that your child's exhibit is to be an exhibit of his or her best effort. Most importantly, take time to enjoy 4-H with your child.

HELPFUL HINTS

Each 4-H family should view a current copy of the Washington County 4-H Handbook. This book contains information on 4-H activities, rules and projects. Whenever you have 4-H related questions, please consult this information book.

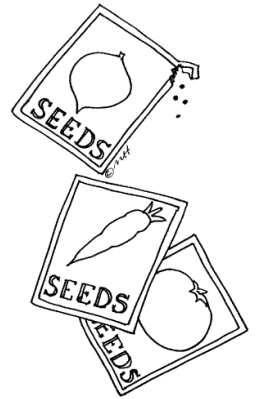
Monthly 4-H Newsletters will be made available to families. Please read these Newsletters. They will contain information on upcoming 4-H activities, rule or project updates, and 4-H fair information.

Mini 4-H members are encouraged to attend 4-H Club meetings. At these meetings, you will learn more about 4-H, make new friends, and have fun.

PROJECT GOALS

Given the information in this manual and the help of an adult or older 4-H member you will complete an exhibit in the Mini Garden Project.

Gardening is a lot of fun - especially when your whole family is involved. When you and your family plant your garden this summer, choose at least one vegetable that was started from seed and watch it grow over the summer. As you watch it grow record (write down) data (information) on your growing discovery guide located on the next page.



Not only are vegetables fun to grow, they are important to our body. They provide us with vitamins that our body needs to grow, to have good eyes so that we can see in the dark, to have smooth, healthy skin, and strong blood vessels and gums. Vitamins from vegetables help to heal cuts and sores and fight infections. They also contain fiber which helps your intestines digest the food you eat. We eat different parts of the vegetables. Vegetables are plants that have roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and seeds.

Roots - Carrots, Beats

Stem - Celery

Flower - Broccoli, Cauliflower

Seeds - Peas, Beans

Leaves - Lettuce, Spinach

Just For Fun:

Question: What has ears, but can't hear?

Answer: A stalk of corn.

Question: Why did the corn stalk get mad at the farmer?

Answer: Because he kept pulling its ears.

Question: Why shouldn't you tell secrets on a farm?

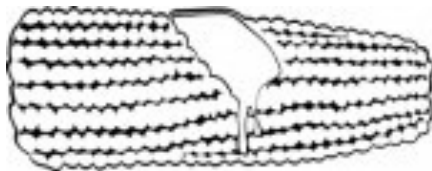
Answer: Because the corn has ears, the potatoes have eyes and the beanstalk.

Question: What is an astronomer's favorite vegetable?

Answer: Capri-corn-on-the-cob

Question: Row after row of neat kernels in place.
Eat me too fast and they'll cover your face. What am I?

Answer: Corn on the cob.



Growing Discovery Guide

This guide will help you learn about how plants grow. Watch one or more vegetables from your family's garden and fill out this form.

Name of Plant _____

Date Planted _____

Number of
Seeds Planted _____

Date Plant
Appeared _____

Height of plant
in 1 month _____

Height of plant
in 2 months _____

MAKING YOUR NOTEBOOK



Follow these instructions:

1. Cut out color pictures of vegetables from magazines, seed packets, etc.

2. Choose the best 5 - 10 pictures and label each one with the name of the vegetable.

3. Get a few seeds of each vegetable that you chose.

4. Attach pictures, labels, and seeds to pages in your notebook. Arrange them creatively. You also need to place your Growing Discovery Guide in your notebook. If you have a picture of your garden, that would also be nice to include in your notebook. Be careful to let the glue dry before turning a page in your notebook. Or if possible take pages out of your notebook and allow to dry overnight before putting each sheet in the notebook. Give your notebook a title and decorate the cover. Leave room in the lower right hand corner for your exhibit tag. You will receive this tag at the fair.

Check List for Your Garden Exhibit

The judge will consider these things when they look at your exhibit. Can you answer "yes" to each question? Yes No

- 1. Are there 5 - 10 different pictures of vegetables?
- 2. Do each of the pictures have a label?
- 3. Did you include seeds for each type of vegetable?
- 4. Did you complete the growing discovery guide?
- 5. Is there a picture of your garden? (optional)
- 6. Is the notebook clean and neat in appearance?
- 7. Does your notebook have a title?

It is important that you get your exhibit to the fair on time. Check your 4-H Newsletter or ask your 4-H Club leader when your Mini Gardening project exhibit needs to be checked-in at the 4-H Fair. Write that information here and on your family calendar.

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