

Check List for Your Photography Exhibit

The judge will consider these things when they look at your exhibit. Can you answer "yes" to each question?

Yes No

1. Does your poster measure 14"x22"? _____
2. Is the poster displayed horizontally?(short & wide) _____
3. Is the poster covered with plastic? _____
4. Are the right number of pictures included on the poster? _____
5. Are your photos clear and interesting? _____
6. Is the poster clean and neat in appearance? _____
7. Does your poster have a title? _____
8. Does your poster have room for an entry tag in the lower right corner? _____
9. Did you number your photos? _____

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 Photography project exhibit needs to be checked-in at the 4-H Fair. Write that information here and on your family calendar.

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

MINI 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grades



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

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

Read this project book.

Kindergarten – Exhibit 4 color pictures on a poster.
Number photo prints 1-4.

1st Grade – Exhibit 5 color pictures on a poster.
Number photo prints 1-5.

2nd Grade – Exhibit 6 color pictures on a poster.
Number photo prints 1-6.

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

4. Attach pictures to your poster. Arrange them creatively. The pictures must be neatly and securely mounted. Scrapbooking adhesive or rubber cement can be used. Photo corners are not satisfactory as the pictures come out and become lost.
5. Number each photo.
6. Give your exhibit a title and leave room in the lower right hand corner for the entry tag. Let your poster dry overnight.
7. Cover your poster. You may purchase a plastic cover from the Extension Office or wrap your poster with clear plastic which is heavy enough not to wrinkle. **DO NOT USE PLASTIC FOOD WRAP.** The plastic should be a little larger than your poster so you can wrap the edges tightly around the back of the poster and tape them down with duct tape.
8. Bring the poster to the 4-H Fair and turn it in.

*Foam Core Board & Plastic Cover Sleeves are available to purchase at the Extension Office.

Your Photography Exhibit

Kindergarten – Exhibit 4 color pictures on a poster.
Number photo prints 1-4.

1st Grade – Exhibit 5 color pictures on a poster.
Number photo prints 1-5.

2nd Grade – Exhibit 6 color pictures on a poster.
Number photo prints 1-6.

PROCESSING YOUR PICTURES

You will need to print out your photos on a computer or take them to a processor.

SELECTING YOUR PICTURES

When selecting photographs to display for your 4-H project, consider choosing pictures that follow a theme, pictures that are related. For example, zoo animals, flowers, old barns, friends, sports, vacation activities, etc. You will probably want to take several different pictures so you can select your best ones to exhibit.



MAKING YOUR POSTER

1. Using your camera, take a variety of color pictures.
2. Choose the best 4 pictures for Kindergarten, 5 pictures for 1st Grade, and 6 pictures for 2nd Grade.
3. Your poster needs to measure 14" x 22" (14" tall and 22" wide) and needs to have a stiff backing. (You may use a piece of foam core board in place of the poster and backing.)

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.

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 Photography Project.

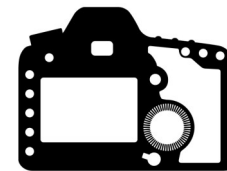
HELPFUL HINTS

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.

The Mini 4-H Photography Project is designed to assist you in learning the basics about your camera. Use a camera that is simple and easy to use. For example a simple camera which has no adjustments or an automatic camera that does the adjusting itself would be your best choices.



TAKING THE PICTURE SUBJECTS

After choosing a camera you need to make decisions about what pictures you will be taking. A subject is what you are taking a picture of. You can take pictures of anything - people, pets, buildings, nature, etc.



Before you shoot, make sure you like all the different things that appear in the viewfinder (the part of the camera you look through). Not just the way your subject looks, but the knickknacks on the shelf in the background or the guy on the bench in front of the monument you're trying to capture. By all means, experiment with different angles. Straight on is not always the best approach. You will surprise yourself when you go with a creative impulse.

BACKGROUND

Your background is as important as your subject, especially indoors. If you place your subject against a light or bright backdrop (a colorful drape, wall or furniture), the flash will illuminate the scene evenly. This will eliminate dark areas in your picture. Don't try to include too much in your shot.

The more your subject fills the frame, the better detail and expression you will get. A background should enhance the photo but should not steal the show from your subject. Before taking any shot, even a quick candid, take a split second to frame your shot within the viewfinder. Can you see the dirty dishes in the sink? Is Dad's size 13 foot sticking into the edge of the shot? "Clean up" the surroundings of your shot before you shoot.

LIGHTING

Lighting is one of the trickiest things to successfully master. There are a few things to keep in mind to make your pictures come out their best. Avoid backlit situations. A bright light source from behind your subject may cause an underexposed photograph (a photo that is too light). Stay within flash range. Check your instruction book to find the flash range for your camera. Four to six feet is a good distance for portraits. Anything closer could result in a washed-out picture. Anything farther can result in overall darkness. Use the flash indoors, but be aware that a bright light somewhere in the scene (from a lamp, etc.) could fool the camera into setting the wrong exposure. Move in closer to your subject to eliminate unwanted light. Always try to keep the scene evenly lit.

BLURRING

There are a lot of reasons a shot could come out blurry. Some are easier to explain than others. All can be eliminated. Are you too close? Are you too far away? Remember to stay within 4-6 feet from your subject. Did you move the camera? Be sure to hold your camera steady and push the button down easy when taking a picture so the camera doesn't move. Use a flash for indoor pictures or for outdoor pictures in low light. Did the subject move? Is focus set improperly? Many of our cameras have an autofocus will pick up on any object that's between you and the subject you're shooting. Eliminate objects in between to be sure you're focused on what you want to focus on.