



Mini 4-H

FLOWER & GARDEN



**An Introduction to 4-H
for Youth in Grades K – 2**

Credit to Elkhart County Mini 4-H



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



Welcome to *Mini 4-H*! You are now a member of the Whitley County 4-H family! We hope that you will have lots of fun learning new things in your 4-H career.

Mini 4-H is designed for youth in Kindergarten through Second grade. It will give you a taste of the 4-H program as well as help you to explore a variety of project areas.

This manual contains fun, age appropriate activities to complete throughout the 4-H year. These activities will help you to learn about the project you have chosen. Additionally, the manual contains all instructions for the exhibit you will be preparing for the Whitley County 4-H Fair in July.

There is no competition in the *Mini 4-H* program. Each child who completes a project for the Fair will receive the same completion ribbon. Leaders will give each project comment sheets, they are provided only as a way to help you do your very best on future projects.

Mini 4-H will meet January through June. Try to attend as many workshops as you can they are planned especially for YOU! These will give you a chance to meet the leaders, have some hands-on fun, and ask questions about your important Fair display. *Mini 4-H* is FUN! You will enjoy it.

Once you enter the third grade you can join a regular 4-H club that meets monthly. You must enroll each year of your 4-H career.

If you have questions about the *Mini 4-H* program, please call the Purdue Cooperative Extension Office at 260-244-7615. We will be happy to answer your questions.

As a Mini 4-H parent, please help guide and encourage your child through the activities. Work with them to help them to “learn by doing”. Activities are designed to help your child learn about the project they have chosen. It is not required that they complete all the activities. Choose those that interest you and your child



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

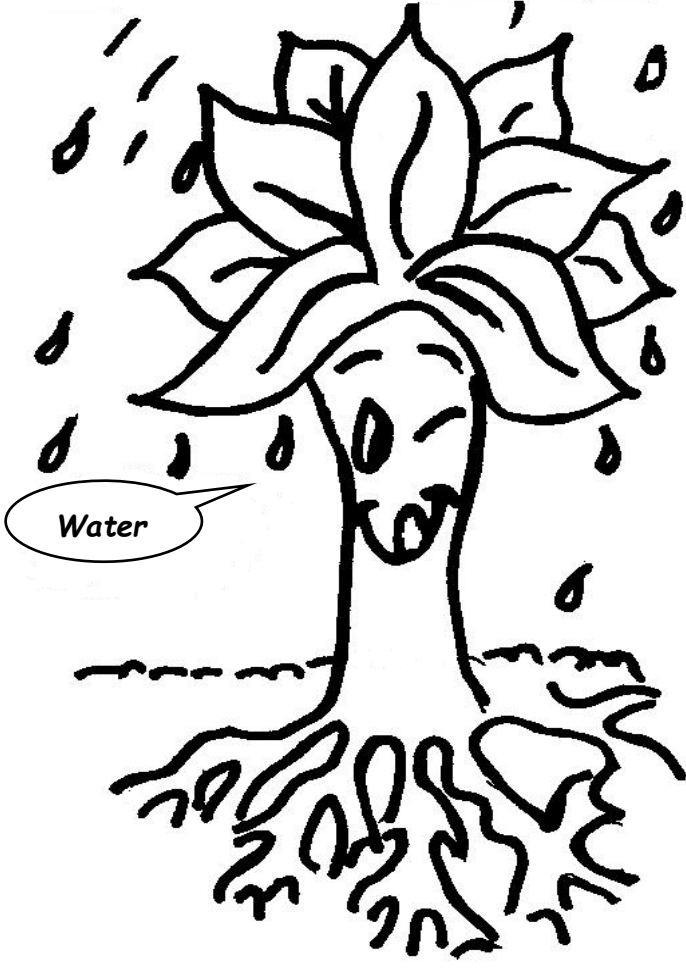
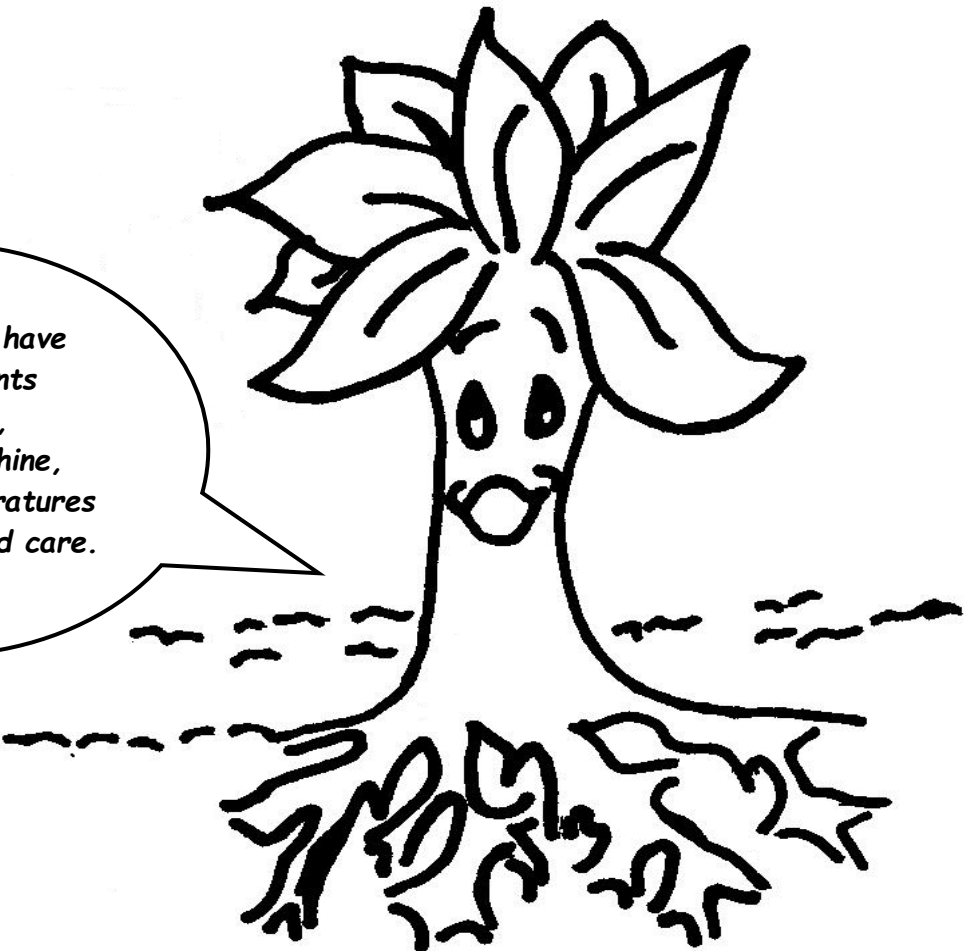
What you will do:

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



www.coloring-pages-kids.com

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



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 | 2 clean plastic bags | 8 – 10 bean |
| seeds | | |
| water | 2 paper towels | chart |
| ruler | | |



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 placed 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? _____

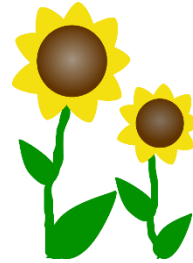


ACTIVITY 4 – DIFFERENT FLOWERS

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
beets
broccoli
cabbage
cantaloupes
watermelon
peas
cauliflower
cucumbers



eggplant
green beans
lettuce
onions

squash
sweet corn
tomatoes
turnips
peppers
carrots
zucchini
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. ____





What to Exhibit

Flower & Garden

Kindergarten: Grow 1 flower bloom and display in a small plastic bottle or vegetable displayed on paper plate. Attach a picture of your item.

1st Grade: Grow 2 flower blooms and display in a small plastic bottle or 2 vegetables displayed on paper plate. Attach a picture of your item.

2nd Grade: Grow a plant or herb in a 4" pot. (Be sure the pot has a base under it for watering)

NOTE: All produce will be donated to a local charity. That is why picture needed for exhibit during fair.

- **Record Sheet**
- **Exhibit Tag (attached to container)**

Exhibit Tag:

<p style="text-align: center;">Mini 4-H</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Township _____</p> <p>Grade _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Flower & Garden</p>

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Mini 4-H Flower & 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 (*date*)? _____

Did you enjoy working in the garden? _____