



# Mini 4-H

# RECYCLING



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



## 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 a Recycling?**

The collection and reprocessing of manufactured materials for remanufacture, either in the same form or as part of a different product.

### **Activity 1 – I Can Recycle**

Materials: “I Can Recycle” notebook  
Stapler  
Glue  
Crayons

Small samples or pictures of recyclable items

Collect small pictures (from magazines, coupons, newspapers) or small samples (pieces of cardboard or newspaper) of recyclable items. Let the children choose which picture to place on each page. Cut out and glue the picture into the book.



### **Activity 2 – Action Games and Toys**

#### **Wee Bowling**

Materials:

Plastic two-liter soda bottles or half-gallon milk bottles

Rubber ball

Procedure:

1. Let the children decide how to set-up the bottles and determine a line behind which to stand.
2. Children should take turns rolling the ball at the bottles to see how many they can knock down.

## **Bat and Ball**

### Materials:

Several sheets of newspaper

Balloon

Tape

### Procedure:

1. Roll together several sheets of newspaper to form a bat. Secure loose ends with tape.
2. Blow up the balloon to use as a ball.
3. Use the paper bat to keep the balloon floating in the air.

## **Cap Toss**

### Materials:

5-20 plastic caps (from plastic soda, milk, juice, bottles and jars)

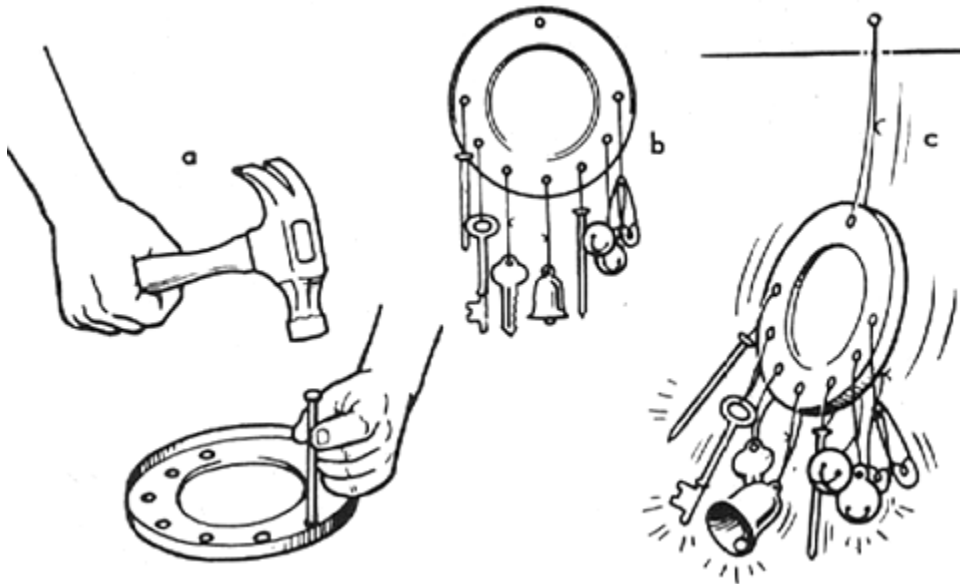
Paper grocery bag

Meter-stick or long piece of string to make a line to stand behind

### Procedure:

1. Stand an open paper bag on the floor and fold down the top. Place a book in the bottom of the bag to keep it from falling over.
2. Make a line on the floor a few feet from the bag. Everyone must stand behind this line when tossing the caps.
3. Toss one cap at a time. See how many you can get into the bag.
4. When all the caps have been thrown, count how many you got into the bag.
5. Gather the caps and try again. Make a chart to keep track of how many make it into the bag

### Activity 3 – Wind Chime Making Wind Bells



**To make this special type of wind chimes, you will need:**

1 coffee can lid; hammer and nail; about 4 yd. heavy thread or lightweight colored string; an assortment of seven metal objects such as old keys, small bells, and 3" nails. With hammer and nail (*and parental supervision or assistance*) punch holes in coffee can lid as shown in sketch a.

\*Cut the heavy thread or string in varying lengths and tie the metal objects to the lid.

\*Do this in such a way that the objects will jingle against each other or the lid and sound like bells when jostled by the wind.

\*Tie a 12" length of string to the top of the lid as shown in sketch c and suspend set of wind bells in an open window, on the porch, etc.

## **Activity 4 –Crayon Picture**

**CAUTION:** This activity involves melting crayons. Melted crayon wax may be hot to the touch. Adult supervision is required.

### **Materials Needed:**

1 canvas board  
Crayola Crayons  
Hairdryer  
Recycled newspaper or drop cloth to protect work surface  
Double-sided foam tape

### **Preparing Your Workspace**

1. Find an appropriate workspace, preferably one where you can be a bit messy. Most garages or work rooms will do.
2. Set up near an electrical outlet as a handheld hairdryer is needed for this activity.
3. Cover your work surface with recycled newspaper, a paper bag or a drop cloth.

### **Melting Crayons**

4. Use double-sided foam tape to attach the Crayola Crayons to the canvas board.
5. Prop up your canvas so that melting crayon wax drips down the canvas board.
6. Gently warm the crayons with the hairdryer held 1 to 3 inches away from the crayons. The wax will slowly begin to melt and drip down the canvas. Be sure to point the hairdryer's air flow at the canvas in a downward angle—not straight on—to avoid unwanted splatters. (Be careful! Melted crayon wax can be hot to the touch.)
7. Continue melting the crayons until you have achieved the desired effect. Allow the wax to cool completely before handling the canvas.

Your project is complete!

## **Activity 5 – T Shirt Bag**

### **Supplies:**

Old t-shirt – The thicker the fabric, the sturdier the bag  
Sharp scissors, preferably fabric scissors  
Washable marker (optional)

### **Directions:**

#### **Step 1: Cut the sleeves off**

If you'd like to fold the t-shirt in half you can cut both sleeves at once so that they are identical. Or, if your material is too thick to cut them both at once, you can cut one, then fold it in half and use the cut side as a guide for the next sleeve.

#### **Step 2: Cut the neckline area**

Turn the shirt inside out and place half of a bowl on the neckline. Now trace the outline of a bowl you will end up with a half circle line around the neck of you shirt. Then cut along this line.

#### **Step 3: Determine how deep you want the bag to be**

If you haven't already turned your t-shirt inside out, do it now. Determine where you want the bottom of the bag to be and trace a line across. Keep in mind that depending on the fabric used, your tote is likely stretch and become longer when it's filled with stuff.

#### **Step 4: Cut fringe**

Now grab your scissors and cut slits from the bottom of the shirt up to the line marking the bottom of your bag. You'll want to cut both the front and back layers together because they need to match up for the next step.

Cut my slits about 3/4 to 1 inch apart.

#### **Step 5: Tie Fringe**

Okay, this is going to sound really complicated, but it's NOT, promise. Take your first pair of fringe and tie it into a knot, then tie two more pairs. Now if you lift your bag you'll see that although the pairs are pulling the bag together, there's a hole between each pair. This next step will close those holes. Now take 3 sets of fringe that have been



tied in knots. Take one strand from the middle set and tie it in a knot with one of the strands on the left set. Then take the other strand from the middle set and tie it in a knot with one of the strands on the right set. Then take the remaining strand on the right set and tie it to the next set of strands, and so on and so forth until all the strands are tied. Now turn your t-shirt right side out again and voila, you're done!

### **Activity 6- Bird Feeder**

#### **Materials needed:**

Toilet Paper Rolls  
Sturdy sticks, 2 per roll, 6-8 inches long  
Bird seed  
Peanut Butter  
String or ribbon  
A Hole Punch

#### **\*Homemade Bird Feeder Craft\***

#### **Here's how to make it:**

##### **Homemade Bird Feeder Craft Instructions**

- 1.** Punch 2 holes in one side of the toilet paper roll, aligning them evenly across from each other. This will be used to tie the string for hanging.
- 2.** Punch 4 holes into the opposite end of the toilet paper roll, align them evenly. This is for the sticks that the birds will perch on. Try to put one set a little higher than the other so the sticks can be pushed through without issue.
- 3.** Insert the 2 sticks into each hole, going in one side and out the other in the corresponding hole. Wiggle and push in sticks gently, you don't want the holes to rip or get too loose. The sticks might fall out!
- 4.** Center each stick, they should be crossing each other like an intersection and should stick out enough for a bird to perch on.

**5.** Next, holding the lower part of the feeder below the sticks, you'll spread a light layer of peanut butter on the upper part of the toilet paper roll and cover in bird seed. We used the back of a spoon to slather on the peanut butter and pressed in the bird seed all around it. Careful not to cover your holes at the top, you'll clog them with peanut butter and you need them for the next step!

**6.** Cut string to your desired length. Tie your string to the top of the bird feeder through the two holes you cut in step 1 to make it hangable. Now you are ready to hang your homemade bird feeder craft and admire!



## What to Exhibit *Recycling*

**Kindergarten:** "I Can Recycle" Notebook or poster (activity 1)

**1<sup>ST</sup> Grade:** Wind Chime

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** T-shirt bag or bird feeder



**Exhibit Tag:**

<h1>Mini 4-H</h1>
Name _____
Township _____
Grade _____
<h2>Recycling</h2>

-----cut here-----

### Mini 4-H Recycling Record Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Have you recycled before? \_\_\_\_\_

With whom have you shared what you learned about recycling?

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Who helped you with your recycling? \_\_\_\_\_

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What did you learn about recycling? \_\_\_\_\_

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