

Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating



Mini 4-H Helper's Page

Welcome to the Johnson County 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. Most children will choose to exhibit their project 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.

Please help the child to bring their Mini 4-H project to the fairgrounds during the designated Mini 4-H judging time. Each exhibit will need a Mini 4-H exhibit tag and their Mini 4-H Project Record Sheet. Mini 4-H exhibits are non-competitive meaning they all receive a special Mini 4-H blue ribbon. Once the fair is over, be sure to pick up the project during 4-H Project Release.

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 Purdue Extension Johnson County at **317-736-3724**.

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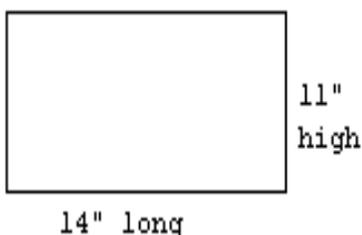
Mini 4-H Program Rules

The Mini 4-H program is designed to supplement and introduce kindergarten, first, and second graders to the Johnson County 4-H program.

RULES

1. Mini 4-H is open to any boy or girl who is enrolled in kindergarten, first, or second grade on January 1st of the current 4-H year.
2. Any Kindergartener may enroll in one (1) project.
Any first grader may enroll in one (1) or two (2) projects.
Any second grader may enroll in one (1) to four (4) projects.
3. Mini 4-H members are enrolled in the Mini Clovers 4-H Club, which is led by the Extension Educator & Volunteers. Meetings are not required, the project(s) will be done at home.
4. Mini 4-H projects include: Arts & Crafts, Bugs, Cookie Decorating, Collections, Flowers, Foods, Forestry, Horse & Pony, Livestock, Models, Sewing, Small Animals, and Wildlife.
5. Enrollment of Mini 4-H begins October 1st.
6. **ALL POSTER EXHIBITS MUST:**
 - A. Have a solid, stiff backing, which is 11" high by 14" wide.
This can be 1/4" plywood, HEAVY cardboard, foam board, or masonite.

Exception: Wildlife poster is 11"x 22".



- B. Be positioned **HORIZONTALLY**.
- C. Have a total exhibit board no larger than 11" high by 14" wide.
(Wildlife- 11"x 22")
- D. Be completely **COVERED BY A CLEAR PLASTIC** material.

Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating Requirements

Kindergarteners, First and Second Graders - You will exhibit three (3) cookies. Bring them to the judging on a throw away 9” plate. Make sure to cover your exhibit with plastic. You must also fill out the project tag and record sheet (both are included in this book).

- Grade K - Cookies must have frosting. Add sprinkles and/or candy on top. No design is needed for this division.
- Grade 1 - Cookies must have frosting. Add sprinkles and or/candy on top of each one to make a design. (i.e. cookie covered with frosting and heart made of M & M's). They do not have to be the same so have fun.
- Grade 2 - Cookies must have frosting, smooth on top. Must have border, and a design made of either frosting and/or candy. You may use tips to make your design/border. They do not have to be the same so have fun.

NAME _____
GRADE (as of January 1) _____
SCHOOL _____

Mini 4-H'ers Page

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things, which you can share with your family and friends.

Here are some things to know about 4-H:

The 4-H Symbol: A four leaf clover with a "H" on each leaf

The 4-H Colors: The 4-H colors are green and white. The four-leaf clover is green and the "H" in the leaf is white.

The 4-H Motto: "To make the best better."

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,

I promise to use my head to make good choices.

My **HEART** to greater loyalty,

I promise to use my heart to be a good friend.

My **HANDS** to larger service,

I promise to use my hands to do helpful things for others.

And my **HEALTH** to better living,

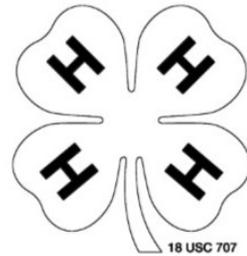
I promise to take care of my body and to show others to live in a healthy way.

For my club, my community,

I promise to help my group, my community,

My country, and my world.

my country, and my world be happy and safe for everyone.



Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating

If you like to help in the kitchen, then you have chosen the perfect 4-H project. In this project you can use techniques to add a special touch to cookies.

Decorated cookies can make a birthday or holiday more festive and extra special because it is from you. Maybe you would like to plan a party and you have your own ideas for the refreshments. There are so many decorations you can use.

Cake decorating starts with baking your cookies and frosting them. Decorations on top of your cookies tell something about whom it is for and what you might like.

You are going to have so much fun decorating your cookies and everyone will be so proud of you and want one.

Let's pick up some supplies and start having fun!



Supplies You Need Include:

Cookies

- Store bought
- or basic sugar cookie recipe

Frosting

- store bought
- or recipe in book
- any color or flavor



Sprinkles

- any color
- any shape

Decorating bag, tip & coupler - Grade 2 (optional)

- 8 in. professional decorating bag
- Coupler
- Tips: # 18 star, zig-zag
- #4 printing, writing or lines
- #352 leaves
- #104 rose bud

Basic Butter Cream Frosting

1/2 cup shortening (Crisco)

1 lb. confectioner's sugar

1/8 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. vanilla

1/2 cup water

Mix with a hand mixer. This may be thick so you can add water to thin it. If it is too soft add powdered sugar (a little at a time).

This icing will be white but if you want an ivory color use butter Crisco. Makes a very smooth and soft color. Icing will keep in the refrigerator for a long period of time if it is sealed tightly.

Decorating Ideas and Tips

1. Cookies should be completely cooled before you start to frost.
2. Smooth top using a spatula dipped in hot tap water. Dip your spatula and shake off water before putting it on your cookie.
3. Pastel colors are best to use when it is hot outside.
4. Drop flowers should always have a center. (Dot with a writing tip #4).
5. Paste coloring mixes better but you can use any coloring.
6. Never put decorated cookies in the refrigerator. If you do, when you take them out, they will sweat, fade and sometimes the frosting runs off and colors run together. After they are done, cover them with plastic. Please be careful not to smash your decorations.

Good Luck and Have Fun!

RECORD SHEET

MINI 4-H COOKIE DECORATING

Name _____ Grade _____

School Attending _____

Please complete and bring with Mini 4-H Exhibit.

I choose to exhibit _____.

I liked making _____

_____.

I learned _____

_____.

My favorite part of Mini 4-H this year was _____

_____.

List who helped you with the project _____
