

POSEY COUNTY

Mini 4-H Handbook



www.extension.purdue.edu/posey



Extension - Posey County

Table of Contents

Extension Office.....	1
4-H Pledge.....	2
Welcome to Mini 4-H.....	2
Non-Competitive Policy.....	3
Mini 4-H Meetings.....	3
Mini 4-H Safety Policy & Important Notices.....	3
Mini 4-H Project Descriptions & Exhibit Options.....	4
Mini 4-H Livestock Descriptions & Exhibit Options.....	6



PURDUE EXTENSION POSEY COUNTY OFFICE

126 E. Third St. Room 37; Mt. Vernon, IN 47620

Phone: 812-838-1331

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00AM-4:00PM (closed 12-1PM for lunch)

Web: www.extension.purdue.edu/posey

Facebook: facebook.com/purdueextension.poseycounty/

Enroll online at v2.4honline.com

4-H Youth Development Educator.....	Amanda Hoard (bender14@purdue.edu)
Health & Human Sciences Educator & CED.....	Kristen Lowry (klowry@purdue.edu)
Ag & Natural Resources Educator.....	Amy Rhodes (rhodes94@purdue.edu)
Nutrition Education Program Advisor.....	Tiffany Haug (thaug@purdue.edu)
NEP Community Wellness Coordinator.....	Lacy Wilson (wilso766@purdue.edu)
Office Manager.....	Laura DeShields (ldeshiel@purdue.edu)

I pledge...

my *head* to clearer thinking,
my *heart* to greater loyalty,
my *hands* to larger service, and
my *health* to better living for
my *club*, my *community*,
my *country*, and my *world*.



Welcome to Mini 4-H

Mini 4-H is a program for youth in grades K-2 that teaches youth by doing. Participate in activities during meetings, make new friends, have fun and exhibit a project at the Fair! This program helps develop an interest in continuing the 4-H program.

Who can join Mini 4-H?

Youth in grades K-2 as of January 1 of the current school year.

How do I enroll?

You can enroll online at v2.4honline.com. Or if you do not have access to internet, stop by the Purdue Extension Office to enroll. This manual will explain what projects you can exhibit at the Fair. Mini 4-H'ers are not limited on how many projects they can exhibit at the Fair. A description of exhibit options is provided in this handbook.

The enrollment fee for Mini 4-H'ers is free in Posey County.

Registration in 4HOnline by **May 15** is required.

What do I do with my exhibits?

You will bring your project exhibits to the project check-in before the Fair. This will take place the same time as the regular 4-H'ers check-in their projects. Check-in takes place on the Posey County Fairgrounds in the Exhibit Building. All exhibits receive a participation ribbon and will be displayed during the Posey County Fair. Project check-in does not require you to stay; you can drop off your project. Be sure to come to the Fair to see it on display!

Mini 4-H project exhibits will be released at the same time as the rest of the 4-H projects. Be sure to check the Clover Connection Newsletter for the most up-to-date release times. Please make special arrangements if you are not able to pick up during the check-out time. Any unclaimed projects at the conclusion of check-out will be discarded.

Mini 4-H Non-Competitive Policy

Mini 4-H is a program designed to encourage positive development of children, Kindergarten through second grade. The goal of Mini 4-H is to help young children explore friendships outside the family; explore the way in which things work; practice both small and large muscle control; and think about the ways people work together on projects.

The NON-COMPETITIVE learning environment for Mini 4-H includes:

1. Planned learning activities in which children are invited to be active and explore materials and ideas without the pressure of completing a specific product or exhibit.
2. Low adult/leader to child ratio that allows time for adults/leaders to provide individual, positive encouragement and assistance.
3. Simple, interesting activities that are fun.
4. Encouragement of children to participate in a group activity by sharing and or displaying their activity projects.
5. Rewards that are identical and/or ribbons of the same color for everyone.

DO NOT JUDGE projects, but instead discuss them with the child.

NOTE: Purdue University and the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program do not support, endorse, or encourage 4-H programming for children prior to Kindergarten. 4-H Youth Development Extension staff members and 4-H Volunteers may not offer, or encourage others to offer, programming for children prior to Kindergarten.

Equal Opportunity

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. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, contact the Extension Office at 812-838-1331 by one week prior to the meetings.

Mini 4-H Meetings

There will be two day camps held this year—one in February and one in May. Information is sent out once meeting dates and times are officially set. Be on the lookout via email or Facebook for updates.

Meetings are not mandatory. Mini 4-H'ers are also allowed to attend regular 4-H meetings.

Mini 4-H Safety Policy

Mini 4-H participants exhibiting animals that weigh more than 300 pounds MUST HAVE AN ADULT ASSISTANT WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE ANIMAL AT ALL TIMES, per Indiana 4-H policy.

Waivers must be signed prior to showing an animal. Waivers are available from the Extension Office. Signed animal liability waivers are due to the Extension Office by **May 15**. Mini 4-H'ers without a signed waiver will not be allowed to participate in animal shows at the Fair.

If the guidelines stated in this policy are not followed for a particular event or activity, then such event or activity shall not be considered to be a 4-H event or activity and shall not be under the responsibility of the Extension 4-H Educator or covered by Purdue University.

Mini 4-H'ers will only be allowed to exhibit and handle live animals after parents or guardians have signed a liability release. Posey County will offer Mini 4-H animal shows for Beef, Dairy, Meat Goats, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, Rabbits, Horse & Pony and Cat.

Mini 4-H Projects & Exhibit Options

Listed below is a brief description of the exhibit options for each project. You only exhibit one of the options listed for each project you choose. Note, all posters should be 22"x28".

Mini 4-H Aerospace (Rocketry)

Exhibit a model rocket or make a poster about aerospace. "Ready to Fly" or E2x rockets are not acceptable in the Mini 4-H Aerospace project.

Exhibit Options:

- Read a story about rockets or exploring space. Make a poster about what you learned.
- Watch the next live shuttle launch on tv or watch a video of the launch. Make a poster describing the launch.
- Make a model rocket out of craft materials.

Mini 4-H Arts & Crafts

Exhibit one of the following options:

- Painting
- Beaded Jewelry
- Decoupage
- Hand Print Art
- Drawing
- Craft Kit
- Gift Bag
- Homemade Christmas Ornament
- Any other craft you can think of!

Mini 4-H Cat Poster

Learn the responsibilities of caring for your dog. Exhibit one of the following options:

- A picture you have drawn of a cat
- A story you have written about a cat

- A poster about a cat

Mini 4-H Collections

Exhibit one of the following options. Note-collection should be exhibited in a Ziploc bag to be grouped for display.

- Collection of cars (Hotwheels, Matchbox, Models, etc.)
- Collection of dolls
- Collection of rocks
- Collection of stickers
- Any other collection that you may have!

Mini 4-H Dog Poster

Learn the responsibilities of caring for your dog. Exhibit one of the following options:

- A picture you have drawn of a dog
- A story you have written about a dog
- A poster about a dog

Mini 4-H Flowers or Garden

Exhibit one of the following exhibit options. Mini 4-H members are responsible for watering their own plants.

- One plant in a pot. You must take care of your plant for at least two months before the Fair.
- A plate with a maximum of three vegetables (home grown)
- Make a poster showing pictures of vegetables or flowers
- A plastic vase or a disposable jar with 1-3 flowers.

Mini 4-H Construction Toys

Mini 4-H member exhibits should be simple and kits may be used. Exhibits can be made of Legos or any brand of plastic snap-together or connecting pieces to complete your project. Decals and other materials are optional to use with your display.

Exhibit one of the following options:

- Make a simple “Lego” snap together project
- Make a poster with pictures of “Lego” projects that you have made or ones you would like to make
- Write a story about “Legos” with illustrations of Legos on a poster

Mini 4-H Pet Pals

Learn about the responsibilities of caring for your small pet. Exhibit one of the following options:

- A picture you have drawn of your pet
- A story you have written about your pet
- A poster about your pet

Mini 4-H Photography Project

Exhibit one of the following options:

Note-Mini 4-H member or family members may take the pictures exhibited.

- A scrapbook page with picture(s) of your choice.
- Pictures exhibited in small photo album
- Poster displaying pictures

Mini 4-H Wildlife

Exhibit one of the following options:

- Birds or Animal Poster
- Bird or Animal Feeder

Mini 4-H Livestock

The following are annual requirements for Posey County Mini 4-H participants (Youth enrolled in Grades K-2 as of January 1 of the current program year):

- Registration in 4HOnline by **May 15** is required.
- Each Mini 4-H youth may exhibit **ONE animal per species** at the county level. The animal may be their own animal or one that is owned by another person, including a 4-H'er who is also exhibiting the animal. All exhibited animals must follow the same project guidelines & health requirements as listed for 4-H animals in this handbook. The exception to this rule is Mini 4-H horses/ ponies, which may be brought to the Fair for the day of the Mini 4-H Horse & Pony class & will not have access to a stall while on the grounds; these animals will be kept at the trailer in which they arrived & may not be ridden by anyone other than the Mini 4-H participant, who is to have an adult assistant at all times who is in control of the animal, per Indiana 4-H policy.
- If you intend to bring an animal to the Fair that is not already a current 4-H'er, contact the Extension Office before **May 15** to properly register it on 4-H Online.
- **No Mini 4-H participants or their animals may participate in the 4-H Livestock Auction.**
- **Mini 4-H participants exhibiting animals that weigh more than 300 pounds MUST HAVE AN ADULT ASSISTANT WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE ANIMAL AT ALL TIMES, per Indiana 4-H policy.**
- **Waivers must be signed prior to showing an animal. Waivers are available from the Extension Office.** Signed animal liability waivers are due to the Extension Office by **May 15**. Mini 4-H'ers without a signed waiver will not be allowed to participate in animal shows at the Fair.

Exhibit Options: Note-all posters should be 22"x28"

- Write a story about your favorite farm animal
- Make a poster showing the different things that farm animals provide for us. (Example: hamburgers, wool, eggs, etc.)
- Make a poster showing the different kinds of farm animals.
- Talk to a farmer. Ask them questions about working on a farm, the farm animals they raise, and the feed they use. You can them your own questions. Write a story about the farmer.
- Write or rewrite your favorite fairytale using farm animals (Example: Cinderella on the Farm)
- Make a model of your favorite farm animal. If you want, add it to a farm scene made in a shoebox.
- Exhibit beef, dairy, meat goat, sheep, swine, horse & pony, rabbit, poultry or cat. Mini 4-H members may show the animal during the Mini 4-H show. No champions will be chosen in the Mini 4-H class, but participation ribbons will be awarded. Species-specific livestock rules and General Livestock Rules apply to Mini 4-H

members. Mini 4-H members may exhibit a 4-H sibling's or family members' animal. Please check your species-specific requirements that follow if you are exhibiting an animal.

Species-specific guidelines

- Mini 4-H livestock exhibitors: You must check with the livestock superintendent if housing is available for your animal during the Fair. Horse & Pony exhibitors will do a show-and-go style where they will house their animals in their trailers the day of the show and take it home at the conclusion of the show.
- All Mini 4-H livestock animals must be tagged if required in the species livestock rules. Check the Clover Connection or 4-H Handbook for guidelines.
- Mini 4-H members must follow the general 4-H livestock rules and submit their animals on 4-H Online by **May 15**.