



ARE YOU IN
KINDERGARTEN-2ND
GRADE? CHECK OUT
THIS GUIDE!

The INS and OUTS of BROWN COUNTY Mini 4-H





4-H Basics



Motto:
To make the best Better

Pledge:
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.

NEARLY
6M TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



URBAN
1.8M



SUBURBAN
1.6M



RURAL
2.6M

Brown County Mini 4-H

Mini 4-H is an exploratory program for any youth enrolled in kindergarten through second grade.

This program allows younger children to participate in noncompetitive programs until they are eligible for 4-H upon entering the third grade.



Brown County Mini 4-H strives to partner new families with experienced 4-H families by allowing Mini 4-Hers to participate in club meetings, project judging, and animal shows. We also hope to communicate with and support families through county newsletters, Remind messages, our Facebook page, and our website.

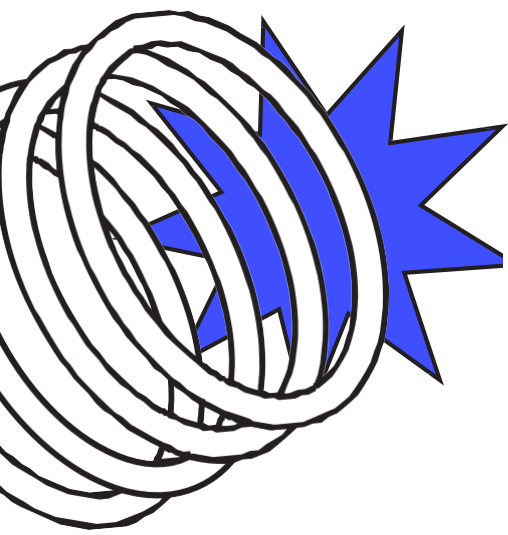
Sign up for the Brown County 4-H Remind by texting the message @88e7d3b to the number 81010.



www.facebook.com/purduebrowncounty



www.extension.purdue.edu/brown



STEP 1: ENROLLMENT

You enroll in Mini 4-H at this website: <https://v2.4honline.com>. You can also enroll in person at the Extension Office. Mini 4-H costs \$5.



Login Email
Password
Sign in

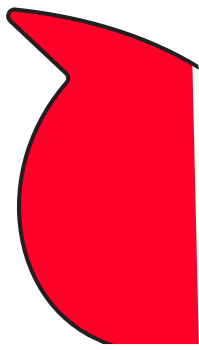
STEP 2: INVOLVEMENT

Once enrolled, Mini 4-Hers can join any of the regular 4-H clubs except for Shooting Sports. Clubs meet monthly for activities and fun! Here are the 4-H clubs in Brown County:

- Lick Creek Love Bugs is a general interest 4-H club that has a food booth during the fair. They meet on Wednesday evenings.
- Brown County 4-H Gang is also a general interest 4-H club that has a food booth during the fair. They meet on Saturday mornings.
- There are also clubs for each species shown in Brown County: horse & pony, dog, cat, rabbit, poultry, goat, sheep, and swine.

Joining a club is great way to learn from experienced 4-H families! When you enroll, ask the 4-H educator about which club you'd like to join, and she'll put you in touch with the club leader.

Mini Mondays, an afterschool club, at Van Buren Elementary School are available in 2024-2025!

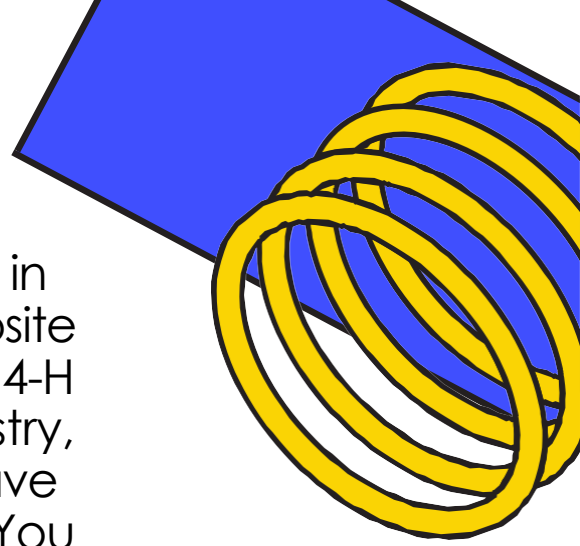


Step 3: Inside Projects

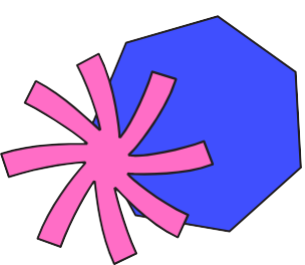
Inside projects are those that are displayed in the Exhibit Building. On the Indiana 4-H website or at the Extension Office, you can find Mini 4-H Project Manuals for bugs, collections, forestry, sewing, space, and trees. These manuals have fun activities and give project suggestions. You can find them at this website:

<https://bit.ly/MiniManuals>

Mini 4-H is for exploration, so members are also welcome to do any project topic that the regular 4-Hers do or something else that they enjoy! There are no requirements for Mini 4-H's inside projects. The goal is to let these young members explore and show what they've learned. Everyone receives the same Mini 4-H ribbon.



Mini 4-H projects at the Brown County 4-H Fair have included posters with photos ranging from pets to cookie making, Lego models, rock collections, completed coloring pages, homemade crafts, a small scrapbook, vegetables from a home garden, flowers in vases, and many others. Keep in mind that these projects will be displayed in the Exhibit Building during the week of fair.



STEP 4: ANIMAL PROJECTS

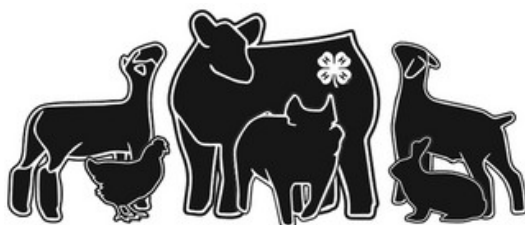
Brown County 4-H allows Mini 4-Hers to show animals at the fair. There are special rules and considerations for these types of projects. We also encourage caregivers to consider their own mental and physical child's development before agreeing to let their child work with animals.

Mini 4-Hers may attend Horse and Pony Club meetings, but they may not exhibit a horse. They can do an inside project to show what they learned about horses.

All Mini 4-Hers who plan to show an animal at the fair must turn in the Mini 4-H Liability Release Form before handling any animals at meetings or during the fair. These are available in the Extension Office and on the last page of this guide.

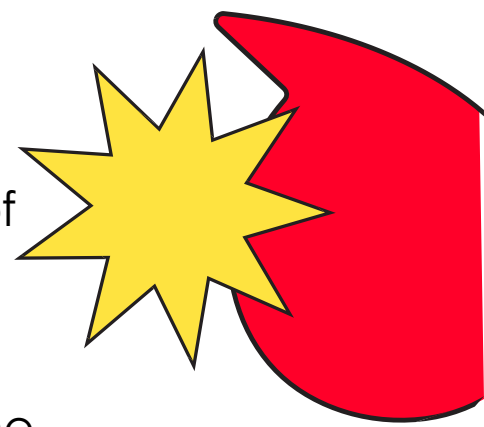
Mini 4-Hers who plan to show their dog or cat must turn in a 4-H vaccination form to the club leader or the Extension Office. It is also HIGHLY encouraged that Mini 4-Hers attend the club meetings for either cats or dogs to learn how to show their animal properly and safely. The club leaders need to be familiar with your animal too so that they can uphold the safety of all involved members and animals.

Mini 4-Hers can show another 4-Her's enrolled cow, goat, sheep, bird, rabbit, or pig. Mini 4-Hers CANNOT show their own livestock due to liability reasons. Regular 4-H livestock go through several steps in order to show within the 4-H program legally and safely. The first step in showing an animal is to attend that species' club meetings and get connected with a 4-H family. The 4-H educator can also help make these connections. It is HIGHLY recommended that the Mini 4-Her works with the animal before fair week. **Mini 4-Hers also do not participate in the Livestock Auction.**



Step 5: Fair

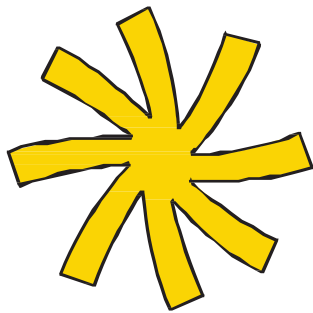
The Brown County 4-H Fair is the second week of June and is a wonderful time for all involved!



Inside Projects:

Mini 4-Hers will bring their inside projects to the Exhibit Building on Wednesday, May 28th, 2025. They will receive a tag for their project, and then they will talk to a "judge" who will ask them questions about what they did and learned.

A ribbon will be attached to their project after judging ends, and then Mini 4-Hers can see this project displayed starting Monday of fair week when the Exhibit Building opens. Projects and ribbons are to be picked up the Sunday after fair week.



Animal Projects:

Mini 4-Hers who are showing their cat or dog will do so before fair week. It is required that these Mini 4-Hers have turned in the animal's vaccination form and their liability release form beforehand. They also should have attended club meetings to be prepared for showing their animal and to keep others safe.



Animal Projects:

Mini 4-Hers who are showing another 4-Her's cow, goat, pig, sheep, rabbit, or bird should make arrangements before fair about how to help with taking care of the animal and how to prepare for the show.

On show day, Mini 4-Hers can wear jeans, boots, and a button-up or nice shirt. 4-Hers will go with the Mini 4-Hers into the show arena, and **a parent, guardian, or 18+ adult approved by the caregiver in writing will be on the lead of animals over 300 pounds. For the swine project, a parent, guardian, or adult designee must be in the show ring at all times.**

Judges usually ask questions about the animal's sex, breed, and/or name, so it is helpful to go over basic information about the animal beforehand. Before leaving the show arena, it is customary for the exhibitor to shake or fist-bump the judge's hand. Mini 4-Hers are not placed but are recognized for their efforts.



WELCOME TO BROWN COUNTY Mini 4-H!

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Extension Office**

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We are so glad to have you as part of the Brown County 4-H community! Ask questions, get plugged into a club, and never hesitate to reach out. We strive to be inclusive of all youth and are happy to make accommodations so that all members can participate fully. 4-H is an awesome program for not only members but the entire family.

Welcome aboard!



Allison Roberts, 4-H Educator

Mini 4-H Liability Release Form

The safety and well-being of youth is of the utmost importance. Although kindergarten is an important time for physical, social, and mental development before age 5, each child matures at a different rate. Therefore, we are caring for animals.

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Mini 4-H member's name

Other Adult Designee - Print Name

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Risk Management Forms

Revised 10/20