



Explore Mini 4-H

2025 Handbook



Contact Us!

Clay County Extension
Office
812-448-9041

4-H Educator:
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**Mini 4-H Important Dates**

Mini Meetings @ Clay County Fairgrounds (6 to 7 pm)

March 17th

April 21th

May 19th

June 16th

June 5 - Mini Day Camp (9 am to 5 pm)

July 9 or 10 – Exhibit Hall Project Judging (5 to 8 pm)

July 12-18 – Clay County 4-H Fair

Saturday July 12 – Mini 4-H Livestock Show (Following the rabbit show, more info will be released closer to the date)

Sunday July 14th – Mini 4-H Horse Show (During the Western 4-H Show @ approximately 10 am)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the Extension Office at 812-448-9041, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can also email Natalie at korniak@purdue.edu. We are sure that you and your child will enjoy the Mini 4-H Program and we are looking forward to seeing you at the Mini 4-H Meetings, Day Camp, and the Clay County 4-H Fair!

Sincerely,



Natalie Korniak



Extension - 4-H Youth
Development



Find us on Facebook:
Clay County 4-H

Visit our county website:

<https://bit.ly/3umXXyh>



Mini 4-H Livestock Shows

A Mini 4-H member may choose to show up to 3 livestock species. Cattle and horses can only be shown by 1st and 2nd grade exhibitors. This does NOT mean that Mini 4-H'ers need to purchase their own animals and bring them to the fair. Each Mini 4-H livestock exhibitor will be paired with an older 4-H member mentor that they will be able to ask questions and work with their animal project to show in the class.

Members will be expected to attend a mandatory barn meeting with their assigned mentors prior to the show. This will be led by the barn superintendent. It is designed for the Mini 4-H member to become comfortable with the animal and learn what to expect during the show. More information about meeting times will be release closet to the date.

The Mini Livestock Show Schedule:

Saturday July 12 – Mini 4-H Livestock Show (Following the rabbit show, more info will be released closer to the date)

Sunday July 14th – Mini 4-H Horse Show (During the Western 4-H Show @ approximately 10 am)

***You must let the Extension Office know which livestock projects you are planning to show by our 3rd meeting Monday May 12th in order to participate in a Mini 4-H Livestock Class at the 2025 Clay County 4-H Fair. This is done through registering on FairEntry. More info on how to register will be sent out later on. This deadline is in place so we can properly prepare for participants and assign mentors.**

***If planning to participate in a livestock show, all members must have a signed Mini 4-H liability release form submitted to the Extension Office.**

Mini 4-H Livestock Show Projects

Poultry

Rabbits

Sheep

Goats

Swine

Cattle

Horses



PROJECT EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

ARTS & CRAFTS

- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) of a geometric design, collage, drawing, or finger-painting.

BICYCLE

Choose one:

- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) using pictures from magazines and catalogs of bicycles.
- Exhibit a short story about you and bicycling including a picture of you and your bicycle on an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic).

COLLECTIONS

Choose one:

- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) with three items from your collection.
- Exhibit a notebook or folder with your 3 items from your collection
- Exhibit photos of your 3 items in a poster or notebook as directed above.

CUPCAKES

- Exhibit 2 individually decorated cupcakes, decorated in a theme and displayed in a single layer, on a solid base.

DINOSAURS

Choose one:

- Find 3 pictures of dinosaurs. Write the name of the dinosaur next to it. You can use the dinosaurs in your project book or from another source. Put the pictures in a self-made notebook.

- Find 4 pictures of dinosaurs. Answer these questions for each picture. You can use the dinosaurs in your project book or from another source. Put the pictures and information in a self-made notebook.
 - Name of dinosaur
 - Size of dinosaur
 - Weight of dinosaur
 - Type of dinosaur
- Make a poster that shows how big dinosaurs were. Draw pictures of yourself, your house, your school, and your favorite dinosaur.
 - Give each item in your picture a name.
 - Compare the size of your dinosaur to you, your house and your school.

FARM SCENE

- Exhibit a farm scene or other ecosystem in a shoe box or other small container. Container must be 1 ft x 1ft or smaller. Examples of other ecosystems might include a forest, arctic scene, grassland, under the sea, etc.

FLOWERS

- Exhibit a folder or notebook with pictures and identification of 10 different flowers.
- Exhibit one bloom from a flower that you grew.

FOODS

- Exhibit four cookies on a white six-inch paper plate covered with plastic from the cookie recipes in the project manual.

FORESTRY

Choose one:

- Make a poster of a tree that you have drawn. Label the parts of the tree that you have drawn. (1st year)
- Make a poster with pictures cut from a magazine or pictures taken with a camera of items that are made of wood. Use 5 to 7 pictures on your poster. (1st year)
- Exhibit a collection of leaves. They can be displayed in a notebook or a poster. Use 5 to 7 leaves. Label each leaf with their name. (2nd year)

- Make a poster with pictures cut out of a magazine of the different types of trees. Write the use of each tree by its picture. Use 5 to 7 pictures in your poster. (2nd year)

GARDENING

Choose one:

- Exhibit a plate with 3 (same type) vegetables. (Exhibit only one for larger vegetables such as watermelon or pumpkin).
- Exhibit a homegrown sweet potato plant.
- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) with 3 to 5 pictures of your plant or garden. Each picture should have a sentence describing the photo for identification.

I'M A HOOSIER

Choose one:

- Make a poster about Indiana's symbols and include at least 3 of the 5 symbols that you have learned about. Mini 4-H posters should be 11" x 14". Make sure it's horizontal (sideways). Title your poster: INDIANA'S SYMBOLS. You can find larger pictures of the symbols in your project manual. Color and cut out to include on your poster.
- Have your helper help you find the following Indiana symbols: tree, flower, rock, bird. Take pictures of them. Include these pictures on a poster. Be sure to tell where you took the picture and label each of the symbols. Mini 4-H posters should be 11" x 14". Make sure it's horizontal (sideways). Title your poster: INDIANA'S SYMBOLS.
- Find the page with the large-print version of the state song in your project book. Make a poster about the state song. You may use the printed version or recopy it in your own handwriting. Around the lyrics (words to the song) draw and color pictures about Indiana. The words in the song may help give you some ideas. Mini 4-H posters should be 11" x 14". Make sure it's horizontal (sideways). Title your poster: INDIANA'S STATE SONG.

LEGOS

- Exhibit a Lego built model that is an original or a Lego set. **Exhibit shall not exceed 8" long x 8" wide x 12" high**, including fully extended parts.

LIVESTOCK POSTER

- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) which includes your labeled animal diagram, a picture of yourself with your animal and a short story about your animal. (Story should include animal's name, breed, age, bought or raised, what you like best about your animal and a funny experience that happened to you and your animal.)

PET ANIMALS

- Exhibit a notebook or folder that includes at least 3 pictures of you and your pet along with a short story about your pet. Story must have a title and contain your pet's name, age, and what you feed it.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) with 5 colored pictures you have taken. Title: ME AND MY FAMILY.

ROCKETS

Choose one:

- Make a rocket using food. Use items such as marshmallows, gum drops, etc.
- Make a space helmet (page 12 in project book). Complete the activity Blast Off and the star gazing chart.

SEWING

- Exhibit a sewing box that includes at least a homemade pin cushion, homemade needlebook holder, and a button you have sewn on a piece of fabric. You may also include various sewing items in our box if you desire.

SUN, STARTS & SPACE

Choose one:

- Make a poster showing one or two different constellations. You can use the ones in the manual or you can find new ones. (1st year)
- Make a poster about one or two different planets. Label the planets and tell something about them. You can use the information in this manual or find your own. (1st year)
- Make a solar system mobile. You may use any materials that you want. Make sure you label each planet. (2nd year)
- Exhibit the asteroid that you made in Activity 3. (2nd year)

WEATHER

- Exhibit an 11" x 14" poster (mounted horizontally with hard backing and covered in plastic) with a picture/drawing of the weather one day that you observed it.

WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

Choose one:

- Make a poster showing different types of birds. You can color and cut out the birds in the manual or find your own pictures of birds. (1st year)
- Make a poster about animal characteristics from the information in Activity 6. (1st year)
- Exhibit the bird feeder that you made in Activity 2. (2nd year)

Mini 4-H Liability Release Form

The safety and well being of our 4-H youth is of the utmost importance. Although kindergarten is specified as the time when a child may begin participation in some 4-H events and activities, parents are encouraged to take into consideration their child's physical and mental development before agreeing to let the child begin to show, work with, or care for animals. Each child matures at a different rate, and children in grades K-2 may still be too young to begin showing, working with, or caring for animals.

The Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program at Purdue University has agreed to allow Mini 4-H members in grades K-2, to participate in NON-COMPETITIVE animal projects subject to certain conditions. These conditions are specified below.

"Mini 4-H members, in grades K through 2, will be allowed to show, work with, or care for animal projects after their parent or legal guardian has signed a liability release. Mini 4-H members may independently show, work with, or care for animals that weigh 300 pounds or less. Mini 4-H members may only show, work with, or care for animals over 300 pounds when they are assisted by a parent, legal guardian, or another adult designated in writing by parent or legal guardian." (*The word assisted means that the adult has control of the animal at all times.*) Mini 4-H members are not required to own the animals they participate with in Mini 4-H. All animals on exhibit should meet the regulations of the Indiana Board of Animal Health Requirements for Exhibition of Domestic Animals in Indiana and meet the vaccination requirements set by Indiana 4-H.

Mini 4-H members exhibiting horses must wear ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified helmets whenever mounted. The parent/guardian is responsible to see that this specified headgear is properly fitted with the approved harness in place and fastened whenever a rider is mounted.

I understand that participating in 4-H activities can involve certain risks to my child. Those risks may include injury or harm, including, but not limited to, bodily injury, disability, exposure to COVID-19 and other viruses and or illnesses, and death. During virtual 4-H activities, I understand that program staff are not providing supervision for my child during the online program, and the Released Parties do not have control over the information available through the internet or other electronic data sources beyond that which is a part of the 4-H activity. On behalf of my child, I fully assume the inherent risks associated with my child participating in 4-H activities and assert that my child has chosen to participate in this program with my express approval. I hereby release and discharge Purdue University, The Trustees of Purdue University, the _____ County Commissioners, the _____ County Cooperative Extension Service, and each of their trustees, officers, appointees, agents, employees, and volunteers ("Released Parties") from all claims which my child or I might have for any injury or harm to my child, arising out of my child's participation in any activity related to the 4-H program, even if such injury or harm is caused by the negligence or fault of any of the Released Parties. I do not, however, release these individuals and entities from liability for intentional, willful or wanton acts and this release shall not be construed to include such acts.

Mini 4-H member's name

Other Adult Designee - Print Name

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date