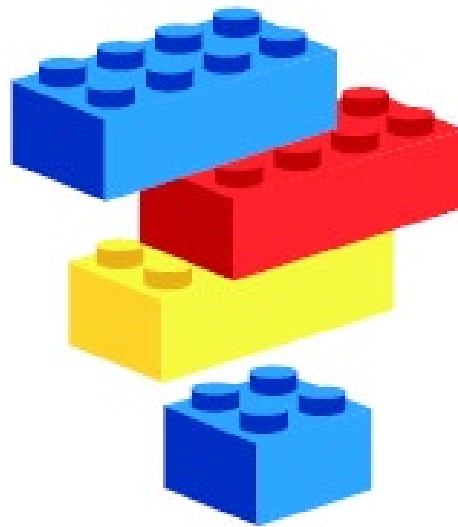


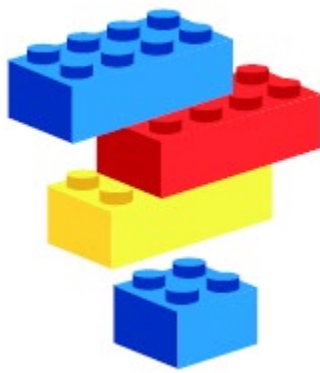


Mini 4-H MODELS



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

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Elkhart County Mini 4-H Models Manual
Revised October 2024



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 Elkhart 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.

*Mini 4-H*ers may enroll in two different projects each year. 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 needed for the exhibit you will be preparing for the Elkhart 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 green completion ribbon and certificate. Judges comment sheets are provided only as a way to help you do your very best on future projects.

Mini 4-H does not have regular monthly meetings. Try to attend the special activities planned especially for YOU! These will give you a chance to meet the project 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 574-533-0554. 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 “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 in this manual. Choose those that interest you and your child.



What is a Model?

A *model* is a small version of a real thing. Many of us like to make models of cars, boats, planes or buildings. Making a model can be fun. It can take a lot of time to plan and build a model. In *Mini 4-H* you will be building a model from a kit that is purchased at the store.



ACTIVITY 1 – LOOK AROUND



Materials needed for this activity:

Tape measure

Pencil

What you will do:

1. Look around where you live. Look up close and far away. Look from the outside and the inside.
2. Write down what you see. What color is it? How big is it? Use your tape measure. Does what you see look new or old? Use the chart to keep notes about what you see.

Questions	Thing # 1	Thing # 2	Thing # 3	Sample
What is it?				<i>table</i>
Color(s)				<i>brown</i>
How tall?				<i>18 inches</i>
How wide?				<i>36 inches</i>
How deep?				<i>24 inches</i>
Does it look old?				<i>old</i>
Moving parts?				<i>no</i>

What did you learn?

Why is it important to look closely at things you want to build a model of? _____

Did you see things that you did not before? What? _____

Which thing would you most like to make a model of? Why? _____





ACTIVITY 2 – A FIRST MODEL

The fun thing about models is you can make anything that you want out of a variety of things. There is no right or wrong way to make a model.

You have probably been making models for years and did not even know it. Have you ever played with blocks, like *Legos®*, built a monster with *play dough*, or a tower out of sugar cubes or playing cards? If the answer is yes, then you have already been building models.

Materials needed for this activity:

Any material with which to build a model

Your imagination!

What you will do:

1. Think of something you would like to use to make a model. Try toothpicks, building blocks, cardboard or *Play-Doh®*.
2. Build a model with your materials. Think about making it look like the larger version of the same thing.



What did you learn?

What did you use to make your model? _____

What was your model (car, boat, or tower)? _____

What other materials could you use to make a model? _____



ACTIVITY 3 – MODELS AROUND US

There are different kinds of models. Plastic models are fun and easy to do. When they are done, they look like the real thing, only smaller.

Take a look around your home or school. Do you see other models? Remember...models are small versions of the real thing. What are these models made of? *Hint...does anyone sleep with a special stuffed animal friend?*

Materials needed for this activity: Pencil Activity sheet

What you will do:

1. Look around you! Fill in the following chart with models you find in the world around you. This can be at your home, school or museum, etc. See how many you can find.

Questions	Model # 1	Model # 2	Model # 3
Model of what?			
Made of what?			
Where found?			

What did you learn?

What are some of your favorite models? _____

Were you surprised at the number of models around you? _____



**ACTIVITY 4 – MAKE A PLASTIC MODEL
FROM A KIT**

(Get permission from your parents.)

Materials needed for this activity:

Model kit (We suggest a **snap together** model for your first model.
A safe place to lay out the pieces to build your model.



What you will do:

1. Select your model. Choose a model that you like! A car, boat, airplane, dolls or other models would work nicely. It may be a snap together model or one that you glue together. If this is your first model kit, we suggest a *snap together* model.
 - Please keep your model small to medium sized.
 - The cost of your model kit should be reasonable.

Now you are ready to build your model!

1. Find a place to put your model together where it will not be disturbed. You will need a lot of time to do a good job.
2. Lay out all the pieces so you can see them.
3. Look at the instructions. Make sure you have all the parts in your instructions. If you do not, put the model back in the box and get a different model. You cannot finish a model without all the parts.
4. Read all the instructions. You will need an adult to help you.
5. Now you are ready to begin putting together your model.
6. Painting is optional and not suggested for a first model.

What did you learn?

What kind of a model did you build? _____

Was it hard to build your model? _____

How long did it take you to build your model? _____

Who helped you build your model? _____

Displaying Your Model:

You will want to find a safe place to display your model. You may want to place it on a board, cardboard or in a display case that you purchase. You may want to decorate the base so it looks like a road (car) or a runway (airplane). Use your imagination. Keep it in a safe place where it won't be knocked off and broken.

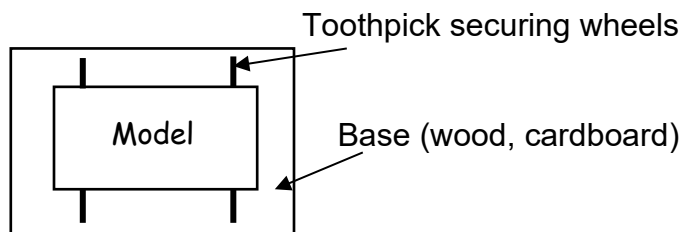


What to Exhibit *MODELS*

1. Make one **snap together** model from a kit, **no bigger than 12 inches long in any direction (excluding rockets). This includes traditional model kits, Lego kits or rockets.**
2. Your model must be placed on a display base. This display base will make handling your model easier and protect it from damage. Your base should be made out of something sturdy like wood that is no more than one inch larger than your model on all sides.

Example: If your model is 6 inches long and 4 inches wide, then the base should be 8 inches long (since you must add 1 inch in front and 1 inch in back), and 6 inches wide (since you must add 1 inch on the left and 1 inch on the right).

Hint: Small pieces of wood or toothpicks glued to the board on each side of the wheels will keep your model from rolling off the base. Do not glue, zip tie etc. your model to your base. We want to see the bottom of your model also. (Exception - Legos are hooked to their board)



NOTE: If you are unable to pick your project up on Project Release Day, please make arrangements to have it picked up. All projects must be removed from the exhibit building on that day. There is no available storage space for unclaimed projects.

All models must include: (both are found on page 12)

- **Record Sheet (attached to the base).**
- **Exhibit Tag (attached to the front of the base).**

Exhibit Tag:

Mini 4-H						
	Name		City		Grade	
					School	
						Models

Record Sheet

----- Cut here -----

Name _____ Grade _____

How much did your model cost? _____

How long did you work on your model? _____

How many models have you built? _____

Why did you check the parts after opening the model package? _____

Why did you read the instructions before working on your model? _____
