

2025 Kosciusko County Mini 4-H Guidebook



Mini 4-H Checklist for Participation

You MUST complete tasks by deadlines!

- Scan QR code and join Mini 4-H on Band App for updates.
- Enroll in Mini 4-H on [4-H Online](#) & pay fee by **May 15**.
- Contact Committee(s) if you need help finding a mentor/animal to work with by **June 1**.
- Enter ALL projects you will exhibit in [FairEntry](#) by **June 15**.
- IF you are showing an animal in Mini 4-H Showcase, scan QR code and complete Exhibitor Info Form by **July 1**.
- **Bring General Projects to check in.**
(Contact committee if you have a conflict with check in time.)
- **Pick up General Projects at check out.**



Welcome to the Kosciusko County Mini 4-H Program! Mini 4-H is a NON-COMPETITIVE program designed to encourage positive development of children in grades K-2. This means there is no formal judging of projects, and ribbons are the same color for all projects.

- **Mini members MUST be enrolled by May 15** on [4-H Online](#). An enrollment fee of \$15 is due at registration.
- **Mini members MUST also enter their projects in FairEntry.com by June 15**. This generates participant lists and exhibitor numbers for animal shows and project tags for their general projects. You will use your 4-H online login to sign in to FairEntry and the extension office has instructions on its website. *Please note that fairentry.com does not work well on cell phones. You may need to use a computer to complete this task.*

Mini members can enroll in the following projects:

Mini 4-H Animal Projects			Mini 4-H General Projects		
Alpaca	Dairy Calf Feeders	Poultry	Animals	Farm Toy Scene	Sewing
Beef	Goats	Rabbit	Art & Crafts	Foods	
Cat	Horse & Pony	Sheep	Collections	Lego	
Dairy	Llama	Swine	Cookie Decorating	Photography	

If you have any questions about Mini 4-H or how to enroll, contact the [Kosciusko County Purdue Extension Office](#) at 574-372-2340 between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The office is located at 202 W Main St, Warsaw, IN 46580.

The Mini 4-H program is coordinated by the Mini 4-H Committee.

Mini 4-H Committee Members		
Janelle Deatsman	jdeatsman@yahoo.com	574-527-9360
Cheryl Van Laeken	Cheryl.vanlaeken@gmail.com	
Jenna Risedorph	jenna.ruch@gmail.com	
Wendy Grady	wendyc627@hotmail.com	
Jenn Sands	jennsands21@gmail.com	
Raina Templin	rainarmey@gmail.com	
Kylene Crabb	kylencrabb@gmail.com	
Nicole Wills	nicoleelaine21@gmail.com	
Vacancy 1		
Vacancy 2	There are 2 vacant committee spots. We need volunteers! Contact the office or committee to learn more.	

Please note the following dates. **Mandatory deadlines are listed in red:**

Mini 4-H Calendar			
Event/Activity	Date	Time	Location
Initial Enrollment Deadline	January 15	REQUIRED	4honline.com
Meeting 1	January 16	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Extension Office
Meeting 2	February 13	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Extension Office
Meeting 3	March 13	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Extension Office
Meeting 4	April 17	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Extension Office
FINAL Enrollment & Add/Drop Deadline	May 15	REQUIRED	4Honline.com
Contact Committee for mentor/animal	June 1		See committee contact list
Fair Entry Deadline	June 15	REQUIRED	Fairentry.com
Complete Mini Showcase Form	July 1		See QR Code
Mini 4-H Showcase	July 10	9 -11:30 a.m.	Show Arena @ Fairgrounds
Project Check Out	TBD	TBD	Shrine Building @ Fairgrounds

Join the Band App to get the latest Kosciusko Mini 4-H updates on the go!

We use the Band app to communicate with our member families.

To use it, download the Band app and scan this QR Code to join the

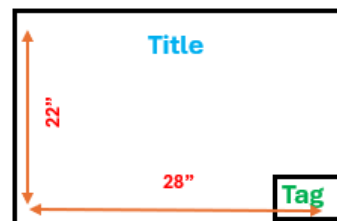
Kosciusko Mini 4-H Group so you can get program updates and reminders.



Mini 4-H General Project Guidelines

For each project you are enrolled in, exhibit only one of the options outlined in the following guidelines. **Please do not exhibit valuable items.** Instead, submit a three-prong folder or poster with pictures of the items.

All posters MUST be 22" x 28", displayed horizontally and backed with cardboard or foamboard. They can be covered with a plastic sleeve. A 3"x4" Project Exhibit Tag will be affixed to the lower right corner at check in.



Mini 4-H Animals

- A poster that outlines the parts, shelter, feed and/or daily care of pets, farm animals or wildlife.
- A diorama that outlines the parts, shelter, feed and/or daily care of pets, farm animals or wildlife.
- A folder with pages that outline the parts, shelter, feed and/or daily care of pets, farm animals or wildlife.

Mini 4-H Arts & Crafts

- A drawing or painting with a stiff backing. (Should be 11" x 17" or smaller).
- Any basic or simple craft such as a collage, painting, scrapbook page is suggested.
- A craft or art piece made from an item (jar, bottle, etc.) that was previously used for another purpose.

Mini 4-H Collections

- A display box (no bigger than a shoe box) containing 5-10 items you like to collect.
- A poster or folder titled "My Collection" displaying 5-10 items you like to collect.
- A poster or folder titled "My Collection" showing 5-10 photos of items you like to collect.

Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating

Exhibit by placing 3 cookies on a disposable plate in a small Ziploc baggie:

- Cookies with frosting and sprinkles and/or candy on top of each.
- Cookies with smooth frosting on top with a raised frosting border.
- Cookies with frosting in a design that portrays an event and/or theme.

Mini 4-H Farm Toy Scene

- A "diorama" farm scene created inside of a shoe box. (See photo)
- A farm toy scene created with Legos on a 10" x 10" Lego base plate.
- A farm toy scene created on 20" x 15" foam board (1/2 sheet).

Mini 4-H "LEGO"

Project should not exceed the size of a 10" x 10" Lego base plate.

- A store-bought kit model made with any Lego-type block.
- A model made from any Lego-type block created without the use of a store-bought kit or plan.
- A poster or folder titled "Lego" with 5-10 photos of Lego-style models you constructed in the last year.

Mini 4-H Photography

- A poster of five of your favorite photos of landscapes, buildings, and/or scenery.
- A poster of eight of your favorite photos of animals, people, etc.
- A poster of five to eight photos that tell a story or show how to do something.

Mini 4-H Sewing

- A sewing kit that includes scissors, a ruler, tailor's chalk, tape measure, pin cushion, pins, thread, and needles.
- A sampler with a properly sewn on button, a hand stitched straight stitch and machine stitched straight line.
- A minimal- or no-sew scarf, bag or other project.

Mini 4-H Foods

Exhibit one of the following by placing 2 servings in a small Ziploc baggie:

Chocolate-Oatmeal No-Bake Cookies Recipe

Tools: Saucepan Mixing bowl Measuring cups Spoons Wax paper
Ingredients: 3 cups oatmeal 2 cups sugar 1/4 cup cocoa 1/2 cup peanut butter
 1 stick of margarine 1/2 cup milk

Instructions:

- Step 1 Mix together oatmeal & cocoa in mixing bowl and set aside.
- Step 2 Mix margarine, sugar, peanut butter and milk in saucepan and bring to boil and stir for 1 minute.
- Step 3 Remove from heat, add dry mixture and stir.
- Step 4 Drop by spoonful onto wax paper and cool in refrigerator until set.

Rice Krispy Treats Recipe

Tools: 3 quart saucepan Greased 9" x 13" pan Measuring cups Spoon
Ingredients: 1/3 cup butter or margarine 5 cups Rice Krispies 4 cups miniature marshmallows

Instructions:

- Step 1 Melt butter in saucepan over low heat and add marshmallows.
- Step 2 Stir constantly until marshmallows are melted and well blended.
- Step 3 Remove from heat and stir in Rice Krispies until well coated with marshmallow mixture.
- Step 4 Press warm into buttered pan; cut into squares when cool.

S'mores Bars Recipe

Tools: 3 qt saucepan Greased 9" x 13" pan Measuring cups Spoon Large mixing bowl
Ingredients: 5 Tablespoons butter or margarine 8 cups Golden Grahams cereal
 1 bag (10 oz) miniature marshmallows 1 ½ cups milk chocolate chips (9 oz)
 ¼ cup sugar 1 Tablespoon water
 1 teaspoon vanilla

Instructions:

- Step 1 Measure cereal into large bowl.
- Step 2 In saucepan, heat marshmallows, chocolate chips, butter, sugar and water over low heat, stirring occasionally, until completely melted.
- Step 3 Remove from heat and stir in vanilla.
- Step 4 Pour marshmallow mixture over cereal in bowl; stir until evenly coated.
- Step 5 Press mixture into pan. Cool 1 hour. Store loosely covered at room temperature.

Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free No-Bake Cookies

Tools: Saucepan Mixing bowl Measuring cups Spoons Parchment paper
Ingredients: ½ cup Smart Balance butter 2 cups sugar
 ½ cup unsweetened almond milk ¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
 ½ cup gluten-free creamy peanut butter 1 Tablespoon vanilla extract
 ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon 3 cups gluten-free quick cooking oats

Instructions:

- Step 1 Heat butter, sugar, almond milk, unsweetened cocoa powder in large saucepan over medium heat, stirring often until ingredients are well combined.
- Step 2 Bring mixture to rolling boil and allow to boil for 1 minute.
- Step 3 Remove the pan from the heat, and stir in the gluten-free peanut butter, pure vanilla extract, and ground cinnamon. Stir until the ingredients are fully combined.
- Step 4 Stir in the gluten-free quick oats and mix until coated with the chocolate peanut butter mixture.
- Step 5 Drop the cookie mixture onto the parchment lined baking sheets and allow to cool for 20-30 minutes.

The Best Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free Fudgy Brownies

Tools: Measuring cups & spoons Mixing bowl Parchment Paper Baking Pan

Ingredients: 1 cup gluten-free flour such as teff, buckwheat or Bob's Red Mill Gluten-Free 1-to-1 Baking Flour
3/4 cup Dutch-process cocoa powder or Hershey's Dark Chocolate powder, sifted if lumpy
1/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup + 2 tablespoons smart balance butter, melted and cooled a bit
1 1/2 cups granulated, raw or coconut sugar
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
3 large eggs, room temperature
3/4 cup Nestle Toll House Simply Delicious Morsels + an additional 1/4 cup to sprinkle on top, if desired

Instructions:

- Step 1 Preheat the oven to 350 °F and line an 8"x8" pan with parchment paper.
- Step 2 In a medium mixing bowl, stir together the flour, cocoa powder, and salt. Set aside.
- Step 3 In a large mixing bowl, stir together the melted Smart Balance, sugar, and vanilla extract. Once combined, add the eggs one at a time, and stir until just combined.
- Step 4 Add the dry mixture to the ingredients in the large mixing bowl and stir just combined. Do not overmix!
- Step 5 Fold in 3/4 cup chocolate chips
- Step 6 Pour the batter into the prepared pan and sprinkle top with the remaining 1/4 cup chocolate chips.
- Step 7 If using teff or the gluten-free flour blend, bake for 20-22 minutes or until the brownies have formed a thin crust and appear set in the middle.
If using buckwheat or whole wheat, bake for 15-20 minutes. When done, a toothpick inserted into the center will come out wet while a toothpick inserted into the sides will come out with some moist crumbs on it. The brownies will continue to bake as they sit in the pan and will firm up as they cool.
- Step 8 Let cool completely and then cover and store at room temperature for up to 4 days. You can also refrigerate them to give them a fudgier texture.

Gluten-Free Chocolate Chip Cookies

Tools: Measuring cups & spoons Mixing bowl Parchment Paper Baking Sheet

Ingredients: 1/2 cup Smart Balance butter 1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
1 large egg 1 cup gluten-free all-purpose flour with xanthan gum
1/2 teaspoon baking soda 1/2 teaspoon gluten-free baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 1/2 cups gluten-free quick oats 1 cup chocolate chips or raisins

Instructions:

- Step 1 Preheat oven to 375°F and line baking sheet with parchment paper.
- Step 2 In a large bowl, beat the softened butter, granulated sugar, and brown sugar until creamy.
- Step 3 Add egg (or egg replacer), molasses, and pure vanilla extract to the butter mixture and mix together.
- Step 4 Add the gluten-free flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt to the butter mixture and combine.
- Step 5 Stir in the chips with a spoon.
- Step 6 Drop by rounded tablespoon or use a greased cookie scoop about 2 inches apart.
- Step 7 Bake for 8-10 minutes until they start to turn golden brown (the centers will be soft).
- Step 8 Cool and store leftovers in an air-tight container. Enjoy!

Mini 4-H Animal Project Requirements

The main objective of Mini 4-H Animal Projects is to introduce Mini 4-H members to the responsibilities of animal care and exhibiting a 4-H animal at the fair. **Mini 4-Hers MUST be enrolled in the animal project by May 15 AND enrolled in the project on Fair Entry by June 15 to participate in the show.** Some project committees require workshop and/or practice attendance to prepare for the show as stated in their project rules.

If you need help connecting with an animal or mentor to work with, please let each animal committee know by June 1. Below is contact information for each committee's superintendent.

Species	Superintendent	Contact Info	Species	Superintendent/Contact	Contact Info
Alpaca	Scott Shelhart	574-453-8423 scottfz450@gmail.com	Horse & Pony	Claudia Keirn	574-551-0317 ckeirn@wildmanbg.com
Cat	Jenny Spicher	574-320-7258 dspicher@fourway.net	Llama	Laura Oyer	574-377-2786 Laura.oyer@gmail.com
Beef	Jake Templin	574-527-4699 jake@clunettelevator.com	Poultry	Damon Johnson	574-377-2786 Damonpatricia04@yahoo.com
Dairy	Abbi Curtis Laura Curtis	574-377-7638 - abbigaillee@hotmail.com 574-551-3535 - lauralee.1979@hotmail.com	Rabbit	Duane Kline	574-268-4776 Duane.kline55@gmail.com
DCFS	Darren Wilkinson	574-453-6607 darwilkinson@hotmail.com	Sheep	Conner Sausaman	574-529-5916 connersausaman@gmail.com
Goat	Andrew Jennings	260-823-1068 Pizzaman926813@gmail.com	Swine	Missy Bouse	317-385-4447 mtbouse@gmail.com

Purdue Extension's Mini 4-H Liability Release

The Indiana 4-H Youth 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 the following conditions:

- Mini 4-H members will be allowed to show, work with, or care for animal projects after their parent or legal guardian has signed a liability release through enrollment on 4-H Online.
- 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.*) This could impact Beef, Dairy, DCFS, Horse & Pony and Llama.
- 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.
- Mini 4-H members cannot sell an animal in the 4-H sale and are not eligible for State Fair participation.

The safety and well-being of our 4-H youth is of the utmost importance. Parents are encouraged to consider their child's physical and mental development before allowing their child to work with or show animals.

General Mini 4-H Animal Rules

- Members MUST be enrolled in Mini 4-H via 4-H Online AND Fair Entry by the stated deadlines for each animal project they plan on showing.
- Mini 4-Hers MUST also follow specific project rules. Some projects may require them to show an animal provided by a Kosciusko County Animal Committee or another Kosciusko 4-Her. Others may allow them to show their own animal when it meets project health requirements, and they are given permission by the project superintendent.
- Mini 4-Hers are encouraged to attend animal project workshops and connect with a 4-H Mentor to practice with the animal they will show. Some species require minis to practice with the animal prior to the show.
- Mini 4-Hers should wear clean jeans or below the knee skirts, 4-H t-shirt or other appropriate show shirt, and closed toe footwear appropriate for caring for the type of animal being shown. No shorts, cut off shirts, tank tops, halter tops, sandals or hats are allowed. Long sleeved shirts or jackets are recommended for rabbits.
- Mini 4-Hers are not required to have any special equipment to show the animals. Halters, show sticks, and other showmanship tools will be provided by the committee and/or the mentor 4-Her.

Mini 4-H Showcase

A Mini 4-H Showcase will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Thursday morning of the fair in the show arena.

**All Mini 4-Hers, not just those showing animals, are invited to parade through the arena and be recognized at 9 a.m.
All Mini 4-Hers should report to the show arena by 8:30 a.m. to get organized for this ceremony.**

The order of the animal shows following the Mini 4-Her parade will be in alphabetical order: Beef, Dairy, DCFS, Goat, Sheep and Swine. Other Mini animal shows will be held at different times and locations as stated in their rules.

All Mini 4-Hers participating in the animal portion of the showcase need to complete an Exhibitor Info sheet so you, your animal and mentor (if needed) can be introduced. Please scan the following to complete the form by July 1.



Below are specific species rules and guidelines. Please review them before the showcase.

Mini 4-H Beef

- Mini 4-Hers may borrow a Kosciusko 4-Her's calf or show their own calf when approved by the Beef Superintendent.
- Mini 4-Hers must be accompanied by a mentor, and the mentor must have a hold of the halter and have control of the animal when the animal weighs more than 300 lbs.

Mini 4-H Dairy

- The Dairy Committee will provide a Spring Calf on the day of the show.
- Mini 4-Hers must be accompanied by a mentor, and the mentor must have a hold of the halter and have control of the animal when the animal weighs more than 300 lbs.

Mini 4-H Dairy Calf Feeder Steer (DCFS)

- The DCFS Committee will provide a dairy calf feeder steer on the day of the show.
- Mini 4-Hers must be accompanied by a mentor, and the mentor must have a hold of the halter and have control of the animal when the animal weighs more than 300 lbs.

Mini 4-H Goat

- Mini 4-Hers must show a Kosciusko 4-Her's goat to exhibit in the showcase

Mini 4-H Sheep

- Mini 4-Hers must show a Kosciusko 4-Her's lamb to exhibit in the showcase.

Mini 4-H Swine

- Mini 4-Hers must show a Kosciusko 4-Hers hog in the showcase.

Additional Mini 4-H Animal Show Info & Rules

Mini 4-H Alpaca

- **Show Time:** Sunday at 1:30 p.m. **Show Location:** Show Arena
- Mini 4-Hers will compete in a Mini 4-H Showmanship class that will be held during the Alpaca show.

Mini 4-H Cat

- **Show Time:** TBD **Show Location:** 4-H Office
- Mini 4-Hers will compete in a Mini 4-H Showmanship class that will be held during the Cat show.
- Mini 4-Hers can borrow a 4-Hers cat or exhibit their own.
- **All cats must have a Cat Enrollment Form and certification of vaccination record (4-H 777) due May 15th.** (These may be obtained from the Extension Office or online at www.four-h.purdue.edu). You must present proof of annual vaccination and/or prior testing for feline leukemia. A negative leukemia test must be done within 180 days prior to the show. Leukemia vaccinations are required after testing. Those cats that have been tested (negative) in prior years must have been given annual leukemia vaccinations. No cat with a positive test will be allowed to be shown. ALL are required to have testing and vaccination and must be completed by May 15th-NO EXCEPTIONS!
- All 4-H cats must have their nails clipped. (A safety factor for member and judge.)
- A 4-H cat will be disqualified if any of the following are found by the 4-H judge: a) knots in the hair; b) lice; c) ear mites; d) unhealthy or unthrifty general appearance; e) fleas
- All cats MUST have a harness and leash.

Mini 4-H Horse & Pony

- **Show Time:** Sunday at 9 a.m. **Show Location:** Horse Arena
- Minis are required to wear a properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified helmet whenever mounted or driving at a 4-H horse and pony show or activity.
- Mini 4-Hers can exhibit a horse or pony owned by the Mini or borrow a Kosciusko 4-Her's horse or pony to show.
- A Mini 4-Her who chooses to show their own or a leased animal must have their Horse/Pony at the mandatory Measure-In and submit all additional forms (lease agreement, off premise, etc.).
- Mini 4-H members that exhibit their own Horse/Pony at the fair will be required to have current Strangles, Influenza, West Nile, Eastern & Western Encephalitis, and Rhinopneumonitis vaccinations. It is also recommended that 4-H horses be vaccinated for Tetanus, Potomac Fever, and EPM (Opossum Disease). Proof of current vaccination will be required at check-in at fair.
- Mini 4-H members will be offered the following non-competitive classes – Showmanship, Lead-line, Pleasure (English and Western), Lead-line barrels, Lead-line poles, and Lead-line keyhole.
- Mini 4-H members must be assisted by a designated adult volunteer at all times while in the arena.

Mini 4-H Llama

- **Show Time:** Tuesday at 9 a.m. **Show Location:** Llama Tent
- Mini 4-Hers must show a llama provided by the Llama committee.
- Mini 4-Hers will compete in a Mini 4-H Showmanship Class in the Llama tent. Mini 4-Hers must be accompanied by a mentor when they present their animal for exhibition.

Mini 4-H Poultry

- **Show Time:** Tuesday at 8 a.m. **Show Location:** Poultry Barn
- The Mini Poultry show will be held in the poultry barn.
- Mini 4-Her must borrow a chicken or duck owned by another 4-Her.

Mini 4-H Rabbit

- **Show Time:** Sunday at 2 p.m. after Battle of the Barns **Show Location:** Rabbit Barn
- Mini 4-Hers can exhibit a rabbit owned by the Mini or borrow a Kosciusko County 4-Her's rabbit to show.
- The rabbit must be in good health but is not required to be tattooed.
- Suggested attire includes a long-sleeved shirt.