

PURDUE

U N I V E R S I T Y

PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Elkhart County

Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

17746 County Road 34, Ste E

Goshen, IN 46528-6898

Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture



Welcome!



LOOK INSIDE
for important information
about Elkhart County's
Mini 4-H program!

MINI 4-H NEWSLETTER



2021



Welcome to Elkhart County's Mini 4-H program! Mini 4-H introduces Kindergarten, first, and second graders to 4-H. Elkhart County 4-H sponsors many activities to help youth learn and have fun. We are excited to have you as a part of one of the best organizations around and we hope to learn and grow with your children for years to come!

This newsletter will give you details for the activities planned for Mini 4-H in 2021. Though attendance is not required, we hope you will take part in these events planned just for you. Please call us at the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office at 574-533-0554 or email Anna Balas at abalas@purdue.edu for more information.

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Extension - Elkhart County

Purdue Extension Elkhart County Office:

17746 County Road 34 Ste E, Goshen, IN 46528 (574) 533-0554
www.extension.purdue.edu/elkhart

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2021 MINI 4-H DAY CAMP

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Registration due in Extension Office by June 1.
Space will be limited, register early!
Youth & Parent Helpers must bring a sack lunch.
No refrigeration is available.



Mail to: Purdue Extension Elkhart County
Attn: Mini 4-H
17746 County Road 34. Ste E
Goshen, IN 46528-6898

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Parent Email _____

Emergency phone number: _____

Allergies: _____

Other special information: _____

Parents are invited to assist at camp by keeping a group together and helping youth to navigate the fairgrounds to the various activities. If you are able to stay and help, please sign up here.

Parent helper _____ Phone _____
(if different from child)

Enrollment received after the capacity is reached will be placed on a waiting list. You will be notified if space becomes available.

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution. If you require a reasonable accommodation for participation, contact Anna Balas at abalas@purdue.edu by June 1, 2021.

MINI 4-H 2021

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MINI 4-H EVENTS 2021

Enrollment must be completed by January 15.

Mini 4-H Drive-Thru Welcome Event

Monday, March 29, 2021

*Information and project selection

4 pm – 7 pm

*Manual distribution

Commercial Building F, Fairgrounds

*Due to the Covid-19 safety protocols, **all 2021 workshops require pre-registration for both youth and parents** wishing to stay with their child during the event. Space is limited and registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 574-533-0554 to reserve your space or return the registration form found in this mailing to the Purdue Extension Elkhart County Office.*

Masks are required at all events in accordance with safety protocols.

Mini 4-H Workshop #1

*Pre-registration required, space is limited

Thursday, April 1, 2021

*Tractor, Cookies, Collections, and

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm

Nature Projects (Bugs, Wildlife, Forestry)

Ag Hall and ECCC Building, Fairgrounds

Mini 4-H Workshop #2

*Pre-registration required, space is limited

Thursday, April 22, 2021

*Arts and Crafts, Beef, Farm Animals,

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm

and Models

Ag Hall and ECCC Building, Fairgrounds

Mini 4-H Workshop #3

*Pre-registration required, space is limited

Thursday, May 27, 2021

*Dinosaurs, Foods, Sewing and Pets

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm

Home and Family Arts and ECCC Building, Fairgrounds

Mini 4-H Day Camp

*Pre-registration required

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

*Limited enrollment

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Commercial Building A Fairgrounds

Mini 4-H Check-In

*All Mini 4-H projects must be checked in at this time.

Thursday, July 15, 2021

9:00 am – 6:00 pm

ECCC Building, Fairgrounds

Mini 4-H Check-Out

*Projects not picked up on time will be discarded.

Sunday, August 1, 2021

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Monday, August 2, 2021

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

2021 MINI 4-H WORKSHOPS

- **Thursday, April 1** (Cookies, Collections, Tractor, and Nature (Bugs, Wildlife, Forestry))
- **Thursday, April 22** (Arts & Crafts, Beef, Farm Animals, and Models)
- **Thursday, May 27** (Dinosaur, Foods, Pets, and Sewing)

All workshops are 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm.

Pre-registration is required for youth and parents who wish to stay.

Mail to: Purdue Extension Elkhart County
Attn: Mini 4-H
17746 County Road 34, Ste E
Goshen, IN 46528-6898



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Parents Name (s) _____

Parent Email _____

Emergency Phone (during workshops) _____

Mini 4-H Workshops offered:
(indicate the number of parents and youth who will attend each workshop)

____ Workshop #1 Workshop 1 Project Choice: _____

____ Workshop #2 Workshop 2 Project Choice: _____

____ Workshop #3 Workshop 3 Project Choice: _____

Note: The models workshop participants are asked to bring a model to work on at the workshop. This can be their fair exhibit or another model of their choice. The cookies workshop participants are asked to bring their own cookie, frosting, bags, and tips. All other workshop materials will be supplied.



Extension - Elkhart County

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If you require a reasonable accommodation for participation, contact Anna Balas at abalas@purdue.edu by March 15th, 2021.

CONTACT ELKHART COUNTY 4-H

If you have questions, please contact the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office at 574-533-0554. For Mini 4-H project questions, ask for Anna Balas. You can also send an email to Anna at abalas@purdue.edu. Our support staff will also be happy to answer any question about 4-H.

Our address is: Purdue Extension Elkhart County
17746 County Road 34, Ste E
Goshen, IN 46528-6898

ELKHART COUNTY 4-H ON THE WEB

If you are looking for information about Elkhart County 4-H, visit the Purdue Extension Elkhart County website at www.extension.purdue.edu/elkhart.

Forms, deadlines, and information about upcoming events are available. Mini 4-H manuals are also available on the website and can be printed at home to avoid a trip to the Extension office.

If you're on Facebook, search for
Elkhart County 4-H and like our page.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

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 alternate formats.



Extension - Elkhart County

MINI 4-H BASICS



- Mini 4-H youth need to enroll in 4-H every year. Enrollment should be completed online at <https://v2.4honline.com>. If you are new to 4-H, click on "Don't have an account" to begin. If you have any questions or would like to complete a paper enrollment, call 574-533-0554.
- The Mini 4-H Welcome Event provides youth and their families a chance to ask questions and learn about Mini 4-H project options.
- Mini 4-H'ers choose one project that they would like to complete and exhibit at the 4-H Fair in July. They complete their project with an adult at home by following the directions in their selected project's manual.
- Mini 4-H Project Manuals may be picked up at Mini 4-H events, at the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office in Goshen, or downloaded from our website.
- Mini 4-H Workshops are short events where youth learn how to complete projects through hands-on activities. Youth may attend as many workshops as they choose.
- Mini 4-H'ers may attend Mini 4-H Day Camp on June 30 at the fairgrounds for fun hands-on activities led by adults and older youth.
- Youth bring their project to the fair on **check-in day, Monday, July 19, from 11am-7pm** for comments and exhibition.
- Youth pick up their projects on **check-out day: either Sunday, August 1, from 2-5pm or Monday, August 2 from 12-5pm.**

Your Mini 4-H club/project leaders are here to help you. Please do not hesitate to call them or the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office at 574-533-0554 any time you have a question about your project, interpreting requirements, or the 4-H program in general.

Check the 4-H website, ask your club leader or consult the 4-H Nugget (email newsletter) for upcoming deadlines and important information.

MINI 4-H DRIVE-THRU WELCOME EVENT



All Mini 4-H'ers and their parents are invited and encouraged to attend the Drive-Thru Welcome Event on **Monday, March 29, 2021**. It will be held in Commercial Building F at the Elkhart County fairgrounds from 4-7 pm.

This event gives you a chance to safely meet the Mini 4-H leaders and ask questions about the Elkhart County 4-H program. Project manuals will be handed out at this event and project leaders will be available to help you choose one project to complete this year.

We encourage you to check out all of the Mini 4-H Project Descriptions in this packet before choosing your project at the Welcome Event.

Since this is a drive-thru style event this year, we encourage arrivals according to the following schedule to prevent long lines.

Last names starting with **A-H** are encouraged to arrive between 4-5pm

Last names starting with **I-P** are encouraged to arrive between 5-6pm

Last names starting with **Q-Z** are encouraged to arrive between 6-7pm

If these suggested times do not work for your family, please feel free to arrive at any time between 4-7pm.



Fast Facts about the 4-H Program Page 18

The Mini 4-H program serves as an introduction to 4-H for young children. Youth are eligible to enroll in 4-H in 3-12th grade.

- 4-H'ers enroll in a club and may complete multiple projects.
- Clubs meetings are youth-led and provide leadership and community service opportunities.
- There are over 70 project options offered to 4-H'ers in Elkhart County.
- Elkhart County 4-H'ers are eligible to apply for scholarships and funding for higher education
- 4-H'ers have opportunities to travel to state and national conferences and events as well as attend summer camp.
- 4-H'ers may exhibit or show their projects at the Elkhart County Fair.

Mini 4-H'ers are welcome and encouraged to visit most 4-H club meetings to find out more about the 4-H experience.

Call 574-533-0554 to find out how your Mini 4-H'er can visit a 4-H club meeting.



FUNDRAISERS

The Elkhart County 4-H program sponsors fundraisers to support their activities for youth in Elkhart County. The largest is the sale of geraniums. Geraniums are \$1.50 each and are available in red, pink and white. They may be ordered from any Elkhart County 4-H member or in the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office.

Orders are due in April 2021!

4-H Club Corporation also has a **Better World Books** collection box at the fairgrounds. Books donated that are sold through Better World Books have 15% of the sale price returned to support Elkhart County 4-H.

Participation in any of these fundraisers is optional.



4-H Friday Nugget

The 4-H Nugget is our newsletter that is emailed every 1st and 3rd Friday to your email account after enrollment. If you would like to receive a paper version, please visit our office. We will be more than happy to provide a paper copy in our office or in the open foyer which open to the public 24/7.



MINI 4-H WORKSHOPS

The Mini 4-H Workshops will be held **on Thursdays, April 1, April 22 and May 27 from 6:30-7:45pm** at the fairgrounds in Goshen. See page 3 for the building location and specific project offered on each date.

At the workshops, project leaders will provide fun hands-on activities so that youth can learn more about the project. Since the actual project for display will be completed at home, youth can participate in any of the workshops (even other projects that they will not exhibit this year). Mini 4-H manuals will be available for those who did not attend the Welcome Event.

*Due to the Covid-19 safety protocols, **all 2021 workshops require pre-registration for both youth and parents** wishing to stay with their child during the event. Space is limited and registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 574-533-0554 to reserve your space or return the registration form found in this mailing. Please mail the form to the Purdue Extension Elkhart County Office or email it to Anna Balas at abalas@purdue.edu*

Masks are required at all events in accordance with safety protocols.

- The models workshop participants need to bring a model to complete at the workshop.
- The cookie decorating workshop participants need to bring their own bags, tips, frosting and cookie.

All other workshop supplies will be provided.



MINI 4-H DAY CAMP



Mini 4-H Day Camp is a chance for Kindergarten, first, and second graders to meet older 4-H'ers. Day camp activities are planned and conducted by teen 4-H members with the assistance of adults. Youth travel around the fairgrounds and stop at various stations to participate in fun activities.

When: **Wednesday, June 30, 2021**
 9:00 am-2:00 pm
Where: Commercial Building A
 Elkhart County Fairgrounds, Goshen

Theme to be announced.

The event is held rain or shine! Please dress for the weather. Due to safety protocols, all participants must bring a mask and non-perishable lunch, including a water bottle. *No refrigeration is available, and food will not be provided onsite.*

Parents are invited to help lead groups around the grounds, if they are available to attend with their child. However, parents are not required to stay.

Pre-registration is required for both youth and adults wishing to stay with their child. Space is limited and registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 574-533-0554 to reserve your space or return the registration form found in this mailing. Please mail the form to the Purdue Extension Elkhart County Office or email it to Anna Balas at abalas@purdue.edu

Masks will be required in accordance with safety protocols.

FAIR TICKET POLICIES

The 4-H Fair Board gives each 4-H'er and their parents the opportunity to attend the Elkhart County 4-H fair by providing free gate tickets to each 4-H'er and their parents or guardians. These tickets will be issued at project check-in for the Mini 4-H program. Parents who have other youth enrolled in a 4-H club will receive their passes through their older child's 4-H club, and will not receive additional passes to the fair.

Tickets can only be used by the person to whom they are issued!

Tickets without names or shared with others may be confiscated by gate keepers at the fair and will not be replaced. Parent tickets that are confiscated will result in the parent not being issued a ticket the following year.

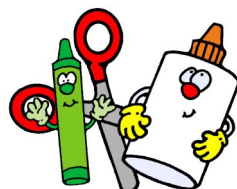
A second violation in subsequent years will result in the parent no longer being eligible for free parent passes.

If a family member or a friend is bringing your child's project to the fair and you wish them to pick up your fair passes, please send a note with them giving us permission to release your passes to them.



WHERE DO I FIND SUPPLIES?

In an effort to assist you, below are listed some sources of supplies. This list is not all inclusive. ***No endorsement by 4-H of products or services is implied or intended.***



Poster board with a stiff backing. Use poster board with cut-up cardboard attached to the back, ***foam board*** or a poster frame. Be sure to follow size requirements. All Mini 4-H posters must be **exactly 11 X 14 inches**, displayed horizontally.

4-H Club Corporation sells foam board in 11" x 14" and clear plastic sleeves that will fit your Mini 4-H posters. These will be available at Mini 4-H events or can be purchased in the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office.

Posters must be covered with clear plastic. You may purchase a ***poster sleeve***, or use roll vinyl if your project is too large to fit in a poster sleeve. Roll vinyl is sold by the yard in different weights. ***Please do not use kitchen plastic wrap.*** Poster board, foam board, and roll vinyl may be purchased at craft or discount stores. Stores that carry these supplies: Jo-Ann Fabrics, Hobby Lobby, Wal-Mart, Menards, and John's True Value Hardware to name a few.

Dioramas should be in a **standard size shoebox** (no oversize boxes, please) and covered with roll vinyl.

Models should be mounted on a base no larger than one inch larger than the model, ***in all directions***. This can be a piece of cardboard with toothpicks on each side of the tires, to keep the model from rolling off the base or a decorative base of your choosing. Legos are acceptable!

MINI 4-H PROJECTS AND MANUALS

After choosing **one** project to complete for the fair, Mini 4-H'ers receive their project manual at the Welcome Event or Workshops. The Mini 4-H manuals have fun activities designed to help youth learn about their selected project at home. They also include instructions and requirements for creating an exhibit to display at the fair.

Youth do ***NOT*** need to complete all of the activities in the manual, but should choose to complete activities that interest them *with the help of an adult*.

Mini 4-H'ers who are unable to attend the Welcome Event or Workshops may pick up their manual at the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office in Goshen. **All Mini 4-H Manuals can also be downloaded from the Elkhart County 4-H website:**

<https://extension.purdue.edu/Elkhart/article/7592>

Mini 4-H Project choices are described on the following pages. Come to the Mini 4-H Welcome Event to learn more about these projects.

**For specific questions about your project, call the
Purdue Extension Elkhart County office at
(574) 533-0554 for your project leader's phone number.**



Mini 4-H Projects



Arts & Crafts

In this project you will experiment with different colors and textures to create an art project of your choice. For your exhibit you will mount your art work on a poster.

Beef



Complete a poster project and be paired with an animal by Beef Club leaders. Participate in a non-competitive show with the animal's owner. This is intended to be an educational and fun introduction to the Beef project.

Bicycle



This project will teach you how to care for your bicycle and ride it safely. For your exhibit you will make a poster about what you have learned. Bicycle members are invited to attend the regular 4-H Bicycle Club meetings planned for older youth. See page 11 for more information.

Collections



Do you save rocks, buttons, butterflies or anything else? This project helps you organize your things. Your exhibit will be a poster with pictures or examples from your collection.

Cookie Decorating



This project will teach you the basics of cookie decorating to prepare you for a future cake decorating project in regular 4-H. Display one decorated (frosted) cookie **OR** Styrofoam circle (no larger than 6 inches in diameter).

Dinosaurs



In this project you will learn about dinosaurs and how they lived long ago. For your exhibit you will make a poster telling about one type of dinosaur or make a "dino" diorama.

RIBBONS & CERTIFICATES

All Mini 4-H'ers receive the same blue ribbon and certificate. A comment sheet is provided so Mini 4-H'ers will know what to expect when they join a 4-H Club in 3rd grade. Ribbons and comments are available for pick up during fair (when staff are available) in the kitchen of the ECCC, which is located in the south hallway.



Ribbons not picked up at the Fair are available at project check-out.

Certificates are typed from the projects, where youthful handwriting is sometimes difficult to read. **Please bring spelling errors to the attention of the staff during the fair so corrections can be made, and a corrected certificate can be available on project check-out day.**

CHECKOUT

PROJECT CHECK OUT

Sunday, August 1 @ 2-5 pm

Monday, August 2 @ 12-5 pm

ECCC, Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

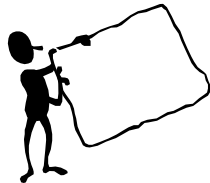
Projects must be picked up during check-out. Projects not picked up will be discarded. If you are unable to pick up your project, please arrange for a family member or friend to pick it up for you. Be sure they know what project they are picking up for you.

FAIR EXHIBIT REMINDERS

It is very important that you pick up a manual, read and follow the directions for the exhibit requirements and size restrictions. These requirements are found at the back of each Mini 4-H Manual.

- Title your poster with 1 to 1 ½ inch letters so that it is visible at Fair.
- Remember to fill in a record sheet (found in the back of each manual) and attach to the back of the poster for display.
- Label your project with the exhibit label tag provided in the manual to ensure there is space for a barcode sticker at check-in.
- Please be sure your child's name is clearly **printed** with black ink on the exhibit label as this information is used to type names on certificates.

No oversize posters or unmounted projects will be accepted for exhibition.



PROJECT CHECK-IN

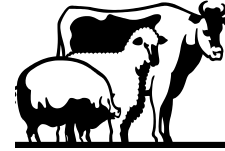
Thursday, July 15 @ 9 am– 6 pm
ECCC, Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

The project you complete for Mini 4-H must be brought on this date and cannot be accepted early. Projects may be brought by a family member or a friend if you cannot come in person on that day.

Your cooperation is appreciated.



Farm Animals



In this project you will learn about farm animals. You may choose from dairy cows, beef cattle, goats, sheep, rabbits, poultry, horses and swine. You will make a poster about what you have learned. You do not need to own an animal.

Foods



In this project you will learn about the food groups and My Plate guidelines. As you learn to mix and measure ingredients, you will have fun making cookies. Your exhibit will be a plate of two no-bake recipe cookies.

Flowers & Garden



You will learn how to plant and care for your flowers & garden. You will exhibit one of the following: a single vegetable from your garden, a poster showing pictures of your garden or flowers, or cut flowers you grew in your garden displayed in a simple bud vase.

Models



This project helps you learn to follow directions. You will complete a snap together model. Size is restricted.

Nature Projects: (Bugs, Forestry and Wildlife)

Bugs



In this project you will explore some of the things that make bugs different from each other. For your exhibit you will make a poster about what you have learned.

Forestry



In this project you will study types of seeds and leaves of trees. You will also learn how animals make their homes in trees, what trees give us and how trees help us. For your exhibit you will make an art collage or a poster about trees.

Wildlife



This project helps you learn what animals need to survive. Your exhibit will be a poster or a diorama about a wild animal in Indiana.

Pets

This project teaches how to have fun and care for your pet. For your poster exhibit you will use pictures to tell about your pet.

Sewing

In this project you will begin to collect the tools you will need to start sewing. Your exhibit will be one of these: a sewing box with tools and a pin cushion, a simple placemat or a poster of a completed stitching guide.

Tractor

In this project you will learn about tractors, how they are used, and safety precautions. This will introduce you to the Farm and Garden Tractor projects that are available beginning in grade 3. No actual tractor driving will be a part of this project. You will exhibit a poster with pictures, a story or a combination telling about your favorite tractor.

BICYCLE PROJECT MEMBERS

Bicycle members are invited to attend the regular 4-H Bicycle club meetings planned for older youth. Activities include learning the parts of your bicycle, how to maintain your bicycle and bicycle jeopardy. The club also sponsors group bicycle rides.

You may participate in 4-H Bicycle club rides, accompanied by a parent. You can also participate in the 4-H Bicycle rodeo held on the north side of the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office. Bring your bike and helmet if you would like to participate. You may participate in the activities that fit your schedule. If you have questions, please contact the 4-H Bicycle Club leaders, Jeff & Doris Biller, 574-862-4056.

**MINI 4-H LEADERS**

Extension Educator - 4-H Youth Development
Anna Balas - 574-533-0554

Listed below are the names of the Mini 4-H Project Leaders.

If you have questions about your project, please call the Purdue Extension Elkhart County office for help or to ask for the leader's phone number.

Building Superintendent: Nicki Plank

Assistant Superintendent: Cyndy Culp

Arts & Crafts:	Denise Rush	Monica Weldy
Beef	Taylor Howard	Pam Vanderwey
Bicycle:	Elaine Mast	
Collections:	Jan Nunemaker	
Cookie Dec.:	Nicki Plank	
Dinosaurs:	Taylor McKinley	
Farm Animals:	Cheryl Gall	Kandy Walter
Flower & Garden:		
Foods:	Holly Leeper	
Models:	Dustin Mast	Amanda Ellsworth
Nature Projects: (Bugs, Forestry and Wildlife)		
	Britt Calentine	
Pets:	Brittany McKinley	Pat McKinley
Sewing:	Lauren Whalen	
Tractor:	Emili Zahner	
Additional Mini 4-H Leaders:	Cyndy Culp	Karen Spencer