


# Mini 4-H Collections

- Mini 4-H is open to youth who are currently in **Kindergarten, first, or second grade** at the time of their enrollment on 4HOnline.
- Enroll in Mini 4-H through the 4HOnline website by January 15, <https://in.4HOnline.com> 
- There is no state program fee or manual fee for Mini 4-H, a local club fee may apply.
- Each Mini 4-H member can enroll in up to 5 mini 4-H projects and is able to **exhibit 2 mini-projects** at the St. Joseph County 4-H Fair.
- All projects to be exhibited must be entered into Fairentry.com (<https://stjoseph-in.fairentry.com>) prior to check-in.
- All Mini 4-H projects are checked in on Monday or Tuesday of project turn-in week, one week before fair starts, in the 4-H Exhibit Hall of the Esther Singer Building. Enter Gate 2 off Ironwood Road.
- Your completed Mini 4-H project will receive a 4-H ribbon once it is exhibited at the 4-H Fair.

## COLLECTIONS:

You will build a 4-H collection of stamps, unusual rocks, coins, thimbles, campaign buttons, etc.

**Exhibit Requirements:** Your exhibit will be a poster, 14” x 22” displayed horizontally on a stiff backed material. Label your poster “My 4-H Collection”. 8-10 items should be attached to poster. Poster must be covered with clear plastic and fastened at back.

## 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.

Building a 4-H Collection is fun! Sometimes when you see something that you think is different or interesting, you save it. When you find another like it, and add it to the one you've already saved, you have the start of a collection.

As you are building your collection\*\*, you may wish to keep your collection in a box, book, or display it on a shelf at home. Your Mother or Father or another adult will help you decide the safest place to keep your treasures. Collecting things like stamps, thimbles or unusual rocks, can not only be fun, but educational. Collecting teaches us to be more alert (you have to keep your eyes open for more treasures). Building a collection can help us to be neater (a good collector keeps his collection neat and well-cared for). Collecting will help you to become more aware of the world around you (you will want to read about the best places to locate treasures, identify the type of variety, and keep well-informed about what you are collecting).

All around the house and yard are many things that make great collections Most of these cost very little or nothing at all to collect. Once your family and friends know you are a collector, they will want to help you find and save items for your collection.

**REMEMBER: NEVER TAKE SOMETHING FOR YOUR COLLECTION WITHOUT PERMISSION!**

**Some things that are inexpensive to collect are:**

SEWING BUTTONS	(Different sizes, shapes, colors and unusual kinds)
BUTTERFLIES	(Different varieties)
CAMPAIGN BUTTONS	(Election, 4-H or advertising)
COINS	(Different countries, commemorative, or with different dates)
STAMPS	(Different countries, holidays, special commemorative stamps)
LEAVES	(Different trees, bushes, plants)
ROCKS	(Sizes, shapes, colors, species)
POSTERS	(Pop, election, advertising)
CARDS	(Baseball, football, etc.)
BUGS*	(Different varieties)

\*\*A good Mini 4-H Collection would contain at least eight (8) to ten (10) labeled items.

EXHIBIT: Make a poster on stiff-backed horizontal cardboard (14" x 22" )

Label your poster: MY 4-H COLLECTION. Posters MUST be covered with clear plastic and fastened with tape tightly at back. You will register your project in 4-H Fair Entry, <https://stjoseph-in.fairentry.com>, and a label will be provided at project check in.

**\*INSECTS MUST BE DEAD BEFORE PINNING WITH PINS AND MAKE SURE  
THEY ARE NOT CRUSHED.**

## ON YOUR POSTER:

Attach at least ten to twelve items from your collection to the poster and label them.

Write a paragraph on the poster telling about your collection. Maybe Mom, Dad or your guardian could help you draw some straight lines on the poster to write your short paragraph.

When the poster is complete, cover it with a clear plastic wrap, and tape the wrap to the back of the poster to protect the things you have displayed.

If your collection is too valuable for display, take a photograph of each of your ten to twelve items and arrange them on your poster, along with a short paragraph you wrote about your collection.

PLEASE CHECK THE 4-H FAIR BOOK OR CALL YOUR CLUB COORDINATOR FOR DATE AND TIME OF PROJECT ENTRY.

We hope you enjoy making your Mini 4-H Collection Project this year!

Keep up your enthusiasm and when you are 10 years old you can have more fun by joining a 4-H Club and working on another 4-H Project!

If at any time you have any questions about your Mini 4- H Project, please contact your 4-H Educator at Purdue Extension-St. Joseph County, 125 S. Lafayette Blvd., 2nd Floor, South Bend, IN 46601 or call 235 -9604.

