

What kinds of exhibits can I bring to fair?

The opportunities to exhibit outgrowths of your 4-H experience at the fair are almost limitless. Another good source for exhibit ideas is in 4-H project manuals. Call the Extension office to find out if a project manual exists for the area you are interested in. Additional guidelines for exhibit of each category are listed in the fairbook under the description of each class. Here are some ideas:

Animals

510 Animal Science

- *A poster about how to select animal care items*
- *A report detailing career options and educational requirements in caring for animals*
- *A report describing unique waste management programs*

520 Veterinary Science

- *An educational display showing how disease is transmitted through the transport of animals*
- *A poster explaining the diagnosis and treatment of parasites in animals*

Agriculture and Natural Sciences

530 Crop Production

- *A display explaining how to choose forage varieties*
- *A report describing a disease or pest management plan*
- *A poster promoting organic farming or alternative agriculture*

540 Environment and Sustainability

Conservation

- *A display describing soil conservation*
- *A report explaining a windbreak plan on a farm or acreage*
- *A poster about creating habitat or reforestation of an area*

Entomology

- *A poster explaining an insect life cycle*
- *A report describing a bee management project*
- *A display showing research on insect genetics*

Forestry

- *Species collection of native trees including leaves, seeds, etc.*
- *A report discussing research on the uses of different kinds of tree products*
- *A poster showing common tree diseases, their causes and treatments*

Wildlife

- *A poster explaining how to identify wildlife tracks*
- *A display educating the public about the food chain*

550 Horticulture

- *A display about vegetable/herb companions*
- *A poster promoting horticulture careers*
- *A report discussing non-chemical pest management ideas*

Plant Science

- *A poster educating about plant life cycles*
- *A display about cross breeding of plant varieties*
- *A report detailing root system growth*

560 Outdoor Adventures

- *Develop a presentation showing how to set up and take down a tent (even in the rain!)*
- *Investigate the types of fish that are found in your area*
- *Write and illustrate a cookbook about catching and cooking fish*
- *Create an original piece of artwork using fish prints or other natural objects or dyes; start a working exhibit*
- *Plan an overnight camping trip-what to take, where to go; make a poster to share your plan*

570 Safety and Education in Shooting Sports

- *Make a poster on the proper outfit and accessories for hunting, shooting, etc.*
- *Make a poster comparing different brands of available equipment*
- *Make a poster about different breeds of hunting dogs*
- *Make a poster comparing wildlife habitats and how humans interact with them on a daily basis*

Creative Arts

610 Music

- *Original instrumental or vocal music composition.*
- *An exhibit that compares and explains music trends in popular culture.*
- *Construction of a musical instrument.*

620 Photography

- *Identify the parts of a camera*
- *Select, mount, matte a photograph*

630 Visual Arts

- *Piece of original art such as charcoal drawing, watercolor, tempera or acrylic painting, pen and ink drawing, colored pencil drawing, etc.*
- *Portfolio about visual arts techniques such as perspective, sketching, contour drawing, shading, blending, etc.*
- *Display about drawing tools*
- *Report about a favorite artist's life or type of art*

- *Notebook based on an interview with a local artist or jeweler*
- *Report about museum visits*
- *An original sculpture such as cardboard, wire, plaster or clay*
- *An original drawing using pastels.*
- *Drawing or painting to decorate or embellish already constructed furniture.*

Family & Consumer Sciences

710 Child Development

- *Educational display giving information about age-appropriate toys and games*
- *Age-appropriate original short stories*

720 Clothing and Fashion

Choosing Clothes and Learning about Fabrics

- *Purchased dress and accessories for dance, give reasons for selections.*
- *Poster displaying fabric types and uses/projects for each type of fabric*

Clothing Safety and Care

- *Poster explaining proper clothing for a safe winter hike*
- *Display book giving information on fabric types and laundering tips*

Other Clothing and Sewing Ideas

- *A poster exhibiting the exploration of historic Japanese kimonos*
- *A poster exhibiting the history of the wedding dress or wedding attire for different cultures*

730 Consumer Management

Spending Plans and Record Keeping

- *Exhibit demonstrating how to establish a budget and savings plan*
- *A poster demonstrating appropriate use of credit*

Comparison Shopping

- *Poster comparing name brands to store brands*
- *Poster that compares various saving options such as investments, savings accounts, etc.*

Consumer Rights and Responsibilities

- *Exhibit a poster explaining various marketing strategies of grocery stores*
- *Show how to make a consumer complaint and research complaint policies of various stores.*

740 Food & Nutrition

- *Experiment with altering recipes and share results*
- *Compare cost of purchased vs. home made*
- *Make a recipe calendar for a gift - include a recipe for each month*
- *Assemble a set of favorite recipes*
- *Research sports drinks vs. water - share results via poster*

750 Health

- *A poster that is an outgrowth of a physical activity plan created to help a person achieve a particular goal, such as running a 5K race.*
- *A poster that explains the USDA's Dietary Guidelines and how to make healthy food choices for maximum health and energy.*

760 Home Improvement

Design in the Home

- *A portfolio of colors and room design ideas following the design elements and art principles*

Furniture in the Home

- *Strip and refinish an old dresser - must include steps followed, photos, cost, minimum explanation of 2 design elements and art principles*
- *Portfolio of furniture styles and how specific pieces of furniture fit into that design*

Accessories for the Home

- *Make an accessory for the home: original art, basket, wreath (must use design elements and art principles)*

Fabrics in the Home

- *Upholster a chair – must include steps used, cost, photos, design elements and art principles, etc.*
- *Fabric accessories such as a table runner, table cloth, placemats, or lamp shade.*

Maintenance in the Home

- *Create a chore/cleaning schedule for family members*
- *Research energy conservation and create an energy efficient plan for your home.*
- *Research a related career that you are interested in such as a home decorator, antique furniture buyers, or upholsterer*

770 Sewing & Needle Arts

Clothing Design and Creative Sewing

- *Construction of a dress.*
- *Original skirt, shirt, vest, or other garment design*
- *Poster with information of how color, texture, line, body type, etc. affect clothing choices*

Personal Development

810 Citizenship

- *A folder or binder detailing the goals, planning, action, and learning that took place as a result of a community service project.*

820 Communication

- *A poster describing the communication process with strategies to become a better communication and listener.*

830 Leadership

- *A poster communicating the qualities and behaviors that make a good and effective leader.*

Science, Mechanics and Engineering

910 Digital Storytelling

920 Mechanics

Automotive

- *Restored vehicles*
- *A poster explaining how anti-lock brakes work*
- *A display show a car safety kit*
- *A poster showing a car maintenance plan*

Electric/Electronics

- *A poster educating the public about electricity safety*
- *A display showing how to correctly solder parts for circuit assembly*
- *Creation of a circuit board or LED circuit*

Small Engine

- *A repaired engine*
- *A poster showing the parts of an engine*
- *A display showing proper small engine maintenance*

Tractor

- *Repair or restored tractor*

Tractor

- *A poster advocating for safe tractor operation*
- *A display showing the parts of a tractor engine*
- *A cost-benefit analysis of purchasing, renting or repairing tractors*

Welding

- *A welded article*
- *A poster explaining the types of welds and proper uses of each*
- *A display show welding safety*

930 Woodworking

- *Any wood article constructed by a member*
- *A display explaining the types of wood or wood finishes appropriate to different uses*
- *A poster showing proper tool use and safety procedures*

940 Science, Engineering and Technology

Aerospace

- *Any flyable model*
- *A poster explaining how airplanes gain lift*
- *A display educating the public about model rocket safety*
- *A poster explaining NASA's current areas of focus*

- *An educational display and model explaining the mathematic and scientific principles behind bridge construction and design.*

Computer

- *Creation of a computer program using a programming language*
- *Creation of a Power Point presentation used to educate about a topic*
- *Development of an Excel spreadsheet to calculate income and expenses for a home budget*
- *Use of a publishing program to create marketing documents for a small business*
- *The development of alteration of images using a graphic design program*

Other Science, Mechanics, and Engineering Ideas

- *Construction of a model car from a purchased kit.*
- *Model of the Empire State Building built with the 4-Hers own materials.*

Camping

- *A display explaining important camper safety rules, fire building, equipment selection, or outdoor cooking.*
- *Construction of an outdoor survival kit to be used during camping experiences.*

Communications Department

Education Presentation

- *Prepare a presentation on any topic in which you are interested and would like share with others. Topics may include, but are not limited to, how to complete a successful interview, accessorizing/clothing trends, basic meal planning, history of Des Moines County, etc.*

Working Exhibit

- *Demonstrate how to make your favorite recipe, clean a carburetor, train a dog, or prepare wood for staining. Choose any topic you would like to demonstrate to others!!*

Share the Fun

- *Choreograph and perform a dance with your club, a partner, or by yourself.*
- *Perform a skit or an act from a play.*
- *Sing a song.*

Clothing Department

Fashion Revue

- *Model a sweater that the 4-Her knitted.*
- *Model a skirt sewn by the 4-Her*

Clothing Selection and \$15.00 Challenge

- *Model a suit purchased for a job interview.*
- *Model a dress purchased for the first day of school*