



2009

4-H 1000

Family



Guide



www.ohio4h.org

2009 4-H Project Update

Changes in the Line Up

Experts from around the state worked hard this past year to bring you these new and revised titles:

New

- 91 Discovering 4-H
- 167 GPM ChickQuest: The Scientific Journey Through a Life Cycle (Teacher Guide)
- 167R ChickQuest Logbook
- 507 Robotics Explorer, Level 1
- 508 Robotics Probe, Level 2
- 531 Science Fun with Electricity

New idea starters include cake decorating, global climate change, and plant pathology.

Revised

- 166 Raising Turkeys
- 179 Uniform Rules for Horse Shows
- 491 Adventures in Home Living
- 511R CARTEENS Member Resource
- 528 Investigating Electricity
- 529 Wired for Power
- 530 Entering Electronics
- 554GPM ATV Safety, Leader's Guide
- 558 Nailing It Together, Level 3
- 559 Finishing Up, Level 4
- 751 Archery Member Record Book

These titles are discontinued:

- 100 Management Intensive Grazing
- 100R Pastures for Profit
- 390HG Leadership Skills You Never Outgrow Helpers Guide
- 391 Leadership Skills You Never Outgrow I
- 392 Leadership Skills You Never Outgrow II
- 393 Leadership Skills You Never Outgrow III
- 394 Leadership Skills You Never Outgrow IV
- 395AG Leadership Skills You Never Outgrow Advisors Guide
- 396 And My World I: The World Around Me
- 397 And My World II: People and Customs of the World
- 555 ATV Riders Handbook
- 641 Basic Beekeeping Manual
- 956GPM Invent: An African-American Inventor Curriculum

This edition of the Family Guide includes descriptions of the National 4-H helper's guides that correspond to each of the National 4-H series we offer. Some helper's guides are included in our inventory and can be ordered from your local county OSU Extension office. Others must be ordered directly from National 4-H. Please refer to the description of each helper's guide for ordering information.

Message from State 4-H Leader

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ohio 4-H! Through their experience in 4-H, youth learn leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Much of the success of 4-H is the result of the dedication of teen and adult volunteers working with our 4-H members. However, another key component is parental involvement. Your involvement in assisting your child in 4-H activities and projects contributes to development of skills and knowledge and ultimately to their success. Have a great year working with your family in 4-H. It will be fun!

Sincerely,
Tom Archer
State 4-H Leader
Ohio State University Extension

Ohio 4-H Family Guide

This guide is designed especially for volunteers, members and their families involved in 4-H through community and project clubs, EFNEP groups, and special school and community enrichment programs.

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The Family Guide is provided to you as a result of 4-H cost recovery funds.

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Understanding 4-H Projects

4-H Membership Information

Eligibility for 4-H membership begins when a child is age 5 and is enrolled in kindergarten as of January 1 of the current year (Cloverbuds). Membership to the 4-H club program begins when a child is at least age 8 and enrolled in 3rd grade as of January 1 of the current year. Ohio 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year in which an individual attains the age of 19. Membership begins when an eligible individual is enrolled in a club or group that is under the direction of a trained adult and within the scope of Ohio State University Extension.

4-H Membership Expectations

The expectations for 4-H membership are a balance among 4-H project work, involvement in the 4-H club, participation in 4-H activities and events, and working towards improving one's personal growth. This section addresses the project work component of a member's 4-H experience.

Project Work Through 4-H

Each project book contains a wealth of information and activities for planning and conducting a project. The projects can be completed by participating in activities through organized project groups or by carrying out the activities individually under the guidance of a parent or other adult.

What is a 4-H Project?

A 4-H project is made up of three types of activities:

- Hands-on Activities: making, producing, selling, practicing, observing, testing, interviewing, etc.
- Organized Activities: demonstrations, speeches, workshops, camps, county judging, project activities, exhibits, etc.
- Leadership/Citizenship Activities: conducting, planning, teaching, assisting, informing, organizing, etc.

Does a 4-H member have to take a project?

Yes. However, there are two ways to take a project, either as an individual project or as a group project.

Where does a 4-H member start when choosing a project?

If you need or wish to take an individual project, use the information in this section to help you decide.

Where does a member begin when planning a 4-H project?

Start by reading the section of the project manual called the Member Project Guide, which is usually located near the front. It may also be a separate supplement. The Member Project Guide offers step-by-step

instructions for conducting the three types of activities that make up a 4-H project.

Does a member have to do everything the Member Project Guide suggests?

No. That decision is up to the member, parents, and advisor. Members may plan to do a little or a lot based upon their interests and abilities. Project plans can also change as a member's interests and needs change.

How much time can be spent on a project?

It can be a matter of days, weeks, or even months, depending on the size and scope of the member's plan. Projects also can be repeated to accomplish additional project goals.

Is it necessary to attend county-level judging to complete a project?

For some members, project completion is nothing more than participating in project activities, completing a predetermined number of project goals, and reviewing accomplishments with a parent or project advisor. If you choose to participate in county-level judging or the county fair, check with your 4-H helper for specific judging requirements. For example, sometimes it is necessary to bring an exhibit along with your project manual to interview judging.

How can a 4-H member qualify to compete at the Ohio State Fair?

For non-animal and non-livestock events, qualifying for the state fair involves competing at the county level and being selected as state fair representative. Some counties hold events that are not state fair events, and some counties do not hold all of the events that take place at the state level. In addition, if you are taking a project and are outside of the recommended age range, be sure to double-check county and state fair regulations about participating (www.ohio4h.org/state-fair/guidebook.html). Generally speaking, youth outside the recommended age range are not eligible for competition. For animal and livestock events, be sure to check state fair guidelines at <http://4hansci.osu.edu>.

Project Selection and Ordering

When choosing a project, consider your interests, background, what is necessary to start your project, and what is available to help you complete it. The 4-H Project Selection Guide on page 32 will help you choose a project. Review this as a family, club, or group. A good rule of thumb is to select no more than two projects as a first-year member. Once you've selected your project(s) for the year, request your manual(s) using the form provided by your 4-H club helper (if any) or the one provided on page 35. Some projects require project supplements. Look for the ® to see if the project you selected needs a supplement. Each project manual is \$5.00 unless stated otherwise here or by your county Extension office.