

4-H Shooting Sports Project – Educational Guidelines

Shooting Sports offers a lifelong outdoor recreational activity for you and your family. The 4-H Shooting Sports project area involves more than just shooting at targets. There are many different learning activities that go along with shooting. The following pages offer some suggestions for possible educational projects for you to display at fair.

Specific objectives for the 4-H Shooting Sports program are:

- To encourage participation in environmental and outdoor education programs by exposing youth to shooting, hunting and other related activities.
- To support youth in developing valuable conservation and natural resources related knowledge, skills and stewardship.
- To enhance development of self-concept, character and personal growth through safe, educational and socially acceptable involvement in shooting.
- To teach safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment.
- To promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, ethical behavior, and conservation.
- To strengthen families through participation in lifelong recreational activities.
- To provide hands-on learning experiences.

Posters:

All posters should be 22" x 28".

Posters should be on poster board or foam board.

A poster should be a combination of pictures or drawings, and words.

The subject should be easy to understand with a quick look.

Words should be large enough to be read easily.

Pictures should be clear and large enough to see easily

The judge will ask questions and you must be able to explain the topic of your poster. The bulk of the judging award is on your knowledge of the poster topic.

Projects:

Start your projects early, they usually take longer than expected to finish. Many of these projects are good winter activities to do when you may not be able to practice on the range.

Details are very important in a project, little things can make a difference in your award.

Be able to explain how you made this project. The judge will want to know.

Archery

Poster Ideas

Keep a Shooting diary or journal
How to score a target
Chart / graph your target scores
Care and maintenance of equipment
Parts of a bow, parts of an arrow
Range safety
Range setup
Range commands, range rules
Archery terminology
Nine Steps to the Ten Ring
Archery Stance – proper form
How to make a bowstring
How to make an arrow
How to string a bow
Types of arrows and points
Types of bows and their use

Projects Ideas

Make a ground quiver
Make a bow stand
Make a bow string
Make an arrow
Make an arm guard and finger tabs
Make a bow stringer
Make a shooting game including rules

Speech, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk

Give an archery demonstration
Give an illustrated talk on archery

History of archery
Proper safety equipment and its use

Rifle

Poster Ideas

Keep a Shooting diary or journal
How to score a target
Chart / graph your target scores
Care and maintenance of equipment
Parts of a rifle
Range safety
Range setup
Range commands, range rules
Different rifle action types
Different ammunition types and use
How to clean a gun
Sight Picture and sight alignment
Safe Handling and storage of guns and ammo
Different shooting positions
Proper safety equipment and its use
How to identify a cartridge
Difference between sporting and target rifles

Project Ideas

Make a gun case
Make a sling
Make a gun stand or rack
Make a target stand
Make a shooting game including rules
Make a display of different ammunition
Make a kneeling roll
Make a shooting mat

Speech, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk
Give a rifle safety demonstration

Muzzleloading

Poster Ideas

Keep a Shooting diary or journal
How to score a target
Chart / graph your target scores
Care and maintenance of equipment
Parts of a muzzleloader
Range safety
Range setup
Range commands, range rules
Different grades of powder and their use
Different types of projectiles and their use
Different lock types, history and timeline
Proper loading technique
Proper cleaning methods
Safe storage of powder and caps
How to clear a barrel
Proper safety equipment and its use

Project Ideas

Make a loading stand
Make bullets
Make a short starter
Make a ramrod
Make a powder measure
Make a possibles bag
Make a "clear" barrel showing a proper load
Make a shooting game including rules

Speech, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk
Give a muzzleloading demonstration

Shotgun

Poster Ideas

Keep a Shooting diary or journal
How to score a round
Chart / graph your target scores
Care and maintenance of equipment
Parts of a shotgun
Range safety
Range setup
Range commands, range rules
Different action types
Explain the different gauges
Uses of different shot
Different chokes and their use
Proper Stance
Proper shotgun fit
Proper safety equipment and its use
How to identify a shell
How to clean a shotgun

Project Ideas

Make a gun case
Make a gun stand or rack
Make a shell pouch
Make a display of different shells
Make a shooting game including rules

Speech, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk

Give a shotgun safety demonstration

Hunting

Poster Ideas

Rules and regulations for specie
Proper hunting equipment
A hunting trip plan
Proper ammunition selection
Treestand safety and use
Hunter orange requirements
Animal track identification
Animal dropping identification
Specie identification in the field
Why do we hunt?
Animal population management
Hunter ethics and responsibility
Map and compass use
Survival kit

Project Ideas

Make a game call
Make a game feeder
Make plaster casts of animal tracks
Habitat construction / improvement
Make a survival kit
Make a hunting game including rules

Speech, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk

Trapping

Poster Ideas

Tanning Hides
Different types of traps
Trapping equipment
Animal identification
How to set a trap
How to skin an animal
Different types of bait
Rules and regulations for trapping

Project Ideas

Most projects would be shown in Section 10
Fins, Feathers, Furs & Hides

Speech, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk

4-H Shooting Sports Guidelines

The following are guidelines for providing learning experiences in shooting sport projects. The shooting sports project is oriented to the individual and is an activity that can be practiced throughout life. It is also a project where the entire 4-H family can participate.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL MEMBERS

- Develop an appreciation of nature through outdoor recreation activities.
- Develop safe and effective shooting sport habits and favorable conservation attitudes.
- Learn a lifetime skill.
- Learn to keep good records as to what is learned, how it was learned, leadership roles, expenses, property inventory and other essential facts.
- Learn shooting safety.
- Learn laws applying to shooting sports.
- Learn the parts of the equipment and what equipment is needed.
- Learn how to select and buy equipment
- Learn proper shooting techniques and fundamentals.
- Learn proper way to aim, shoot and follow through.
- Learn how to keep scores.
- Learn to build a target.
- Learn to identify various kinds of firearms and ammunition.
- New skills should be learned each year.
- To participate in the BB gun shooting project, 4-Hers must be 9 years of age.
- To participate in the rifle, shotgun, or muzzle loading shooting project, 4-Hers must reach their 12th birthday during the present calendar year.
- To participate in the archery project, 4-Hers should have reached their 9th birthday during the present calendar year.
- Obtain written permission from parents or guardian to participate in the project.

4-H Shooting Sports Learning Activities

Hunter Safety

Complete DNR Hunter Safety Certification Program.
Become familiar with various firearms and ammunition.
Learn proper handling of sporting equipment, including care, transportation, and storage of firearms and ammunition.
Practice rules of good gunmanship.

Rifle-Target Shooting

Learn how to aim and fire on the target range.
Develop a clear understanding of the principles of proper sight alignment, sight picture, the integrated act of shooting, proper positions and zeroing.
Learn to score tournament targets and assist on the firing line.

Shotgun-Target Shooting

Learn to aim and shoot on the trap range.
Develop a clear understanding of the techniques of pointing and wing-shooting techniques.
Learn how to score trap and assist on the trap line.

Shotgun-Field Shooting

Develop attributes of hunter sportsmanship.

Archery-Target Shooting

Learn how to aim and shoot on the archery range.
Develop a clear understanding of the principles of shooting.
Learn to score tournament targets and assist on the shooting line.

Archery – Field Shooting

Develop attributes of hunter sportsmanship