

Crafts

Ceramic Projects

- Learn terms; (types of brushes), kiln, clay, underglaze, glaze, stain, mold, slip, firing, greenware, pour, etc.
- Learn what is involved in the pouring process by pouring a mold.
- Learn how to clean and handle greenware.
- Learn what is involved in creating a hand-molded piece. Preparing clay for hand molding, adhering pieces together, how to make a coil, pinch method, slab, drape, drying, allowance for shrinkage, allowance for air to escape in the firing process, tools available, etc.
- Learn about types of ceramic paints, underglaze, glaze, stain, how to apply these and the use of Food and Drink Paints.

Leather Craft

- Leathercraft offers skills in drawing, carving, staining, dying, lacing, design and much more.
- It is suggested that stamping only be used in the younger classes. Simple patterns using stamps and carving only if needed. Simple whip stitch running stitch or single loop stitch are suggested lacings. All items should be finished using dye, antiquing, clear lacquer or liquid wax.
- More advanced patterns using tooling, carving and stamping techniques can be incorporated as the child's skill level advances. Double and triple lacing may be used in addition to previously listed lacings.
- More complicated articles can also incorporate the use of different dying techniques such as dry brushing, color blending and painting.

Wood Craft

- Woodcarving: Always practice safe handling of tools. Learn the names and uses of carving tools. Learn how to sharpen a knife as a sharper knife is safer and easier to use. The type of wood used should match the function of the project. Finish should be neat and complimentary to the work, uniform groove depth with no slips.
- Woodburning: Basswood or Cottonwood are the woods of choice. Graphite (non carbon) paper should be used to transfer pattern to wood. A wood burner with different tips should be used. After a pattern is burned into the wood, oil pencils can be used for a color pattern and shading. Project should be sealed and if a plaque – ready to hang. When burning your pattern, mistakes should be worked into the pattern. Be sure not to leave any pencil or graphite lines on the project.

Metal Craft

- Enameling, etching, hammered, tin punch molded, etc.
- Start with simple patterns to transfer onto the metal (member should do their own transferring). As skill level increases, use more difficult patterns, increase the difficulty of techniques used, possibly using colors to display the pattern.

Glass Craft

- Stained glass, stencil glass, leaded glass, etching, etc
- Glass craft is to be more than 50% glass; such as Mirror lifting, Mirror etching, Stained glass, hand painted ornaments, or pen ink on glass, glass etching and glass painting. Learn to apply stencils, etching cream, learn to properly protect the rest of the glass. As skill level increases, experiment with monogramming, mirrors, cutting, etc.

Paper Craft

Paper craft must consist of more than 50% paper. Some suggested projects could be paper-mache, origami, gift wrapping, stationery, hand made paper, etc. A project with small items such as origami, or that take less than 1 hour, shall consist of at least five different items. These five shall be attractively displayed.

- Gift Wrapping – learn to wrap neat corners and folds. Learn to shape on curves and cylinder packages and how to wrap them. Learn how to select appropriate packages for the item to be wrapped. As skill level increases, learn to make boxes when they aren't available, how to use household supplies attractively as wrapping paper, line a box properly and make bows.
- Paper Mache - needs to be neat, holes covered, painted properly, displayed or hung and appropriately finished.
- Origami – should use origami paper, folds should all be crisp and uniform.
- Stamping – rubber, homemade, sponge – should be clear, neat and tidy. Learn to apply different techniques, multi colored embossing, adding color after stamping.

Plastic Crafts

Plastic craft is any project that is more than 50% plastic such as Sun catchers, shrinky dinks, clear cast, windshield scraper, desk pen earring rack, towel ring or jewel box. Learn basic skills and what tools are needed to work with plastic materials. Proper hanging and display techniques must be used.

Country Painting

The article should be easy to handle, made out of wood, metal, figurines, plaques, cheese box, etc. Learn the types of paint available to use as well as the brushes and brushing techniques. Learn to transfer a pattern/design, (member should transfer their own pattern or design). As skill level increased, different brush techniques, blending and shading should be used.

Decoupage

- Decoupage is the craft of cutting out and gluing pictures to an item such as wood, glass, trays, etc. There is more than one technique for decoupage, however care and patience must be taken to achieve the beautiful mellow gloss with the look of a hand painted article.
- Stenciling – Become familiar with different techniques, for example stencil brush, airbrush, oil, tooth brush, squeegee, pad of velvet, aerosol paint, sponge, etc. Enter your project in the area for the type of medium you stenciled on, for example, fabric, glass, metal, wood, etc. Dyes, ink, french enamels, acrylic paints, poster paints, smoke, aerosol paints and leather dyes can be used.

Fabric Painting

Learn to prepare the article for painting. Learn the types of paint available to use as well as the brushes and brushing techniques. Learn to transfer a pattern/design, (member should transfer their own pattern or design). As skill level increases, different brush techniques, blending and shading should be used. Learn to preserve the paint in the fabric and proper care of the article.

Fabric Crafts

Fabric crafts are crafts that utilize fabric to create projects using a sewing machine, hand stitching or glue. The materials should be pre-washed, ironed and free of stains. Make sure all cutting is straight and hidden. Make sure corners are square. Learn to use glue neatly, no glue showing (strings). Be creative with trims and accents. These projects should not be pre-designed pillows or panels from a fabric store.

Wax Craft

There are many ideas for wax, the most popular is candle making, however there are other ideas such as painting, printing on fabric, rubbing and melted wax pictures. Learn techniques and equipment used. Some examples are:

Hand Carved – Cuts should be smooth and uniform in size and thickness. Use straight or curl to give a straight line to the work. Understand what colors will blend together to set a certain mood. Bottom of the candle must be smooth and flat. Check for fingerprints or marks around sides and base of candles. Smoothness of outside layer and shine is important.

Free Form – Emphasis should be on color combination, neatness, abstracts should have originality. Learn proper safety procedures.

Cardmaking Guidelines

Equipment

- Paper – wide range of weights, colors, patterns and textures
- Glue – any craft glue that dries clear, glue sticks, spray adhesive, double-sided tape and/or hot glue
- Craft Knife – replace blade often to make precise, sharp cuts.
- Cutting Mat (optional)
- Metal Ruler – provides nice straightedge for scoring and cutting
- Scissors – ordinary household scissor or decorative-edge scissor
- Hole and Shaped Punches (optional)
- Bone Folder – (optional) this tool creates crisp folds and flat finish to glued papers
- Decorative Elements – anything to add beauty, embellishment and originality to your card project

General Guidelines

- All greeting card projects must include envelopes
- All folds must be crisp and straight
- If cutting windows or other shapes, have smooth, clean cuts and edges

If a short term project, be sure to include 5 items
Be sure your project is clean and neat and complete
Display on a mat, some type of holder or in a basket.

Jewelry

For ***fair exhibit*** you must have at least three pieces in display. Be able to design your own settings. Some materials that can be used are polished stones or shells, seeds, metal, stringing beads, bead weaving, molded plastics, etc. If the project took less than 2 hours, you must have a group of five different pieces.

Latch Hook, String & Wire Art & Macramé

- ***Latch Hook*** - All projects must be finished (ready to use), rugs bound, wall hangings finished back by using rug binding or turning back a 1 – 2” strip of canvas on all sides and hooking through both layers. Wall hangings should be supported at top for support and to make it lie flat to wall, (wood dowel, metal rod, etc). Pillow must be finished as a pillow, stuffing should fit pillow and not be lumpy or heavy, backing should be color coordinated, yarn should not be sewn in backing.

Learn how to select appropriate canvas, yarn and/or kits. Learn proper finishing techniques. All knots should be hooked from the same direction, knots should be tight. Do not miss any loops in canvas. Learn to combine colors for harmony or contrast. Learn how texture affects a latch hook project.

- ***String & Wire Art*** – String art projects should be judged on design, color, background, arrangement and height of nails. Any type of nails may be used. String may be embroidery floss, yarn, string, wire, or any flexible medium used to connect nails.
- ***Macramé*** – Judging will be on both distant and close-up view. Knotting must be uniform, whether tied loosely or tightly. Consistency of knots is a must. Project will not be considered finished unless ready to use, framed, provided with hangers, backing, etc. Choice of cords, accessories and colors should complement each other. Cords should be selected to be functional and attractive. Materials should be strong enough to withstand the knotting procedures and not have a lot of elasticity.

Weaving

- ***Baskets*** – A simple basket with or without handles of natural color, learn terms and materials used. As skill level increases colored reed and or type of reed may be used and a design on the top of the project.
- ***Other weaving*** – This covers many different projects. Some are loom weaving, ribbon weaving, paper, clay, etc. The weave should be even and consistent. As skill level increases, incorporate a pattern into the weave and experiment with different materials.

Natural Crafts

Items made from natural (not man made) materials. The project must be 75% natural. Suggestions are seed, collage, pressed flowers, rubbings . . . using weeds, corn husk dolls, straw work, and wheat weaving. The project should increase in difficulty each year. The project should be neat and clean with no visible glue lines or dirt marks.

Scrapbooking Guidelines

General Guidelines

- There are many materials available for scrapbooking. Choose whatever papers, stickers, textures, pens, etc., necessary to complete your theme or event.
- The importance of the project is to preserve memories, photo-journaling and photo-documentation.
- Pages and Album must be acid-free and photo safe.
- Albums must be neat and pages in order. Albums must have a title page.
- A page entry must be neat, complete and tell a story.
- Judging will be based on material quality, creativity and overall appeal.
- Put your pages in sheet protectors. There should be 5 double-sided pages to make an album. If continuing an album from year to year, add 5 new pages each year.

Stamping Guidelines

Equipment

- Stamps – many varieties
- Stamp inks – dye-based, pigment, embossing, fabric, permanent
- Stamping Surfaces – paper, wood, fabric, polymer, ceramic, terra-cotta, leather
- Stamp Cleaner – diluted window cleaner or non-alcohol baby wipes
- Embossing Powder
- Embossing/Heat Gun – can use other forms of heat but use caution when using the alternative methods (iron, hot plate, stove top or toaster)
- Enhancement materials – colored pencils, markers, watercolor paints, watercolor pencils.

General Guidelines

- All projects must be **complete** in order to be exhibited, and ready for their intended use.
- All projects should be neat, no smears or runs
- Remember how you made your project, the judge will be asking questions and examining your work.

Themed Basket Guidelines

General Guidelines

- This project must be displayed in a basket or some type of container and include everything necessary to make a complete and coordinated gift or display.
- In addition to the basket or container, the project must include at least 7 items. Also, include sisal, Easter grass, tissue paper, raffia or something similar in the basket before adding the gift or display items.
Include a tag naming the basket theme.

Polymer Clay Guidelines

Equipment suggested:

Polymer clay, cutting blade or craft knife, acrylic rod or rolling pin, work surface (wax paper or ceramic tile), baking tray, oven, large needles to pierce holes, shape-cutters/sculpture tools, texture sheets (window screen, textured wallpaper, lace, etc), baby wipes, wet/dry sandpaper.

General Guidelines

- Interesting effects can be made by adding colored sand, rubber stamp embossing powder, dried spices, potting soil, etc.
- Be sure your project is clean, neat and properly displayed.
- The clay needs to be hardened by judging time.

Soapmaking Guidelines

Equipment suggested:

Washable cutting board, sharp knife, colorants, molds, measuring spoons and cups, long-handled wooden or stainless steel spoons, glass eyedroppers, pouring jars or pitcher, some type of drying rack (white butcher paper works well), some type of oil or grease if your project requires it, digital scale, towels and whatever else you need to complete your soap project.

General Guidelines

- Some soap require a curing time, be sure to leave yourself enough time for your project to be complete.
- Display your soap project(s) attractively
- Make notes for yourself as you prepare your project since some soap will need to be made several weeks before fair, so you will remember all your steps as the judge will be asking questions about your project.
- Label each soap collection. Have at least 3 samples from each batch.
- Include recipe or instructions for the soap project.

Holiday Decoration

Holiday decorations can be one article or several articles. They must pertain to the same Holiday, such as Christmas, Halloween, etc. If one article is shown it should be worthy of taking to the fair. If the member has done several holiday decorations, they can be taken as one entry and shown at the fair, for example; a series of stencil designs, ornaments, etc. Remember short term craft rule.

Dolls

A simple pattern or kit should be used, facial features should be simple and basic to start with then as the skill level increases, so should the difficulty and detail of the work. Workmanship should be neat! This is not for pre-designed pillows or panels from a fabric store. The members own creativity should show, giving the doll its own personality. Examples; mop dolls, block dolls, ceramic dolls & porcelain dolls.

Garden Art

Stepping stones, windmill, scare crow, etc. They should be properly displayed, neat and show individuality.

Guidelines for Model Rocket Construction

Learn to construct a model rocket that can be launched. This should be a learning and enjoyable project for the 4H'er.

1. The rocket should be constructed from manufactured or hand made parts. Materials used should be paper, cardboard, balsa wood or plastic. **NO METAL CAN BE USED IN EXTERIOR PARTS OF THE ROCKET.**
2. The degree of difficulty in the construction and the detail of finishing the exterior should increase each year.
3. Rockets should be sturdy, safe and aerodynamically designed so they can be launched.
4. Engine size should be in proportion for the size of the rocket and should not be larger than a size "C" engine.

RULES FOR ROCKET LAUNCH

1. Participants must be 4-H members.
2. No unauthorized persons on Launch Site
3. Launch Safety Officer will have discretion to disqualify launch if rocket is unsafe.
4. All rockets must have parachute or streamer recovery.
5. Each participant must have all necessary supplies.
6. Launch pads will be furnished.
7. Rocket landing closest to target will qualify for Best Of Show and Outstanding Ribbons.
8. Rocket model judging will be held from 9:00 AM to Noon at the Non-livestock judging area.
9. You may use the same rocket for both model rocket judging and rocket launch.
10. Rockets will be inspected and weighed prior to launch for proper engine size. Engine size should be in proportion for the size of the rocket and should not be larger than a size "C" engine.
11. Gliders are permitted to launch.
12. Launch pad can be adjusted within safety requirements.
13. One launch per person for ribbon qualification, additional launches may take place after ribbon qualification is established.
14. Rocket launch will be held in the Riding Arena at 1:00 PM on the Saturday of Judging.