4-H Jewelry Making Project Suggestions

Please phone the Extension Office at 269/467-5521 if you have questions.

Teaching Objectives: To recognize and identify rocks and minerals used in jewelry; to use certain rocks and stones in simple jewelry settings; to learn the art of polishing and shaping stones.

First year – simple jewelry setting design

Work with stones that already tumbled. These stones should be used in simple designs with silver wire such as initials, flowers, little animals, etc. Stones may be used for eyes, ears, facial expressions.

Second year – Polishing and Shaping

Setting for rocks should be completed before polishing and shaping begins – shape to fit the setting. Beginning shaping should be in squares.

Project Ideas: tiger-eye rings, earrings, key rings, cuff links.

Third year – Advanced Polishing and Shaping

This also includes advanced setting and layout. Members are encouraged to use their own equipment this year. Shaping should progress to ovals, circles, and finally faceting.

Project Ideas: Same as second year, but with emphasis on advanced stone and metal work.