



Project Selection and Record Keeping

4-H members have many project areas to choose among, depending on where they live. Members should consult with their parents and 4-H leaders when choosing a project. They also should consider:

- Their own personal interests, needs and abilities
- Family situations
- Project costs
- The suitability of the project to their area or site
- The availability of leadership and curriculum support for the project

New members, particularly younger ones, may want concentrate on one project. As they gain experience and confidence with the 4-H system, they may take on more projects and more complex projects to meet their interests and needs.

As soon as possible, members should develop a tentative project plan to use throughout their 4-H careers. They can use a main project as the foundation in their 4-H development.

Project work that is rewarding and stimulating should be continued when possible. Increasing project involvement will provide more learning.

Activities that are related to the core project or that hold a specific interest for the member are logical additions to their project lists. For example, a member who has a food and nutrition project could select gardening or poultry projects. A member who has a beef project could select a project related to cattle feed.

Youth with nutrition projects could select others in the areas of health and food preparation.



Project activities are the core around which the 4-H member's personal growth and experience develops. Experienced members find satisfaction in expanding their project work, learning new things, discovering new vocational opportunities and understanding the "whys" behind the "how to's" of project work.

The 4-H project record

4-H members learn by keeping records of project activities, including finances and results of their efforts. Record forms are available from your county Extension office. If the 4-H member conducts more than one project, records should be completed for each of them.

Members who complete a project record may be eligible to receive a completion certificate, pin, ribbon or medal.

Reference: This publication is an edited and updated version of the "Texas 4-H Leaders Handbook."

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