

Marion Co. 4-H Coin Collection Project (Numismatics)

Grades K - 12

Levels: Choose any one of the three levels at which you feel ready to do a project. You do not have to start at Level 1. You may participate at Level 1 for only 3 years. There are no age requirements for any level.

Record Sheet: Download your [Record Sheet](#) here.

Recommendations: Arrange your coin collection in a neat manner. Coins should be displayed in a suitable holder similar to clear plastic types used for trading cards. This allows the coin to be viewed from both sides. Coins should be identified by date, mintmark and country if not made in the U.S.

Due to the value of a coin collection, the collection must be checked out of the Arts and Crafts building between 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the day after judging. Check the Marion County 4-H Fair webpage, in this site, to find out the day that coin collections will be judged.

Levels

Level 1 Beginning Collector: Exhibit one or more of the following; however more than one selection still counts as only one exhibit.

1. A set of U.S. coins from the year of your birth. This set includes: penny, nickel, dime, quarter and half dollar. This set should have the Philadelphia and Denver mints represented for each coin type.
2. A collection of at least twenty (20) U.S. coins of any denomination. Do not duplicate the year on the coin of the same denomination. A good collection might include five (5) pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters having different dates or twenty 20 pennies arranged in consecutive years.
3. A complete set of Washington quarter state mint series. A good collection would have both Philadelphia and Denver mints represented.
4. A one-page report for one of the following: a.) Select any one U.S. coin and exhibit it in a protected viewing holder along with its history. b.) Explain the grading system used to determine a coins quality. A good report would show some pictures of fair, good, fine and un-circulated coins.

Level 2 Intermediate Collector: Exhibit one or more of the following; however more than one selection still counts as only one exhibit.

1. A collection of at least fifty (50) U.S. coins of any denomination. You may duplicate the year only when the mintmarks are different for that coin. (For example: two 1988 dimes, one made at Philadelphia and one at the Denver mint.)
2. A two-page report for one of the following: a. How a coin is made from start to finish. You must use correct terms such as "planchet, obverse, die and relief". b. History of the U.S. mint that was founded in 1792. You must include the origin of the basic coin types that were made and who proposed them.
3. Ten coins from around the world that represent at least three different countries with no denomination duplicated. Each coin must be labeled with its date, country of origin, and value. A good exhibit may include a world map identifying to country, etc.

Level 3 Advanced Collector: Exhibit one or more of the following; however more than one selection still counts as only one exhibit.

1. At least sixty U.S. coins of the same denomination. You may duplicate the year only when the mintmarks are different. A good collection would have a consecutive coin series. For example: pennies from 1970 to year 2000 with two or three mints representing each date.

2. Coins of the same denomination but in different conditions. A good exhibit would include an explanation of at least six graded conditions from “fair” through “un-circulated” and a proof coin.
3. Thirty coins from around the world that represent at least eight different countries with no denomination date duplicated (for example, two 1998 Mexican pesos would be unacceptable). Each coin must be labeled with country, date and value.
4. A complete series of coins. A series is all of the coins of a particular denomination, design, and type. The easiest series are the Susan B. Anthony or the Eisenhower dollars. The Sacagawea dollar does not qualify at this level.
5. A collection of ten or more coins depicting a theme (animals, flowers, birds, space, etc.)

References:

Coins by Dr. Roderick P. Hughes: A “Fell’s Official Know-it-all Guide” (1999)

Coin Collecting: A Beginner’s Guide to the World of Coins, by Kennet Bressett (1999)

North American Coin & Prices: A Guide to U.S., Canadian and Mexican Coins, edited by David C. Harper (Published yearly)

Websites

[The U.S. Mint](#)

[American Numismatic Association](#)

[Coin World](#)

[Indiana State Numismatics Association](#)

[Indianapolis Coin Club](#)

Proof Sets

United States Mint

P. O. Box 382600

Pittsburgh, PA 15250-8600

Miscellaneous Collection Project

Grades K - 12

Divisions: Cloverbuds, Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3

Forms : Download your [Record Sheet](#) and [Collector's Log](#) .

Recommendations: Exhibit six (6) representative samples of your collection from one category. Space size should not exceed 24"x36" (call the Extension Office if this size will not accommodate your exhibit).

Your collection may be exhibited in a box, on a poster, in a notebook, on a display board, or in any other manner that is attractive. Attach labels to the items you display in order to explain them to the public. Some collections belong in other categories such as leaves in forestry, butterflies in insects, rocks in geology, etc.

In each division, "Collector's Logs" and "Record Sheet" are part of the exhibit; a miscellaneous collection will not be accepted without them. These papers, including a picture of the entire collection, should be displayed in a folder or notebook, and turned in at the time of judging. Exhibit notebook must have in the lower corner a pre-printed county 4-H exhibit tag. It is important that you keep records of the size, scope, and cost of your collection. Due to safety and security concerns for displayed projects, please do not include a cost estimate for your collection. (Your township leader may request to see your cost records, but again, do not attach cost estimation to project exhibit.)

All attempts will be made to safe guard your project; however it is recommended that you do not exhibit high value or irreplaceable projects at the fair.

Marion Co. 4-H Stamp Collection Project

Grades K - 12

Levels: Choose any one of the three levels at which you feel ready to do a project. You do not have to start at Level 1. You may participate at a Level as many years as you wish. There are no age requirements for any level.

Record Sheet: Download your Record Sheet here.

Recommendations: Refer to the resources listed below for detailed instructions and definitions of the special terms used in stamp collecting. Never use glue or tape to mount stamps. Inexpensive stamp hinges and special stamp mounts are available that do not harm stamps.

Self-stick photo albums are not acceptable for any stamp-collecting project. Photo albums will damage stamps and covers. ("Cover," means an envelope/card with a used stamp on it).

Exhibit: A stamp album should be either one that you have made yourself (notebook paper in a 3-ring binder is fine) or a commercially prepared album. The collection mounted in the album should consist of worldwide stamps, stamps of a single country or region, or topical/thematic stamps (animals, sports, etc.). You must place a small card at the front of your album telling the number of stamps mounted in the album.

Classes: Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3

Level 1 Beginning Collector: Exhibit one or more of the following: (Please remember if the 4 H member exhibits more than one of the following, this still counts as one exhibit).

1. A 4-page stamp/cover exhibit.
2. A collection of a least 100 different stamps mounted in a stamp album.
3. A poster with white background and a title that shows one of the following:
 - a. At least 25 stamps from different countries, the name of the country that issued each stamp, and a map showing the geographic location of these countries.
 - b. At least 25 USA stamps honoring different states and a map showing the geographic location of those states.
 - c. At least 25 stamps showing a variety of different topics or themes that can be found on stamps (animals, flowers, figure skating, space, etc.).
 - d. At least 25 stamps that show different people. Give each person's name and brief information about each person.
 - e. At least 25 stamps from a single country (USA or foreign) with brief information about the country and a few words about the picture on each stamp.
 - f. At least 25 stamps on a single theme or subject of your choice. In a few words tell about the picture on each stamp. (Examples of subjects: soccer, USA in space, famous scientists, dogs).

Level 2 Intermediate Collector: Exhibit one or more of the following: (Please be reminded if the 4 H member exhibits more than one of the following, this still counts as one exhibit).

1. An 8-page stamp/cover exhibit.
2. A collection mounted in a stamp album. A worldwide collection must contain at least 500 different stamps. A single country, region, or thematic collection must contain at least 250 different stamps.
3. A poster with white background and a title that shows one of the following:
 - a. Examples of at least 6 different kinds of stamps and/or covers and a description of their purposes (regular issue, commemorative, air mail, semi postal, special delivery, postal stationery, coil, booklet, registered, express, revenue, postage due, first day cover, etc.).
 - b. Stamps and/or covers of one country arranged to show the story of that country (famous persons, places, institutions, history, geography, etc.).
 - c. A poster on a single theme or subject of your choice that uses a variety of philatelic items (such as stamps, covers, miniature & souvenir sheets, postal stationery, cancels, meter stamps, etc. Identify each type of item and briefly tell how the item relates to your theme. (Examples: For a dog theme, "Cover from England with Sheep Dog on Stamp." "Cancel from France with Poodles").

Level 3 Advanced Collector: Exhibit one or more of the following: (Please be reminded if the 4 H member exhibits more than one of the following, this still counts as one exhibit).

1. A 16 or more page stamp/cover exhibit.
2. A collection mounted in a stamp album. A worldwide collection must contain at least 1,000 different stamps. A single country, region, or thematic collection must contain at least 500 different stamps. A stamp/cover exhibit consists of the following ("Cover" means an envelope/card with a used stamp on it):
 - a. Stamps, covers, or other philatelic material chosen to show a common subject. (Examples: USA Love Stamps; USA Transportation Stamps; Basketball on Stamps of the World).
 - b. All material mounted on plain white paper size 8.5" x11", enclosed in a clear protective sheet, and put in a notebook or binder.
 - c. A title page as the first page of the exhibit. The title page should describe the subject of the exhibit. The title page is the only page of the exhibit that may contain artwork or pictures.
 - d. A heading on each page summarizing in a few words what is shown on the page.
 - e. A few lines of text on each page. The text should tell how the material fits into your subject and describe the material mounted on the page.
 - f. Nothing but stamps, covers, and text on any page of the exhibit other than the title pages

Suggested Resources:

4-H does not offer a Philately manual; however there are many great resources that can be access online or at libraries and bookstores. Below are some good examples of websites. To perform an online or library search try the following key words: collecting, philately, stamp collections, philately for kids

American Philatelic Society. (2011, 2 3). *American Philatelic Societ*. Retrieved from American Philatelic Society -- Just for Kids: http://www.stamps.org/kids/kid_stampfun.htm

British North America Philatelic Society. (2011, 2 3). *British North America Philatelic Societ*. Retrieved from BNAPS Stamp Collecting for Kids: <http://www.bnaps.org/stamps4kids>

United States Postal Service. (2011). *Stamp Collecting*. Retrieved from USPS Stamp Collecting: <http://www.usps.com/household/stampcollecting/welcome.htm>