

WILDLIFE

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MANUALS

4-H 903 – Wildlife Manual – grades 3-4

4-H 904 – Wildlife Manual – grades 5-6

4-H 905 – Wildlife Manual – grades 7-9

4-H 906 – Wildlife Manual – grades 10-12

Record sheets for each manual

All 4-H members must do 3 activities from the grade appropriate manual. Manuals will be checked for completed activities at the judging when the members check in. If these activities are not completed by judging check-in the 4-Her will be allowed to exhibit but will not be eligible for Champion or Reserve Champion.

Create an exhibit that shows the public what you learned in the wildlife project this year. All wildlife poster exhibits must be displayed horizontally, 22" x 28," mounted on a firm backing and covered in clear plastic or other transparent material. Be sure to include an appropriate title and the county exhibit label. Project manuals **are not** to be included with the exhibit unless you want to make it a part of your exhibit.

Choose one of the topics listed in your level and use that topic for your poster title, so the judges know which activity you completed. You may also use a creative sub-title if you wish. Youth must choose a different activity each year, within your grade level, except for the Level D Wildlife Management plan, which may be expanded upon in subsequent years.

List sources for images and information.

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

LEVEL A (Grades 3 & 4) (one State Fair entry for Level A)

Grade 3 – Section 5 activity - Color the poster and 12 featured species (4-H 903a - available at the County Extension Office with manual). Cut out the animal pictures and place them on the poster in the habitat where you would expect to find them. Each animal should have a label identifying the animal and the habitat(s) it may be found in.

Grade 4 - Present what you learned, on a poster or in a notebook (3-ring binder), from one of the following:

- a. Section 7: How We Grow – Show how six (6) of the 12 featured species grow by listing the name of the young and a picture of the adult animal (as in your manual). You may draw your pictures, copy the pages in your manual, ask at your Extension office for the animal pictures that come with the poster for 3rd graders (4-H 903a), or find pictures in a magazine, on the Internet or from some other source.
- b. Section 8: Food Chains - show the six (6) food chains from the activity in your book and identify what foods each animal eats. Put the animals in correct “food chain” order. Use pictures from any source available to you: copy your manual, magazines, drawings, on the Internet, or from some other source.

- c. Sections 9 - 11: Bird Observations - show your feeder or birdbath (draw or photo), tell where it is located and include a 2 week tally sheet showing the types of bird activity. If you observed a bird feeder, describe the types of food you used.

LEVEL B (Grades 5 & 6) (one State Fair entry for Level B)

Present the information, on a poster or in a notebook (3-ring binder), given in one of the following:

- a. Section 1: Habitats – Show good habitat and poor habitat for 3 of the 12 common Indiana wildlife species. You can use a photograph, make your own drawing, etc.
- b. Section 8: The Food Web – Present a food web using pictures you draw or find in magazines, online, etc. Label the producers, consumers, decomposers, etc. Use wildlife found in Indiana.
- c. Sections 9 – 12: Animal Adaptations - Show physical adaptations of three to five animals and list the purpose that the adaptation serves. For example, cracker beak for eating seeds, long legs for wading, heavy coat to withstand cold temperatures, etc. You may use your own drawings, pictures (from magazines or other sources), or a copy of the drawings from your manual. Use wildlife found in Indiana.

LEVEL C (Grades 7 - 9) (one State Fair entry for Level C)

Present the information given in one of the following sections on a poster or in a notebook (Use wildlife found in the United States):

- a. Section 2: Signs of Wildlife – Activity 1 – Show signs of wildlife activity by collecting animal tracks. You may exhibit your actual tracks or pictures of your tracks. Tracks may be displayed in an insect display box (18 X 24 inches), orientated horizontally.
- b. Section 3: Habitat – Activity 1 - show how the four wildlife habitat requirements are provided to a wild animal on an aerial photo or topographic map of an Indiana landscape from the Internet, (from Soil & Water Conservation Office, County Engineer, or soil survey).
- c. Section 3: Layering – Activity 4: Show a horizontal layering scene for a wildlife setting. You may sketch the pictures, take a photograph, or find and label pictures from a magazine, etc. Explain how layering is used by wildlife in nature to people viewing your exhibit. It is suggested that you use one ecosystem in your exhibit.
- d. Section 4: Wildlife by Numbers – Present one or more of the concepts from this section: carrying capacity, population dynamics, reproduction or critical life stages; to show fairgoers how animal population rates are affected.
- e. Section 6: Who Manages Indiana Wildlife –*choose one of the following two activities:*
Activity 1 - design a new Indiana environmental license plate using native Indiana wildlife. Explain why you chose your design and give information to viewers about what the environmental license plate program is all about.
Activity 4- Write a management plan for one of the species listed in this activity. Be sure to address all the items in this activity. *Note: This work must be presented in a notebook, not on a poster.*
- f. Section 7: Who Manages Indiana Wildlife - Careers (page 38): Profile a person that works with and for native Indiana wildlife (examples include, but are not limited to – IDNR, Fish & Wildlife, forestry, Conservation Officers, Biologists, volunteers). Be sure to address all the items listed in the activity.

LEVEL D (Grades 10 - 12) (one State Fair entry for Level D)

Present the information given in one of the following sections on a poster or in a notebook (Focus on wildlife found in the United States):

- a. Section 1, Activity 1: Develop a wildlife management plan. Include all the information requested in this section. You may present this topic multiple years if you include the following items:
 - Evaluate your first year's plan (what worked and what didn't)
 - Expand on your plan by adding land and/or species to be managed
- b. Section 1: Activity 2: Outdoor lab – present the development or improvement you did for an outdoor lab
- c. Section 2: Careers, Activities 3-5 – Learn what a career in wildlife is like by completing Activities 3-5 (job search, interview, & job shadowing). Present what you did & learned on a poster or in a notebook.
- d. Section 3: Current wildlife topic, Activities 1-5 – Choose one of these activities to complete and present what you did & learned. You may only do this section only one (1) year.

LEVEL Independent Study (Grades 9-12) (one State Fair entry for Level Independent Study)

Advanced topic – Learn all you can about a wildlife topic of your choice and present it on a poster. Include a short manuscript, pictures, graphs and list the references you used to describe what you did and what you learned. Title your poster, "Advanced Wildlife-Independent Study."

Mentoring – Exhibit a poster that shows how you mentored a younger 4-H member. Include your planning, the time you spent, the challenges and advantages of mentoring, and how the experience might be useful in your life. Photographs and other documentation are encouraged. Title your poster, "Advanced Wildlife - Mentor."