

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.

Please Complete Record Sheet.

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, airmail, 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](#)

[BNAPS Stamp Collecting for Kids](#)

[United States Postal Service.](#)