
Marion County 4-H Cloverbud Handbook

For 4-H'ers in K-2 grades



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4-H Cloverbud Membership

Cloverbuds are youth grades Kindergarten to second (2nd). They attend and participate in club meetings. Cloverbuds may not be judged at any event and will receive a participation ribbon for all exhibits. Cloverbuds do not pay the \$15 state membership fee.

PARENTS OF CLOVERBUDS

Your role is very important in helping your youngster enjoy the fun and educational activities of Cloverbud 4-H. Here's what is expected of you to help your child have a great Cloverbud experience:

- Focus on the learning skills you want your child to develop.
- Help your child stay organized.
- Assist your child with the projects, but **DON'T** do the project for them.
- Put the important 4-H dates on your family calendar.
- Reinforce the importance of following directions.
- Support your local and county 4-H volunteering.
- Above all, model the behavior you want your child to exhibit in public settings.

CLOVERBUD 4-H NON-COMPETITIVE POLICY

Cloverbud 4-H is a program designed to encourage positive development of children in kindergarten to second grades. The goal of Cloverbuds is to help young children explore friendships outside the family; explore the way in which things work; practice their newly acquired skills; and learn how to work on teams.

The NON-COMPETITIVE learning environment for Cloverbuds includes:

- Planned learning activities in which children are invited to be active and explore materials and ideas without pressure of completing a specific product or exhibit.
- Low adult/leader to child ratio that fosters the learning environment and allows time for adults/leaders to provide individual positive encouragement and assistance.
- Simple, yet challenging and interesting experiential learning activities that are also fun.
- Encouragement of children to participate in a group activity by sharing and/or display their activity projects.
- Rewards for every child and exhibit are identical and/or ribbons are the same for every child.

Cloverbud projects are not judged at the fair, but the Cloverbud may be given constructive comments to help them improve in the future. Cloverbuds may also participate in some Conference Sharing opportunities for their projects. Again, the Cloverbud will receive the current Cloverbud ribbon for all projects.

- *Cloverbud exhibits are NOT eligible for the exhibit at the State Fair.*

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR CLOVERBUDS

- All 4-H members are encouraged to attend their local club meetings.
- The number of projects in which a 4-H member enrolls every year should be determined by the 4-H member with guidance from parents and the 4-H leader. Each child's ability will vary.
- All 4-H members are encouraged to complete the projects in which they enroll. Participation in the experiential learning activities is an important, ongoing part of youth development. Enrolling in a project is considered a commitment to complete project requirements and associated record keeping. Exhibiting the completed project(s) at county fair is an important option.

WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H began over a 100 years ago. It has become one of the nation's largest youth development organizations. The 4-H ideal is to help young people and their families gain the skills needed to be proactive forces in their communities and develop ideas for a more innovative economy. 4-H in Indiana is administered by Purdue University College of Agriculture. Purdue University is a land-grant institution designated by the Indiana state legislature to receive the benefits of the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture provide the oversight of National 4-H. It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

THE 4-H SYMBOL

A four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf is the emblem. A clover is a plant that grows in fields, yards and along roadsides. Most clovers have three leaves. Sometimes, if you look very closely, you may get lucky and find a special clover with four leaves. A four-leaf clover is used as the symbol for 4-H to let everyone know 4-H is a special kind of youth development program. The four H's stand for: **HEAD, HEART, HANDS** and **HEALTH**.



THE 4-H CLUB PLEDGE

I pledge...

My **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
My **HEART** to greater loyalty,
My **HANDS** to larger service, and
My **HEALTH** to better living
For My Club, My Community, My Country, and My World.

THE 4-H COLORS

Official colors are Green and White. The four-leaf clover is green and the "H" in each leaf is white or gold.

THE 4-H MOTTO

A group motto is a saying that tells people what is important to the group. The 4-H motto, is "To Make the Best, Better." When something is better than all of the others, it is the best. Think about a time when you did your best. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best you have ever done.

THE 4-H SLOGAN

Is to “Learn by doing.” You learn in 4-H by doing many activities. Not only do you have the opportunity to learn a skill like communications, you can learn about wildlife, foods, aerospace and other exciting projects.

THE NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CREED

- I believe in boy’s and girl’s club work for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.
- I believe in the training of my **HEAD** for the power it will give me to think, to plan and to reason.
- I believe in the training of my **HEART** for the nobleness it will give me to become kind, sympathetic and true.
- I believe in the training of my **HANDS** for the dignity it will give me to be helpful, useful and skillful.
- I believe in the training of my **HEALTH** for the strength it will give to enjoy life, resist disease and make for efficiency.
- I believe in my country, my state, my community and in my responsibility for their development.
- In all these things I believe, I am willing to dedicate my service to their fulfillment.

FAIR INFORMATION FOR CLOVERBUDS

To show at the Marion County fair, Cloverbuds need to enroll in 4-H. This allows the administrative information to be recorded prior to the fair. Cloverbuds do NOT pay a membership fee to participate in 4-H.

- All exhibits you show at the fair must be completed by you in the current school year. A project can only be exhibited at the Marion County Fair one time.
- All Cloverbuds receive a Cloverbud ribbon for all exhibiting Cloverbud projects and conference judging.
- All Cloverbuds must read (or have someone read for you) all the exhibit rules and requirements for your projects.
- Pre-printed [exhibit tags](#) must be attached prior to the projects being brought to the fair. You may print off and copy as many tags as you will need for all your projects. Put an exhibit tag on all your projects that you bring to the fair. When possible, attach the exhibit tag to the lower right-hand corner of your project. You may tape it, punch a hole in it and tie it on with string, or use a safety pin to attach it. Make sure the exhibit tag is visible. Do not put it on the bottom or back of a project. If your project is a **SET OF ARTICLES** attach **ONE exhibit tag** to each item and indicate how many items there are in the set. For example, if you are exhibiting ceramic salt and pepper shakers, put an exhibit tag on each and mark the first one “1 of 2” and the second one “2 of 2.” It helps us know what items are in the set and go together. It also helps to have items all secured together. Knitting, crocheting, embroidery, and other easily-soiled projects are best exhibited in clear plastic bags which can be opened for viewing by the judge or volunteers. Exhibit tags can be printed at:
<https://api.ag.purdue.edu/api/DepotWS/File.ashx?t=f&i=7111>

PROJECT CHECK-IN

See the e-mail, newsletter, or website for project check-in dates and times. You can also ask your 4-H Club leader. Cloverbud Projects are checked in at the 4-H Building at the Marion County Fairgrounds (located at 7300 East Troy Avenue (off Southeastern)) on check-in day. Cloverbuds will have a special door to bring their items for check-in.

Please note: the Marion County 4-H Fair Association will not be responsible for articles stolen or damaged while on display. We make every effort and take precautions to ensure the safety of your exhibits.

The Marion County Fair Board and Purdue Extension Marion County reserves the right to refuse the entry of 4-H projects that are considered inappropriate for public display or are objectionable.

PROJECT CHECK-OUT

See the e-mail, newsletter, or website for project check-out information dates and times. You can also ask your 4-H Club leader. Projects may not be checked out early. If you are unable to drop off and/or pick up projects at the given time, check with your club leader or another 4-H family to make arrangements for getting your projects to and from the fair.

OTHER CLOVERBUD OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO THE FAIR

- **Fashion Revue-** Cloverbuds who have made a wearable art or sewing item, or have completed a consumer clothing project may model in the fashion revue. See email, newsletter, or website for information about dates, times and locations. The fashion revue is held in two parts. The Private Revue is where judging will take place. Although cloverbuds are not judged, they still need to attend the Private Revue. This will give them a chance to practice modeling, get feedback from the judge that is judging the older 4-H'ers, and be added to the Public Revue script. The Public Revue is generally held at the fairgrounds, this is a chance for friends and family to see the cloverbud modeling their outfit. At the public revue the cloverbud will also receive their participation ribbon.
- **Foods Open Judging-** Any cloverbud who completes a foods project may bring it to open judging. This is generally held the week before fair check in at the County Extension office, Please see email, newsletter, or website for exact date, times, and location. Cloverbuds are not required to participate in open judging and may choose to take foods project directly to the fair instead. This can be very beneficial, especially to those who are in their last year of cloverbuds. At the open judging they will have a chance to speak with the judge that is judging the older 4-H'ers projects and get feedback about their project. Cloverbuds will still receive participation ribbons regardless of whether they participate in open judging.
- **Public Speaking and Demonstration Contest-** Public speaking and demonstration contest give 4-H'ers a chance to get comfortable speaking in front of groups of people and share their knowledge with the public. Since cloverbuds are younger and can sometimes be shy, they are not expected to write a speech or prepare a demonstration (but they are also not prohibited from doing so, as long as they are comfortable with what they are doing). Cloverbuds are encouraged to get up and say the 4-H pledge. Cloverbuds are not judged, but may be given feedback by the judge that will be present for the older 4-H'ers, and will receive a participation ribbon. Please refer to email, newsletter, or website for information about signing up for the contest, dates, times, and location.
- **Closing Ceremonies-** Cloverbuds are invited to attend the closing ceremonies and award program at the fair. Please see email, newsletter, or website for date and time. The closing ceremonies recognizes special awards, 10 year members, and graduating seniors in 4-H. This is a great chance for cloverbuds to see what they can look forward to as they advance through the 4-H program. Also there are usually door prizes for 4-H'er in attendance and free ice cream.
- **Building Host-** This is more of an opportunity for the family. The fair depends on volunteer support. Each township is asked to cover a certain day of the fair as building host. Parents are encouraged to sign up as a building host, and you are not limited to the day assigned to your township. Generally there is an activity or craft going on in each building that also needs people to sign up to help with. This would be a great chance for you and your cloverbud to help out at the fair and share your excitement about 4-H with the community. Cloverbuds cannot sign up to be a host, but can help out a parent that is signed up. Please see email, newsletter, or website for information about signing up as a building host.

Project guidelines listed are general ideas for Cloverbud projects. Cloverbuds is about learning and exploring. Please do not feel limited to the suggestions below. If you have an idea for a project, go for it and have fun learning. The suggestions below are to help you get some ideas and have a starting point. Please read the poster guidelines, this is so posters can properly be displayed at fair and need to be followed.

CLOVERBUD POSTER REQUIREMENTS (This is for all Cloverbud posters)

TIPS FOR A GREAT POSTER!

- Before starting your poster, wash your hands and make sure your work area is clean and dry. Poster neatness and cleanliness is important. Everyone will notice a soiled poster.
- As you design your poster, make sure you leave space in the lower right-hand corner for your pre-printed exhibit tag.

All Cloverbud posters projects must meet the following requirements:

Poster dimensions are to be 14-inches by 22-inches (half of a standard 22-inch by 28-inch poster board).

Poster must be made to be displayed horizontally; meaning the 22-inch side is horizontal.

Glue the poster to a firm backing so it can stand up on its own. Your poster should not be wobbly and fall over when against a wall. Suitable backing materials are firm cardboard, foam core, thin plywood or Masonite. Rubber cement is best to use for gluing poster to the firm backing. You can purchase foam core and plastic covering from the Purdue Extension Marion County office located at 1202 East 38th Street, Discovery Hall Suite 201 (on the Indiana State Fairgrounds - across from the Indiana Deaf School) or any general craft/hobby store.

- **Poster Board Color:** You may use any color poster board you think would look good for your poster. You may use foam core for your poster, which eliminates the need for adding a firm backing. Foam core can be bought in most general craft/hobby stores.
- **Mounting Adhesives:** The best adhesive is rubber cement because it can be rubbed off when dry and won't wrinkle the paper. Glue sticks that dry clear also work well. Double-stick tape works in some cases like attaching leaves. Do not use white liquid glue because it wrinkles the paper and is too messy.
- **Exhibit Tags:** Pre-printed exhibit tags are provided on the website. Glue or tape the exhibit tag to the lower right-hand corner of the poster before you cover it with the clear plastic.
- **Poster Title:** Title your poster according to the project requirements as specified for the project. For example, a first-year Bicycle poster is to be entitled, "Bicycle Safety." If no specific title is required, be creative and make up your own. Center the title at the top of your poster.

Aerospace PROJECT

Cloverbuds are to exhibit a poster, notebook or model illustrating information they have learned this year about exploring space, air travel or flight, planets and the stars.

Websites to check out:

<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forkids/kidsclub/flash/#.V30koesrLIU>

<http://kidsastronomy.com/>

http://www.windows2universe.org/space_weather/sw_intro/overview.html

<http://www.my-best-kite.com/how-to-make-a-kite.html>

<http://www.foldnfly.com/>

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Documents/Resources/4H-911-6.pdf>

Animal Posters/Notebooks Project

The goal of this project is to allow the Cloverbud an opportunity to learn about domesticated animals. The learning process can be through books, field trips, online websites, interviewing people knowledgeable about the animal, or their personal experiences. If a Cloverbud does the same animal for more than one year, the child should increase his knowledge and include new information for the project in the second and third years.

Categories include: Cat, Cows, Dogs, Goats, Horses/Ponies, Llama, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, or Swine.

Cloverbuds are to exhibit a poster or notebook illustrating information they have learned this year about a particular animal. A Cloverbud may exhibit one poster/notebook per animal category. Examples of topics can include, but not limited to, breeds, how to care for, similarities/differences between breeds or species, costs to raise, body parts, uses of the animal (i.e., sheep's wool, goat milk, cheese, or meat), identification, or interesting facts.

Cloverbuds may also exhibit other items related to the animal they have learned about. For example they could make a dog diorama showing and agility course. They could make a cat or dog toy. They could make a puppet of the animal. It is up to the 4-H to choose how they want to represent what they have learned about animals.

Websites to check out:

<http://www.sites.ext.vt.edu/virtualfarm/main.html>

<http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/>

<http://texasyouthlivestock.com/>

Arts and Crafts Projects

This project area allows a Cloverbud to be creative and learn new ways of expressing his/her creativity. Any resources can be used to complete these projects.

Ceramics: Exhibit a simple piece of greenware that the Cloverbud has applied one or more colors of basic stain or glaze. *All ceramic exhibits must be kiln fired before stain has been applied.

Fine Arts: Cloverbuds may exhibit one item in each of the following categories:

- **Drawing:** a drawing using pencil, charcoal, ink pen, crayon, chalk, pastels, or marker.
- **Painting:** a painting using oil, watercolor, tempera, finger paint, or acrylic.
- **Miscellaneous:** a picture that does not fall into the painting or drawing category. Examples are: spatter work, airbrush, batik, cut paper, hand drawn or painted collage, silkscreen, calligraphy, structural art, etc.
- **Computer:** a picture created by the 4-H'er using a computer based drawing program. This should not contain photos, clipart or copy righted images.

*All Fine Arts projects must be framed and ready to hang.

Gift Wrapping: Exhibit a simple box wrapped for a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, graduation, etc.). *Do not include a present! The box should be empty.

Latch Hook: Cloverbuds may exhibit one latch hook article made from a simple kit. The article needs to be finished or bound (pillow, wall hanging, etc.) and ready for use.

Leather Craft: Exhibit one simple leather craft article you stamped with a design and applied a finish. Examples are a bookmark, key fob, wristband, etc. *Suede or unfinished, rough leather items should be entered in Miscellaneous Crafts, not Leather Craft.

Macramé: Exhibit one simple macramé article the Cloverbud made. Article needs to be finished, clean, and ready for use.

Miscellaneous Crafts: Includes crafts like: enameling, candle making, felt craft, rock craft, weaving, stenciling, reed craft, string art, metal etching, engraving, unfired plaster crafts, shaping, handmade jewelry, paint by number, woven lawn chairs, etc. Miscellaneous Crafts should not be items that can be exhibited under another project. For example, a spatter art picture is a Fine Arts project, not a miscellaneous craft. *May exhibit 3 different types of articles under this category.

Models: Cloverbuds may exhibit a snap-together model kit. Select a simple kit to make. Place the model on a firm base and cover with plastic or put it in a purchased model display case.

Needlecraft: Cloverbuds may exhibit one item from each of the following categories: crochet, embroidery, knitting, cross-stitch, needlepoint, crewel, plastic canvas, hand-stitched quilting, candle wicking and miscellaneous needlecraft (any needlecraft that does not fit in another category).
*Handwork only—no machine work is allowed.

Pottery: Exhibit an item made from clay, glazed, and kiln-fired. A Cloverbud may enter one exhibit for each category: Hand Molded (slab, coil, pinch pot) and Wheel Thrown (made on a potter's wheel).
*All pieces must be kiln-fired.

Recycled Crafts: Cloverbuds may exhibit an item made with at least one recycled object (that is any item that is being used differently than its original purpose.) Examples include but not limited to: pop bottle bird feeders, pop can hats, soup can luminaries, license plate bird feeders, silverware jewelry, etc.

Seasonal Decoration: Exhibit one item that celebrates a seasonal occasion. This can include patriotic days, religious celebrations, or public occasions.

Wearable Arts: These exhibits include but not limited to painted T-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, tennis shoes, applique work, puff-painted articles, sequined/rhinestone articles, and tie dye. A Cloverbud who creates a wearable arts project can also participate in the Fashion Revue. Exhibit item on a hanger.

Woodcraft: The Cloverbud is to exhibit a pre-made wood article to which he/she has applied a finish, such as acrylic paint or stain with a polyurethane finish.

Beekeeping Project

Cloverbuds are encouraged to learn about products that we get from bees and how they are beneficial.

Exhibit suggestions:

- Poster or notebook showing products we get from bees
- Something they have made from bees wax such as a candle or lip balm
- Poster or notebook explaining how bees help in pollination
- Poster or notebook showing lifecycle, types, or anatomy of bees.

<http://www.slideshare.net/fldpi/buzz-on-bees-lesson-plan>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/honeybee/#honeybee-pink-flower.jpg>

http://www.creativekidsathome.com/activities/activity_94.shtml

<http://magazine.foxnews.com/at-home/make-your-own-lip-balm-microwave>

Bicycle Project

One of the National 4-H initiatives is Healthy Living. Bicycling is an excellent activity for a child to stay healthy while having fun. For this project the Cloverbud can learn all about bicycles, safety, and the benefits of bicycling. Information can be obtained from any sources.

Cloverbuds may exhibit a poster or notebook on one of the following:

- Parts of a bike
- Safety Equipment
- Hand Signals

- Street Signs
- My Bike Adventures

Please label your poster with the topic. A different topic should be completed each year.

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/bike/BSKitBoth/3152BSKit/pages/Section1/Section1TOC.html>

Bowling Project

Bowling is another way to help kids get active. Cloverbuds may exhibit a poster or notebook explaining what they have learned about bowling or their experience with bowling this year. A different topic should be done each year. Some possible topics could include:

- Bowling terms
- Bowling equipment
- Bowling etiquette
- My Experience Bowling

<http://www.kidsbowlfree.com/>

<http://www.livestrong.com/article/194607-how-to-teach-kids-bowling/>

Cake Decorating Project

Birthdays and special occasions are made special by having a creatively decorated cake for the occasion. Cake decorating takes patience, creativity, and lots of practice. In this project the Cloverbud will learn the skills needed to do cake decorating. Cloverbuds should practice decorating cupcakes using several different methods. A Cloverbud should display one cupcake that they decorated. It can be as simple as candy or sprinkles or they may use more advanced techniques if it is within the skills of the child.

Complete a different activity each year or use more advanced techniques each year. Please note that Royal Icing will last longer, but is not required to be used.

*Cupcakes on display at the county fair may be disposed of due to cupcakes rotting or icing melting. A picture will be taken of the cupcake and the exhibit tag and ribbon will be attached to it.

<http://www.countryliving.com/food-drinks/g761/cupcake-decorating-ideas-0309/>

<http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/food-recipes/dessert/g2249/easy-cupcake-decorating-ideas/>

Child Development

Cloverbuds are still developing. In this project they can explore different aspects of child development.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Poster or notebook exploring careers that involve working with children.
- Create an educational toy

- Poster or notebook about stages of infant development
- A poster or notebook that compares what you could do by yourself at different ages

Collections Miscellaneous

Almost every child loves to collect things. This project allows the Cloverbud to showcase his/her collection. A collection is a group of similar items and could be anything—buttons, stuffed animals, plates, toy cars, figurines, etc. This project does not include collections that are found in other projects such as rock, bug, or leaf collections.

The exhibit should consist of six (6) items from the collection displayed in a poster, box, notebook, or any other manner. The items need to be labeled as to what they are. A collector's log showing item description and where and when purchased may be attached, but not required at the Cloverbud level. All attempts will be made to safe guard projects at the fair; however, it is recommended that you do not exhibit high value or irreplaceable projects at the fair.

Collections Coins

Cloverbuds are encouraged to learn about coins and start a coin collection. Due to how cloverbud collections are displayed, it is recommended that Cloverbuds do not bring a coin collection to the fair. They can however make a poster or notebook about coins to display. They could work on identifying different types of coins, tell the story of how a coin got the pictures on it, identify the value of different coins, or take a picture of their favorite coin and explain about it. The website below has great information, games, and printables.

<https://www.usmint.gov/kids/>

Collections Stamps

Similar to the coin collections cloverbuds are encouraged to learn about and start a stamp collection, but not bring the actual collection to the fair. Instead it is suggested they make a poster related to collecting stamps. It could include information such as how to address and stamp an envelope, their idea for the next stamp design, stamp vocabulary, stamp collecting tools and so on. Below is a link to a great site to help them get started.

<http://stamps.org/Young-Philatelists>

Community Service project

Anyone at any age can help serve their community. For this project the Cloverbud can exhibit a poster or notebook showing what he/she did to help his/her community. It can be anything from picking up trash to organizing an event to help someone who has been sick.

Computer project

Can you imagine a day that you do not use a computer? Computers are great technology to use for school, home and fun. Almost everyone uses some type of computer on a daily basis. We have computers in our homes, schools and even in some of our cars. Learning about how computers function and knowing how to use one can help us improve daily lives, be successful in school, play and we can even choose to have a career (job) working with computers when we grow up.

Possible Project ideas include:

- Exhibit a poster or notebook on the parts of the computer, include a brief (short) description of what each parts does.
- Exhibit a notebook or poster on the how to use a computer, why we use computers, or where you find computers.
- Exhibit a poster or notebook showing what you have learned about computer code.
- Exhibit a poster with pictures of where you have found computers in your community. Add a brief caption of what the computer is used for.
- Exhibit a poster or notebook explaining about your favorite computer program or website

<http://www.crunchzilla.com/code-monster>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

<http://www.crunchzilla.com/code-monster>

<https://sjbaker.org/wiki/index.php?title=HICCUP>

Consumer Clothing project

The purpose of this project is to increase the child's awareness of the clothing industry from basic materials to the consumer. Where do you shop for clothes? How much do clothes cost? What are clothes made from? Who designs the clothes? Where are the clothes made? These are just a few of the areas that may be investigated in this project.

The following are suggested exhibits (do something different each year):

First, Second and Third Year options:

1. Design an ensemble that you have purchased (bought) or have at home in your closet. Include the accessories you wear with this outfit.
2. Design a layout (picture) poster of a current trend (something everyone is wearing now) for your age group. It can focus on color, texture, or style.
3. Find an outfit (ensemble) at your favorites store, from a newspaper ad or online that you really like. Put together an expense sheet (how much each item cost), then try to identify (find) similar items as a lower or higher cost. Show the difference in cost between the two outfits.

Creative Writing project

Most children are great storytellers. Creative writing provides an opportunity to entertain readers, clarify an idea, express what you are feeling, or expand your imagination, as well as many other reasons.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Tell a brief story to an adult and have them write it down for you. Suggestion: It would be great to have an adult videotape you telling your story. We can show it at the fair with advance request or they can transcribe it for you.

- Write a poem about something you see around you or in your neighborhood such as your pet, your family, or a tree in the front yard.
- Write a letter to your best friend, your mom or grandparents telling them about an experience (real or imaginary) you had while you were at school, or traveling, or visiting the doctor (you choose).
- Write a story that should not exceed (be longer than) three pages. It is okay to include pictures that help you tell your story. Be sure your story has a beginning/introduction, middle and an ending.
- Make your own comic strip.

Websites to check out:

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/271/>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/story-starters/>

<http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/Comix/>

<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/comic/>

Electric project

Electricity is what powers our world. It keeps us in light, warmth, and is used to prepare our food. In this project you should learn about the basic facts of electricity. It is fun and interesting to learn how electricity works and how we harness it.

- Exhibit a poster or notebook of things in your home and/or school that uses electricity to run.
- Exhibit a poster or notebook about being safe with electricity.
- Exhibit a poster or notebook explaining how magnets work or about experiments you did with magnets.
- Make an electromagnet.
- Make a poster about where electricity comes from
- Make a battery from a potato

<http://www.parents.com/blogs/toddlers-kids/2015/03/05/fun/irresistible-activities-to-do-with-magnets/>

<http://www.schooltube.com/video/bb7c7d65c16c44eebc7f/Bill%20Nye%20Electricity>

<https://sciencebob.com/make-an-electromagnet/>

http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/project_ideas/Energy_p010.shtml?gclid=CjwKEAjw2PK7BRDPz5nDh9GjoGcSJAAYbcS3QtTnM7sP1qEkMI0--m8hAJdoy5FTtNqliaDvOW5MahoCXKPw_wcB#summary

Entomology (Bugs) Project

There are more kinds of insects in the world than all other living thing all together. They live in the air, in soil (dirt) and in water. Insects live in the deserts, rain forests, caves, and in the snow. This project will help you learn about insects and how people are affected by insects.

A Cloverbud can exhibit one of the following:

- Draw a bug and label all its parts
- Build-A-Bug model (3-dimensional)
- Describe an insect group, focus on one with lifespan, diet, habitat, methods of communication. What are the differences in groups, commonalities, etc.
- Describe a rare or unique insect. What makes it rare or unique? Describe what you find out about it.
- Fossilize one (1) insect-encase insect in clear fingernail polish in small glass “tomb” or use soft clay to make an impression of an insect. Small glass jars are obtainable from Extension Office. Information about insect should accompany all exhibits.
- Any activity suggested in the Purdue Mini 4-H Bugs Manual

Websites to check out:

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bugs/>

<http://bugfacts.net/index.php>

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Documents/Resources/4H-911-4.pdf>

Floriculture Project

The purpose of this project is to learn more about flowers. A Cloverbud can exhibit one of the following:

1. A flower (plant or cut flower) that he/she grew this year from seed. Please exhibit in a simple unbreakable container.
2. A house plant that he/she has cared for.
3. Poster or notebook detailing the parts of a flower.
4. Poster or notebook on different types of flowers/herbs.
5. Poster or notebook explaining the proper way to plant flowers/herbs.
6. A simple flower arrangement using flowers you have grown or purchased.
7. Poster or notebook showing the life cycle of a flowering plant.

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/plants.html>

Foods project

In the Cloverbud Foods project youth grades K-2 can explore why we need food, what are healthy foods, along with getting in the kitchen to whip up some tasty treats. This project has 2 areas: non-perishable foods and perishable foods. The non-perishable food exhibits will be on display during the fair. The perishable food exhibits are eligible for open judging which is done prior to the fair. During open judging a picture of the project is taken and then displayed at the fair.

Open judging is a wonderful opportunity for a child to discuss his/her work with an adult who is an expert in the project. The judge will give tips and encourage the child. Cloverbuds, though not judged, are allowed to participate.

Conference Judging: Watch for the announcement for date, times, and location.

Non-perishable Food Exhibits include but not limited to:

- Poster about choosing healthy snacks
- Poster showing how to safely pack a lunch box
- A display explaining MyPlate or the Food Pyramid
- A notebook of recipes you have collected and prepared

Perishable Food Exhibits (bring to conference judging and include your recipe):

- No bake cookies
- Cookies, muffins, cake, bread, or brownies made using a mix and following the directions on it
- Cookies prepared from scratch by the 4-H'er

Although we encourage creativity in coming up with projects in the Cloverbud area, PLEASE NOTE THAT PERISHABLE FOODS ARE NOT TO CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR JUDGE:

Filling, frosting, glazing, pie filling, and meringue, (whether uncooked or cooked) are **NOT** permitted to contain cream cheese, sour cream, heavy cream, whipping cream as the nature of these products increases the moisture content and water activity of the food. Foods with higher moisture content and water activity can be ideal growing conditions for food borne pathogens, even if the ingredient is part of a batter and baked. Additionally, raw milk, raw milk products or uncooked eggs/egg whites are **NOT** permitted. Eggs/egg whites that have been cooked to 160o F (i.e. pasteurized or included as part of a batter and baked) are acceptable. No home-canned fruits, vegetables, or meats are permitted in products. ***Recipes must be provided that show which ingredients were used in part of the product.***

Exhibit Safety:

Exhibitors should carefully wash their hands and make sure that their hands do not have any open cuts before preparing foods. Exhibitors should not be preparing food exhibits for competition within 48 hours of recovering from any illness. Whenever possible, baked products should be transported and stored in chilled coolers (41oF).

Judges and individuals who will consume products from county and state competitions should be informed that they are at risk for foodborne illness since the established policy cannot guarantee that an entry which may be a “potentially hazardous food” has been properly prepared or handled before, during or following the competition. Tasting of a food product is solely at the discretion of the judge. Judges are **NOT** to taste any low-acid or acidified preserved food. Like green beans or tomato products, and are discouraged from tasting any other home preserved foods.

Consumers of competitive food exhibits being sold at auction or used for hospitality purposes should be notified they could be at risk for foodborne illness since the established policy cannot guarantee that an entry which may be a “potentially hazardous food” has been properly prepared or handled before, during or following the competition.

Purdue Extension Food Safety Policy

Labeling:

1. Cover label with clear plastic wrap so that it will not become grease stained.

2. Tape a label to the paper plate or container before the product is wrapped.

Recipe or Index cards:

1. A recipe card or index card (no longer than 5 ½" by 8 ½") is required for all food exhibits. Be sure to include all the information requested in the exhibit description, as well as your name, county, and the department-section-class numbers (This information is for State Fair exhibits only. Cloverbud exhibits are NOT eligible for State Fair entry). It is recommended that you wrap the card in plastic wrap or in a plastic bag. Recipe cards will not be returned.
2. Since it is illegal in the State of Indiana for youth under the age of 21 to purchase or consume alcoholic beverages. 4-H members are to use recipes that do not include an alcoholic beverage as an ingredient. A suitable non-alcoholic or imitation product may be substituted.

HOW TO PREPARE PRODUCTS FOR DISPLAY

1. Most food products should be displayed on a paper or foam plate.
2. For cakes – cut a piece of cardboard about ½ inch larger than the bottom of the cake. Cover this cardboard with wax paper, plastic wrap, or foil before putting the cake on it.
3. Any other product that may be sticky on the bottom, such as some fancy breads, should be put on round, square, or rectangle cardboard. Cover this cardboard with wax paper, plastic wrap, or foil before putting the food product on it.
4. Frozen food exhibits (containers and food) will be not returned to the exhibitor. Please display in freezer bags or disposable freezer containers.
5. Pies should be exhibited in disposable pie tin.
6. All canned products must have a ring on the jar to protect the seal.

Forestry (Trees) Project

In this project the Cloverbud will learn about trees. There are many resources you can use for this project.

Exhibit options include, but not limited to, the following:

- Poster or notebook of leaf rubbings or leaf collection
- Poster showing parts of a tree
- Poster showing items made from trees
- Poster, notebook, or model showing a tree in different seasons of the year
- Any activity from the Purdue Mini 4-H Trees Manual

A few book references you can find at the library include the following (All are available from the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library):

Autumn Leaves (Scholastic 1998) by Ken Robbins

Fall is Not Easy (Zino Pr Childrens' Books) by Marty Kelley

Woods (One Small Square) (McGraw-Hill, 1997) by Donald M. Silver

A Giving Tree (Harpercollins Juvenile Books 1996) by Shel Silverstein

Where Once There Was A Wood (Henry Holt & company 1996) by Denise Fleming

The tree in the ancient forest (DAWN Publications 1985) by Carol Reed-Jones

<http://www.fs.fed.us/learn/trees>

<http://www.forestinfo.org/kids-corner>

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Documents/Resources/4-H-911-2.pdf>

Garden Project

In this project the Cloverbud gets hands on experience on how to grow vegetables. Gardens can be plot gardens or container gardens.

Choose one of the following vegetables to *exhibit on a heavy duty paper plate: one (1) head of cabbage, three (3) carrots, three (3) cucumbers, five (5) green beans, three (3) green peppers, three (3) onions, three (3) potatoes, five (5) radishes, three (3) ears of sweet corn, or three (3) tomatoes. Choose a different vegetable to exhibit each year. The vegetables are to be grown from seeds or plant starts (tomatoes, peppers, etc.), cared for and harvested by the Cloverbud 4-H member.

*Produce exhibits may be donated to local food organizations during the fair. The exhibit tag and ribbon will remain at the fair.

If a child does not have the opportunity to grow a garden, the child can exhibit an educational poster on a garden topic (how to plant garden, garden pests, parts of a vegetable plant, etc.)

<http://www.kidsgardening.org/>

<http://extension.illinois.edu/firstgarden/fundamentals/index.cfm>

<https://bonnieplants.com/library/salsa-garden-containers/>

Genealogy Project

Cloverbuds are encouraged to research their family history.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A basic family tree in words, pictures, or drawings.
- Information about a relative they have researched.
- A map showing where they have family living in the United States or world.
- A poster or notebook explaining a family tradition

Please keep in mind when choosing to do a poster or notebook that you do not want to display too much personal information to the public. If you are concerned about personal information contained in a notebook please ask at project check in for it to be included in the glass case with the older 4-H'ers genealogy projects so that it cannot be accessed by the public during the fair.

<http://kids.familytreemagazine.com/kids/default.asp>

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Activities_for_Children:3-11

Geology (Rock Collecting) Project

Geology is the science that deals with the dynamics and physical history of the earth, the rocks of which it is composed, and the physical, chemical, and biological changes that the earth has undergone or is undergoing.

Exhibit suggestions include, but not limited to:

1. Rock collection: 6 rocks the 1st year, 9 the 2nd year, and 12 the 3rd year. The rock collections can be displayed in an egg carton or poster board. Please make sure rocks are secure so they won't fall out. Label the rocks with Shape, Color, Size, and Location you found the rocks.
2. Make models of people or animals out of rocks. Display six (6) in a box with labels of type of rock. Please secure all items so they won't fall out.
3. Make crystals in a jar using salt, boric acid, washing soda, borax or baking soda. Display three (3) different crystals. Please make sure crystals are secure in chamber.

Suggested references include:

<http://www.kidsgeo.com/geology-for-kids/>

<http://www.dakotamatrix.com/mineralpedia>

http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/search/?q=Geology&selected_facets=&selected_facets=

<http://geology.com/>

Health project

Healthy Living is a National 4-H initiative. In this project the Cloverbud will explore healthy living and emergency preparedness.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Basic First Aid Kit
- Poster about first aid
- Boo boo bunny
- Poster explaining home fire drill procedure
- Poster about healthy eating or exercise

<https://www.pinterest.com/robey4h/4-h-health-project-resources/>

Home Environment project

Cloverbuds learn principles of design: How to decorate and how to care for their home furnishings. Suggested exhibits include:

- A decorative item you have made for your house
- A poster showing how to properly set a table

- A poster showing a chore chart and details about how you help take care of your home
- A poster showing your dream room
- A storage item you have made for your house

<http://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/how-to-cook/how-to-set-a-table>

Indiana Heritage project

This project allows the Cloverbud to explore and learn about the history of his/her community.

Suggestions for exhibits:

- A poster or notebook about a famous person from Indiana
- A poster showing state symbols of Indiana (flag, state seal, state flower, state bird, etc.)
- A poster showing a map of Indiana with important places labeled

*Choose a different topic each year.

<https://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/indiana-coloring-page/>

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/kids/5989.htm>

<https://visitindiana.com/about-indiana/emoles-symbols>

Lego Project

Create an item such as a fictional character, a building, or vehicle **OR** a Lego scene that is no larger than 22”X28”. Cloverbuds may use Lego-style or Duplo-style size blocks. It may be an original design or a kit. The Lego blocks should not be altered by cutting, painting, gluing etc. Cloverbuds do not have to complete a record sheet.

All Lego exhibits must be on a solid base to protect them as they are moved about at the fair. Bases may be made of plywood, foam board, very thick cardboard or other similar material. Lego base plates typically do not provide enough support. You may use items such as zip ties, fishing line, or poster tack to secure your creation to the solid base. All exhibits should also have an exhibit tag attached. Blocks do not have to be Lego brand, but should be Lego style.

Models project

The Model/Building project will encourage the member to use his or her imagination and ingenuity in creating an exhibit for the 4-H Marion County fair. Model/Buildings exhibits for grades K-2 are entered in the Model/Building Exhibit and displayed in the Cloverbuds exhibit.

Project requirements

- Entries may be kit or original design. Exhibit tag **MUST** identify if entry is a kit or original design.
- **Please attach your exhibit card to the Model/Building exhibit. It is recommended that you encase your model exhibit in a plastic bag or use the following instructions for exhibit.**

- Exhibit must be displayed on solid base no more than 3 inches larger than the exhibit for maximum (not to exceed) base dimension of 11 X 14 inches. Exhibits larger than 11 X 14 will not be accepted or exhibited. Exhibit must be displayed on a firm base such as Styrofoam, Foam core board (ok to stack two pieces), wood, etc.

Personality project

This project allows the Cloverbud to learn about himself and the uniqueness of each person.

Exhibit suggestions:

- Write or draw a story/picture about yourself. Use it to share what you like or don't like, what makes you a special human being. You can display it on a poster, notebook or folder.
- Read (or have someone read to you) a book or article about children in another country or culture. Make a poster or notebook showing how you are similar (alike) and how you are different.
- What makes a good friend? Describe what you like about your best friend. How are the two of you similar (alike) and how are the two of you different. Make a poster or notebook explaining what makes the two of you friends.

Photography project

Grab the camera and take lots of pictures. Look at your pictures and consider the lighting, composition, and colors. Choose 6 of your best pictures and display them on a poster titled, "Cloverbud Photography" or display them in a scrapbook. Number the pictures 1 through 6. Each year take more pictures and choose 6 of your best pictures taken that year.

Reference: Focus on Photography, classic 4-H project book

Promotion 4-H Poster project

More people need to know about the awesome opportunities available through 4-H. If someone asked you about 4-H, what would you tell them? Well, now's your chance to tell lots of people just by creating a poster. Use your creativity and make a poster that tells people what all is available in 4-H. You can learn lots about 4-H at National (<http://www.4-h.org/>), State (<http://www.four-h.purdue.edu/>), and county (<http://www.ag.purdue.edu/counties/marion/Pages/4-HYouthDevelopment.aspx>) websites.

Reading For Fun project

Reading for Fun encourages youth to share their love of reading with others. Book selection is your choice! What do you like to read? History? Biographies? Fiction? Mysteries? Cloverbuds are to read at least two (2) books each year, complete the record sheet (list of books read with title and author), and exhibit one of the following (something different each year):

- A poster encouraging others to read
- A poster about your favorite author or book series

- A puppet of a book character

* Include the title of the book and the author's name with your exhibit. Also, if your exhibit is about characters in a book, be sure to include the character's entire name.

Robotics Project

This is your chance to build your own model robot. Use objects you find around your house, garage, or workshop to construct a robot or other item that exhibits principles you have learned about in robotics. Your exhibit does not have to be fully functional. Commercial kits and activities found on the internet may be used, but do not be afraid to show your creativity. It is best to reevaluate the design and make any improvements that you can. Make sure your construction can hold up to being moved around, you may mount it to a base if you desire.

Scarecrow PROJECT

The imagery of the scarecrow goes back before we even thought of spraying our gardens for pests. The scarecrow's role in the garden has always been to scare off birds and other animals. The scarecrow is a model of a person standing in the garden; protecting the vegetables. The scarecrow is NOT a fictional character but the likeness of a person.

Cloverbuds may exhibit one (1) scarecrow. It must look like a real person (cowboy, doctor, farmer, baby, etc.), be fully clothed, stuffed with straw, hay or other dried plant material and be able to stand on its own or be seated (you provide the seat). Remember the scarecrow must depict a real person, not a fictional character such as Mickey Mouse, Bugs Bunny, etc.

Sewing Project

Sewing is an important life skill. In this project the Cloverbud will learn the basic skills needed in sewing. The following can be done for the exhibit:

- Any hand sewn item, for younger Cloverbuds it is sometimes easier to use craft kits that have prepunched holes so they can get the hang of sewing while their fine motor skills are still developing.
- Any activity from the Indiana Min 4-H Before You Sew Manual (link below)

To help protect your project, it is strongly recommended that you put it in a plastic bag.

https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Documents/Resources/4-H_9117W.pdf

Small Animal Poster/Notebook and Showcase

Small animals include: cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, hedgehogs, turtles, gerbils, mice, non-poisonous snakes, non-poisonous lizards, ferrets, birds, fish, rabbits, rats, crabs, praying mantis, millipedes, sugar gliders, prairie dogs, tarantulas, Madagascar hissing cockroaches, newts, frogs, mud puppies, salamanders, and scorpions. Be sure to register online at www.indy4-hyouth.org to let us know what animals you plan to bring to the Cloverbud Showcase.

Exhibit a poster or notebook on a topic about small animals that you have for a pet or would like to own as a pet. Do a different topic for each year.

Small Animal Showcase is an opportunity to show off your small animal during the Marion County Fair. **Your parent(s) must stay with you at all times.** The date will be announced in the Fair newsletter.

Soil and Water Science project

The soil and water science project allows members to learn about our environment.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- Poster showing an experiment with soil or water that the 4-H'er has completed such as a soil sediment jar, water filtration experiment, water testing experiment, or experiment with erosion
- Poster or notebook or display showing what a 4-H'er has learned about soil or water pollution
- Poster or notebook or display showing what a 4-H'er has learned about the effects of worms or other soil organisms have on soil quality.

<http://www.globe.gov/web/elementary-globe/overview/soils/story-book>

<http://www.soils4teachers.org/lessons-and-activities>

<http://readscience.com/sediment-jars/>

http://www.soil-net.com/dev/page.cfm?pageid=activities_sheets&loginas=anon_activities

<http://extension.illinois.edu/worms/>

Sportfishing project

Fishing is a popular pastime and enjoyed by many. In this project the Cloverbud will learn more about fishing.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A poster or notebook about your fishing experience
- A poster or notebook about types of fish you can catch
- A poster or notebook about fishing equipment, bait, or safety

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3598.htm>

<https://www.takemefishing.org/how-to-fish/>

Sports project

Do you enjoy playing or watching a sport? What do you like about it? What equipment is needed? What are the rules of the game? These are just a few of the areas the Cloverbud can explore in this project.

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A poster or notebook showing your experience with a sport
- A poster showing parts of a playing field/positions of players (such as baseball)
- A poster or notebook showing equipment needed for a sport

Verbal Communications

Cloverbuds are encouraged to build their communication skills. They are invited to participate in the public speaking contest at the county fair. Cloverbuds are not expected to prepare a speech. They can get up and recite the 4-H pledge or other appropriate item of similar length. This is a chance for them to get comfortable speaking in front of others. Cloverbuds will not be judged, but may receive feedback from the judge that is present for the older 4-H'ers. They will receive a Cloverbud participation ribbon for their efforts. Please check newsletter, website, or emails for information about the public speaking contest date, time and registration.

Veterinary Science project

In this project the Cloverbud can learn about veterinary science. What is a veterinarian? Why do we need them? What does a veterinarian study? Why is it important?

Exhibit Suggestions:

- A poster or notebook showing your visit to a veterinarian's office
- A poster about exotic animals (not farm animals, small animals or Indiana Wildlife- those go in different project areas)
- A poster describing how to tell if your animal is sick
<https://www.vet.purdue.edu/engagement/files/documents/5th-Grade-Activity-Book-English> (a little challenge for advanced Cloverbuds)
<http://animalsmart.org/kids-zone/jr-animal-scientist>
https://www.avma.org/KB/K12/Pages/AVMA-educational-resources.aspx#coloring_book

Weather project

Weather is all around and affects everything we do. Weather is different during the spring and winter (seasons). Weather is also different for where you live. Weather determines what foods we have available and what activities we participate in and how we play.

- Exhibit a poster or notebook defining five words that are "weather" words.
- Exhibit a poster or notebook describing what to do in case of severe weather conditions
- Exhibit a weather notebook (or diary) of the weather for 30 days. Describe what is different on each of the days. Describe what effect the weather has on the environment.
- Conduct a "weather" experiment by creating a tornado in a bottle, or making fog. Describe why you did the experiment, what you wanted to learn/know, what you did, what materials you used.
- Exhibit a poster showing the different types of clouds or precipitation
- Make something that you can use to measure weather conditions such as a windsock or rain gauge

<http://www.weather.gov/owlie/>

<http://www.eo.ucar.edu/webweather/activities.html>

<http://scijinks.jpl.nasa.gov/>

Wildlife project

Wildlife consists of animals that are not domesticated (raccoons, opossums, wild rabbits, squirrels, wild birds, wolves, coyotes, deer, etc.) The Wildlife Project Focuses on Indiana wildlife.

Exhibit suggestions:

- Make a poster or notebook about evidence of wildlife in your community, you could take or draw pictures, keep a record of what wildlife you have seen, describe evidence of wildlife you have not seen (such as animal tracks)
- Make a poster or notebook about nocturnal animals
- Make a diorama showing wildlife
- Research a certain species (White tailed deer, Raccoon, Cardinal, Red Tailed Hawk, etc.) and make a report or poster about what you have learned
<http://www.indianawildlife.org/wildlife/native-animals/>
<https://www.purdue.edu/wildlife/>

Wood Science (woodworking) project

May construct a simple wood object to display at the fair. Safety should be the first priority and use of power tools would not be appropriate for most Cloverbuds. It is fine if they assemble precut pieces. Focus should be on learning about hand tools, sanding technique, gluing, and finishing a project.

<https://lowesbuildandgrow.com/>

<http://workshops.homedepot.com/workshops/kids-workshops>