

Welcome To The Club

PROJECT BASICS

Choosing A Project



To see a complete listing of 4-H projects in Alberta, check under What is 4-H?, www.4h.ab.ca/projects.

4-H projects give members the opportunity to explore an area of interest through goal setting, hands-on activities, learning opportunities, evaluation and record keeping. With more than 30 projects to choose from, selecting a project can be tough! To help choose, ponder the following:

- What are the members' interests, abilities, resources and how much of their spare time are they willing to invest in the project?
- Is there something the member wants to become more skilled in?
- Do any of the projects fit with a school or career aspiration, or complement an activity the member is currently involved in?
- Does the project seem like something the family would be interested in, and willing to help out with?
- Is there a leader or adult volunteer available to lead the project?

If none of the projects seem like a perfect fit, members can make their own Creative Option Project with the support of a new or existing Project Leader and the club.

Safety First!



Safety should always be a consideration for club activities, but some projects have equipment that is required for safety reasons. For example, helmets are required for all 4-H equine project members. Another example would be that for welding projects, protective eyewear and gloves should be worn. Check with the Project Leader to find out what is needed to stay safe while working on the chosen 4-H project.

Project Fees & Insurance

There may be fees associated with specific projects that may be included or are in addition to project-related costs covered in the general club fee. For the Foods or Crafts projects for example, members may pay a fee that covers the cost of supplies. For the Equine project, fees may be collected for the rental of the arena for project lessons.

For 4-H projects that involve animals, it may be worth considering purchasing insurance if:

- Money has been borrowed to purchase the project animal;
- The project animal is being leased by the member;
- Damage or death of a project animal is a possibility.

Although purchasing insurance is not a requirement, some clubs purchase or provide insurance on behalf of the members. Other clubs ask that members and their families arrange and purchase their own. Talk with your Club Leader about insurance policies available through 4-H Alberta.



For more information on insurance and staying safe with 4-H Alberta, visit http://www.4h.ab.ca/downloads/club_resources/LivestockInsurance.html

Project Meetings



Talk to your Project Leader to find out the typical duration of project meetings.

Project meetings may be part of a club meeting or held separately to tackle project work, receive project-specific updates or plan/participate in project learning opportunities. Project meetings are typically led by the Project Leader(s).

Project Work



Time spent working on your project depends on the nature of it. While animal or livestock projects require attention every day, other projects still require time and effort to varying degrees.

Members must do at least one project per year, working individually and with a Project Leader with safety being top priority. Members “Learn To Do By Doing” with their project and are strongly encouraged to individually complete the work. Parents and leaders should help by explaining first, demonstrating if appropriate and then letting the members complete the task themselves.

Project Learning Opportunities

Project learning opportunities are designed to support the work members do with their project, so members should take full advantage of them!

Club Level

Within the club, there may be project-related lessons, tours, clinics or training opportunities with invited speakers offered to increase project-related knowledge.

Beyond The Club

Project learning opportunities may also be offered at the district, regional and provincial levels of 4-H Alberta. There are a variety of unique opportunities to participate in learning days, workshops, sessions, clinics, record book competitions, programs and shows to further project-related knowledge. Check out your club’s Program Plan plus the online regional and provincial calendars at www.4h.ab.ca to see what opportunities await!



Be sure to check out the Programs tab to see what other opportunities await with 4-H!

Project Guides & Record Book

Project Guides

Once a member has been registered with 4-H, club leaders may order Project Guides that will help members complete their project with information and activities that promote learning and progression throughout the project.

Project Record Book

Along with the Project Guide, members will receive a Project Record Book. Completing a record book for each project is a member requirement. Record Books vary with the project, but have three basic parts:

- Space for information about members and their club
- Space for information about the member’s project
- Space for reflecting on the member’s year in 4-H

Record keeping is a great skill to develop, so it is important that members fill out their record books themselves. One of the essentials of good record keeping is recording things on a regular basis. Be sure to ask how often your club checks Project Record Books.

Achievement Activity

For each project, members must participate in an Achievement Activity. It is a chance for members to share what they have learned and display their projects. It should be a celebratory event that may involve individuals, organizations and the community that supports the members and club throughout the year. Each club has a unique way of showcasing their projects – so find out what your club does and savour the success of a project well done!



Place the My Project Basics insert behind this divider.

Welcome To The Club

MY PROJECT BASICS

My Project

Project Name: _____ Project Leader: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

My Project Meetings

Location: _____ Time: _____ Date(s): _____

My Project Safety Equipment

I require the following safety equipment for working on my project: _____

My Project Fees & Insurance

Project Fees: \$ _____ (if not included in the club fee or if there are additional or separate project-related fees)

Project Insurance Options (if applicable): _____

Project Insurance Cost: \$ _____

Project Learning Opportunities

Club Level

Beyond The Club (Regional, District or Provincial Levels)

Project Record Book

Check with your Project Leader on when record book(s) need to be submitted throughout the year.

Project Achievement Activity

Achievement Activity: _____

Location: _____ Date: _____

Welcome To The Club

MY PROJECT BASICS

My Project

Project Name: _____ Project Leader: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

My Project Meetings

Location: _____ Time: _____ Date(s): _____

My Project Safety Equipment

I require the following safety equipment for working on my project: _____

My Project Fees & Insurance

Project Fees: \$ _____ (if not included in the club fee or if there are additional or separate project-related fees)

Project Insurance Options (if applicable): _____

Project Insurance Cost: \$ _____

Project Learning Opportunities

Club Level

Beyond The Club (Regional, District or Provincial Levels)

Project Record Book

Check with your Project Leader on when record book(s) need to be submitted throughout the year.

Project Achievement Activity

Achievement Activity: _____

Location: _____ Date: _____