

Projects, Projects Everywhere!

An Introduction to the Tennessee 4-H Project Areas

Skill Level

Beginner, 4th Grade

Learner Outcomes

The learner will be able to:

- Summarize information related to a project area and share it with the class.
- Find information on a particular 4-H project area.

Educational Standard(s) Supported

4th Grade English/Language Arts

- Speaking and Listening 1.
- Speaking and Listening 4.

See supplemental information for standard text.

Success Indicator

Learners will be successful if they:

- Identify four project areas in which they are interested.
- Share accurate information with the class about a project area.
- Create a poster advertisement for a project area in the 4-H program.

Time Needed

30 Minutes

Materials List

Project area cards
Flip chart paper
Markers
Student handouts

Introduction to Content

This lesson will introduce students to the 27 project areas in the Tennessee 4-H program. Students will research information about the projects within an area, then share their information with the class.

Introduction to Methodology

Students will be assigned to a group that will create a poster describing the project areas within the major groupings (Animal Science, FCS, STEM and Skill-based Projects). The groups will present their poster to the class and will give a brief description of the projects within that area. 4-H members then will choose four projects areas they would like to continue working on during their 4-H career.

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Terms and Concepts Introduction

Project Area — One of the 27 topic areas in which Tennessee 4-H members can choose to focus.

Setting the Stage and Opening Questions

Ask students the following questions:

- “What hobbies do you have?”
- “How do you like to spend your free time?”
- “What do you want to be when you grow up?”

After students have responded, say to them that these are all things they can do as a part of the 4-H project work. Inform the students that there are 27 project areas available to Tennessee 4-H members, and each project area has its own set of exciting activities for members to work through. Instruct the students that during today’s club meeting, they will break into groups and create a poster and short informational blurb about the projects in one of the four main areas of projects in 4-H. This portion of the lesson should take approximately 5 minutes.

Tips for Engagement

While students are completing their advertisements, it is important to keep all students engaged in the process. If you notice some students aren’t participating, suggest that the group assign specific tasks to each person in the group.

Experience

Separate the students into five groups. Pass out a project area information card to each group. This card includes the names of the projects in that area, as well as a brief description of the projects. This information will help the students when they create their poster for the project area. The cards can be cut apart and laminated to be used with more than one club meeting.

Inform the students that their poster should be eye-catching and present all the important information about their project areas. In addition to creating the poster, students will also need to prepare a 30-second to 1-minute-long verbal advertisement for their project areas. This will need to include information on the project areas, and what activities can be completed as a part of that grouping of projects.

Allow students about 15 minutes to prepare their posters and verbal advertisements.

Share

After 15 minutes have passed, ask the groups to share their posters and advertisements with the class.

Process

- “What big project area that we learned about today are you most interested in? Why?”

Generalize

- “What four project areas would you like to focus future 4-H work on?”

For this question, pass out the student handout and ask the students to follow the directions on the handout to complete the activity.

Apply

- “What are some activities you can complete in one of the four project areas you chose?”

Life Skills as listed in the TIPPs for 4-H Model 4th Grade

- Participate in 4-H Club meetings by saying pledges, completing activities and being engaged. (Head)
- Identify at least four project areas to consider as a project area for future 4-H work. (Head)
- Actively listen to what others are saying; be able to restate or summarize what has been said. (Heart)
- Communicate information effectively about a given topic. (Hands)
- Follow instructions. (Heart)

Supplemental Information

Educational Standards Met and Project Area Groupings

Speaking and Listening 1 — Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Speaking and Listening 4 — Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.

Animal Science Projects

Beef, Companion Animals, Dairy, Goat, Horse, Poultry, Sheep, Swine, Veterinary Science

Family and Consumer Science Projects

Clothing and Textiles; Consumer Education/Economics; Personal Development; Line and Design; Nutrition, Health and Fitness; Performing Arts and Recreation; Photography

STEM Projects

Electric; Engineering/Safety Science; Entomology; Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries; Food Science; Horticulture/Garden; Plant Science

Skill-Based Projects

Citizenship, Communications/Public Speaking, Leadership

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Projects: Beef, Companion Animals, Dairy, Goat, Horse, Sheep, Swine, Veterinary Science

What can I do? In animal science projects, 4-H members learn the body parts of their particular animal, as well as how to care for their animal. 4-H members can show animals as a part of this project area and take part in different judging teams.

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FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES, GROUPING 1

Projects: Clothing and Textiles, Line and Design, Photography

What can I do? In this grouping of projects, 4-H members get to express their creativity. 4-H members will learn about clothing design and construction, the color wheel, graphic design, and how to capture that perfect picture.

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FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES, GROUPING 2

Projects: Consumer Education/Economics; Personal Development; Nutrition, Health and Fitness; Performing Arts/Recreation

What can I do? This project area grouping is perfect for 4-H members who want to better themselves. 4-H members learn about spending and saving money, how to get proper amounts of food and exercise, and how to make themselves better.

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