

## 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Series

# Pick-A-Project

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Picking your 4-H project is a hard decision. Why? Because there are so many projects to choose from. You should pick a project that interests you, a project that you can work on easily and a project that will teach you something new. You will do most of your project work in or around your home. Once you pick your project, you will receive a project manual. The manual is a short, easy-to-read book

that explains about your project and suggests a few things to do. You will spend many months working in your project area. Your Extension agent, parents, teachers, volunteer leaders and others will help you learn. And learning will be fun.

To help you pick your project, here is an easy game to play. Read through the list below. Circle the letters of the things you like to do best.

### Things I Like To Do

- A.** I like to ride horses.    **F.** I like to cook.    **G.** I like to ride bicycles.  
**F.** I like to eat.    **A.** I like animals.    **B.** I like to build things.    **E.** I like to talk.    **C.** I like to sing.    **G.** I like things that move.    **B.** I like to work with tools.    **E.** I like to take photographs.    **D.** I like to watch things grow.  
**F.** I like to help other people.    **C.** I like to go camping.    **B.** I like things that are electric.    **D.** I like to work in the yard and garden.    **F.** I like to make clothes.    **D.** I like to walk in the woods.    **C.** I like to play softball.  
**D.** I like to climb trees.    **F.** I like to baby-sit.    **B.** I like small motors.  
**F.** I like to count money.    **D.** I like to collect insects.    **A.** I like to take care of sick animals.    **D.** I like to dig in the dirt.    **C.** I like to fish.    **A.** I like to teach my dog new tricks.    **C.** I like to learn new games.    **F.** I like to make things safe.    **C.** I like to play a musical instrument.    **F.** I like to learn more about the food we eat.    **D.** I like to plant trees and shrubs.    **D.** I like to learn more about things that live in the forests and streams.    **B.** I like to carve wood.    **A.** I like to raise farm animals.    **G.** I like tractors and trucks.  
**F.** I like to decorate my room.    **B.** I like to learn how to conserve energy.  
**F.** I like to go shopping.    **D.** I like to collect rocks.    **F.** I like to learn more about other people.    **G.** I like motorcycles.    **F.** I like to repair things around the house.    **D.** I like houseplants.    **C.** I like to shoot bows and arrows.  
**F.** I like to wear nice clothes.    **G.** I like to use the computer.

### Results

Once you have read through the list and circled the letters of the things you like to do, go back and count the letters you circled. How many do you have?

**A.** \_\_\_\_\_ **B.** \_\_\_\_\_ **C.** \_\_\_\_\_ **D.** \_\_\_\_\_ **E.** \_\_\_\_\_ **F.** \_\_\_\_\_ **G.** \_\_\_\_\_



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# Pick-A-Project Guide Sheet

You probably circled one or two letters more times than you circled the other letters. On this page, we have listed all the different project areas. They are grouped together by the things you like to do. Find the group that has the same letter as the letter you circled the most times on the Pick-A-Project exercise. Read about the projects in the group listed below. If you need more help in picking your project, talk to the adults who work with your 4-H club and your parents. Show your parents this list and let them help you decide what project you should do.

How many times did you circle the letters listed below?

A. \_\_\_\_\_ B. \_\_\_\_\_ C. \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_ E. \_\_\_\_\_ F. \_\_\_\_\_

G. \_\_\_\_\_

**Group A** – In this group of projects, you learn about animals on the farm and around the home. It might be a dairy cow, if you have the room to keep one, or your pet cat. You will learn how to care for animals, how to train them and what they are used for. The projects are DAIRY, BEEF, PET CARE, HORSE, POULTRY, RABBITS, SWINE and VETERINARY SCIENCE.

**Group B** – These projects teach you about working with your hands, how to build things out of wood or how to repair a small engine. You will also learn about tools and how they are used. The projects are ENERGY MANAGEMENT, SMALL ENGINES and WOOD SCIENCE.

**Group C** – Everyone likes to have fun and relax, but there are also many new ideas to learn about

having fun. The projects in this group teach you how to play different games, go camping and hiking, play a musical instrument, act in a play and make different crafts. This project is called ARTS AND HUMANITIES.

**Group D** – The world of nature is one of the most varied project areas in 4-H. You will learn how things grow, different types of animals, plants and insects, how wild creatures live and how to conserve our natural resources. The projects are ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, COTTON, ENTOMOLOGY (the study of insects), GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE (the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants), FORESTRY, LANDSCAPING, PLANTS AND SOILS and SOYBEANS.

**Group E** – The two project areas in this group are photography and public speaking. You can use PHOTOGRAPHY to show people what you saw or did or felt. In PUBLIC SPEAKING, you learn to tell other people what you know or think.

**Group F** – The home is an important part of your life. In this group, you learn about the food you eat, the clothes you wear, how to make your home a better place to live and about other people. The projects are BREADS; DAIRY FOODS; FOOD CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION AND SAFETY; CLOTHING AND TEXTILES; CONSUMER EDUCATION; FASHION REVUE; HEALTH; HOME ENVIRONMENT; HOME MANAGEMENT; CHILD DEVELOPMENT; and SAFETY.

**Group G** – This group of projects is really on the go. You will learn about most everything that moves in this group – everything from computers to the big tractors on the farm to the bicycle you ride to school. The projects are BICYCLE, ENERGY MANAGEMENT and COMPUTERS.

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