

Mini 4-H

Cookie Decorating

Divisions I & II

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your child to the Mini 4-H program. Mini 4-H is designed for boys and girls, who are in either first or second grade during this calendar year.

Your job as a Mini 4-H parent is to guide your child in any way that you can, we suggest assisting your child in completing the project, but not completing the projects for them. It is your child's project and will be an important teaching and learning experience for him/her. So guide your child, but let him/her do as much of it by himself/herself as he/she can.

Your child will need to exhibit something in each of the project areas which he/she has signed up for. Please see that your child gets the exhibit to the fair during the scheduled time. Your child will receive a ribbon for completing the project. You need to pick up the project after the 4-H Fair or make arrangements for someone else to get the project if you can not.

If you have any questions, you may call the Extension Office at 736-3724. We hope you and your child will enjoy the Mini 4-H program and we will be looking forward to seeing you at the Johnson County 4-H and Agricultural Fair.

Johnson County 4-H Council

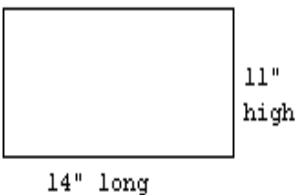
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Mini 4-H Program Rules

The Mini 4-H program is designed to supplement and introduce both first and second graders to the Johnson County 4-H program.

RULES

1. Mini 4-H is open to any boy or girl who is enrolled in either the first or second grade on January 1st of the current 4-H year.
2. Any first grader may enroll in one (1) or two (2) projects.
Any second grader may enroll in one (1) to four (4) projects.
3. Mini 4-H participants do not enroll in a 4-H club, but do the project at home.
4. Mini 4-H projects include: Arts & Crafts, Bugs, Cookie Decorating, Collections, Flowers, Foods, Forestry, Horse & Pony, Livestock, Models, Sewing, Small Animals, and Wildlife.
5. Enrollment of Mini 4-H is done in April by distributing enrollment information to all first and second grade classes in each Johnson County elementary school.
6. **ALL POSTER EXHIBITS MUST:**
 - A. Have a solid, stiff backing, which is 11" high by 14" wide (half standard poster size). This can be 1/4" plywood, HEAVY cardboard, foam board, or masonite.
Exception: Wildlife poster is 11" x 22".



- B. Be positioned **HORIZONTALLY**.
- C. Have a total exhibit board no larger than 11" high by 14" wide.
(Wildlife- 11" x 22")
- D. Be completely **COVERED BY A CLEAR PLASTIC** material.

Mini 4-H Helper's Page

Welcome to the Mini 4-H program! Mini 4-H is designed for youth to explore a variety of project activity areas and to interact with caring adults and other children.

Children receive this project activity manual when enrolling in Mini 4-H. This manual and the manuals on various other topics will provide fun age appropriate learning activities throughout their year(s) in Mini 4-H.

As a Mini 4-H adult helper your job will be to guide and encourage each child through the activities. A wide range of activities are provided to allow you to choose the ones most appropriate for the children you are working with. It is highly suggested that you do not complete the activities for them. Instead help them, guide them, work with them, and let them do all that they possibly can. 4-H believes in allowing children to learn by doing. The Mini 4-H project activities are hands-on learning opportunities designed to provide a meaningful educational experience for youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is set up to allow children to display a project activity that is based upon information within this manual. Some children may choose to exhibit their project at the 4-H fair. The 4-H fair is an exciting week that allows community youth to showcase their enthusiasm for learning. Children may choose to display a project activity they did by themselves or one they did with a group.

Mini 4-H is fun! Children will certainly enjoy it. You can have fun too, by guiding and helping as children participate in the program. Encourage and praise the children as they have fun learning and sharing with you. If you have any questions regarding Mini 4-H or other 4-H programs, please feel free to contact your local Extension office.

Welcome to Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating!

If you like to help in the kitchen, then you have chosen the perfect 4-H project. In this project you can use techniques to add a special touch to cookies.

Decorated cookies can make a birthday or holiday more festive and extra special because it is from you. Maybe you would like to plan a party and you have your own ideas for the refreshments. There are so many decorations you can use.

Cake decorating starts with baking your cookies and frosting them. Decorations on top of your cookies tell something about whom it is for and what you might like.



You are going to have so much fun decorating your cookies and everyone will be so proud of you and want one.

Let's pick up some supplies and start having fun!

Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating Requirements

First and Second Graders - You will exhibit three (3) cookies. Bring them to the judging on a throw away 9" plate. Make sure to cover your exhibit with plastic. You must also fill out the project tag and record sheet (both are included in this book).

First Graders (Division I) – Cookies must have frosting. Add sprinkles and or/candy on top of each one. (i.e. cookie covered with frosting and heart made of M & M's). They do not have to be the same so have fun.

Second Graders (Division II) - Cookies must have frosting, smooth on top. Must have border, and a design made of either frosting and/or candy. You may use tips to make your design/border. They do not have to be the same so have fun.

Supplies You Need Include:

Cookies

- Store bought
- or basic sugar cookie recipe

Frosting

- store bought
- or recipe in book
- any color or flavor



Sprinkles

- any color
- any shape

Decorating bag, tip & coupler – Second Graders (optional)

- 8 in. professional decorating bag
- Coupler
- Tips: # 18 star, zig-zag
- #4 printing, writing or lines
- #352 leaves
- #104 rose bud

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Basic Butter Cream Frosting

1/2 cup shortening (Crisco)
1 lb. confectioner's sugar
1/8 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup water

Mix with a hand mixer. This may be thick so you can add water to thin it. If it is too soft add powdered sugar (a little at a time).

This icing will be white but if you want an ivory color use butter Crisco. Makes a very smooth and soft color. Icing will keep in the refrigerator for a long period of time if it is sealed tightly.

Decorating Ideas and Tips

1. Cookies should be completely cooled before you start to frost.
2. Smooth top using a spatula dipped in hot tap water. Dip your spatula and shake off water before putting it on your cupcake.
3. Pastel colors are best to use when it is hot outside.
4. Drop flowers should always have a center. (Dot with a writing tip #4).
5. Paste coloring mixes better but you can use any coloring.
6. Never put decorated cookies in the refrigerator. If you do, when you take them out, they will sweat, fade and sometimes the frosting runs off and colors run together. After they are done, cover them with plastic. Please be careful not to smash your decorations.

Good Luck and Have Fun!

NAME _____
GRADE (as of Jan. 1) _____
PROJECT _____
DIVISION _____
SCHOOL ATTENDING _____

Project Tag – Please fill out and bring with you to turn in your cookies.



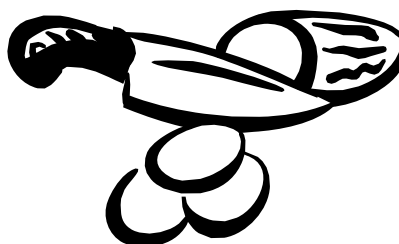
SAFTEY PRECAUTIONS:

1. Always use hot pads or oven mitts whenever you are handling anything that could be hot.
2. Turn handles on pots toward the middle of the stove so they do not get bumped off.
3. Wipe up spills as soon as they happen. Spilled food can be slippery, and you do not want to slip and fall.
4. Sharp knives are EXTREMELY dangerous. Always be careful when handling them and NEVER hold a knife by the blade.
5. Cut on a cutting board, ALWAYS with your fingers out of the way.
6. NEVER hold your food in your hand while you are trying to cut it.
7. "SAW" back and forth through the food rather than trying to chop it.

Cutting Board



Knife



We hope you enjoy working with your Mini 4-H Cookie Decorating project. Keep up the enthusiasm and when you are in the third grade you can have more fun by joining a 4-H club, and continue with the 4-H Cookie Decorating project and/or enroll in other projects.

If you have any questions with your Mini 4-H project, you can call or stop in the Extension Office. Our phone number is 736-3724 and we are located in the northeast corner of the Johnson County Fairgrounds, in Franklin. The mailing address is 484 N. Morton St. Franklin, IN 46131.

Mini 4-H'ers Page

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are many activities for you to explore. You can try new things, which you can share with your family and friends.

Here are some things to know about 4-H:

The 4-H Symbol: The symbol is a four-leaf clover with an "H" in each leaf. Clover is a plant that grows in fields, yards, and along roadsides. Most clovers only have three leaves. Sometimes, if you look closely, you may get lucky and find a 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 group.



The 4-H Colors: The 4-H colors are green and white. The four leaf clover is green and the "H" in the leaf is white.

A group motto is a saying that tells people what is important to the group.

The 4-H Motto: "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. Maybe you threw a ball farther than you have ever thrown it before. Now think about some ways you could do better. You may be able to throw farther by practicing for a while or by watching someone who can throw farther than you, to see how they throw so far. Even if you throw the ball farther than you have ever thrown it before, there are still ways that you can do better the next time. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best you have ever done.

The 4-H Pledge

A pledge is a promise you make to yourself and to the people around you. The 4-H pledge is in bold print below. Under each line of the pledge there are words telling what the pledge means.



I pledge my head **to clearer thinking.**

I promise to use my head to make good choices.



my heart **to greater loyalty.**

to use my heart to be a good friend.



my hands **to larger service, and**

to use my hands to do helpful things for others.



my health **to better living.**

to take care of my body and to show others how to live in a healthy way.



for my club, my community, **my country, and my world.**

to help my group, my community, my country, and my world be happy and safe for everyone.

RECORD SHEET

MINI 4-H COOKIE DECORATING

Name _____ Grade _____

Address _____ Division _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

School Attending _____

Please answer the following questions. Attach this completed record sheet to your exhibit.

What did you learn from this project? _____

List the different items/decoration themes you made for this project:

Item

Amount Made

List the people who helped you with this project: _____
