

4-H Photography Project



SNAPSHOT 4H1617

CURRICULA & RESOURCES

Michigan 4-H Curricula

- » 4-H Arts Project Evaluation Guidelines for Youth Aged 9 to 19
<http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/resources/artsevalguidelines>

National 4-H Curricula

- » 4-H Filmmaking Studio and Workshop: <http://www.4-h.org/curriculum/filmmaking/>
- » National 4-H Photography: <http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/4-h-photography/>
 - Focus on Photography, Level 1 (4H 640A)
 - Controlling the Image, Level 2 (4H 640B)
 - Mastering Photography, Level 3 (4H 640C)

Other Resources

- » Books
 - *4-H Guide to Digital Photography* by Daniel Johnson
 - *Kodak Pocket Guide To Digital Photography*
- » Websites
 - BetterPhoto.com: <http://www.betterphoto.com/home.asp>
 - Focus on Travel Photography: www.fodors.com/focus
 - Kodak: www.kodak.com
 - New York Institute of Photography: <http://www.nyip.com/>

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WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

The 4-H photography project provides youth the opportunity to learn about photography equipment and become technically competent as they acquire knowledge, practice skills, explore self-expression and creativity, and learn about careers in photography and related fields.

- » Discover how to take amazing photographs.
- » Learn about photography as an art, a science and a communication tool.
- » Explore photography as a hobby or profession.

THE BIG PICTURE

Starting out:

- » Know a camera and its parts.
- » Learn the basics of camera care.
- » Understand how to organize and store photographs.
- » Learn about composition.
- » Learn to brace your camera for a sharp photograph.
- » Explore basic lighting techniques.
- » Take photos of places, people and pets.
- » Critique photographs.
- » Exhibit photographs for fun or for competition.

Learning more:

- » Learn to better control lighting.
- » Use flash techniques.
- » Adjust the depth of field.
- » Gain more knowledge about photography terms, such as aperture and the rule of thirds.
- » Understand focal point, background, foreground and framing.
- » Critique photographs on a more advanced level.
- » Learn the history of the camera.
- » Use photos to tell a story.

Expanding horizons:

- » Master composition using symmetry, shape, pattern and texture to capture creative photos.
- » Understand the impact of color.
- » Use wide-angle and telephoto lenses.
- » Experiment with lens filters.
- » Practice with light sources and use light meter readings.
- » Use specialized photography equipment and advanced techniques, such as underwater photography.
- » Learn to mount and mat.
- » Apply technical and artistic skills in both film-based and digital photography.

4-H Photography Project Snapshot



FOCUS ON PHOTOGRAPHY

Science

- » Explore how lenses work and how to use them in photography.
- » Understand light and its use in photography.
- » Learn about past, current and future technology.

Citizenship & Leadership

- » Volunteer to take photos for a community event.
- » Help archive historical photos.
- » Arrange for a guest photographer to present to your club.

Communication

- » Present a demonstration on how to properly present your photos.
- » Make a poster presentation on the different types of cameras.
- » Interview a professional photographer.

Life Skills

- » Use critical-thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills to help you make good decisions about project management and everyday life.
- » Keep records on your project expenses and income.
- » Practice personal resiliency through successes and challenges in your project.



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- » Check out books at the library or search the Internet to learn more about technique and composition.
- » Attend 4-H Exploration Days at MSU and enroll in a photography session.
- » Study professional portfolios and then create a portfolio of your own best photographs.
- » Enter a photography contest or exhibit.
- » Enter a National 4-H photo contest.
- » Take an exhibit to be judged at the fair to show what you have learned throughout the year.
- » Learn about copyright and privacy laws.
- » Attend Michigan State University (MSU) Extension 4-H Science Teen and Adult Volunteer Leader Workshop and learn about science concepts and projects you can take back to your club.
- » Contact your local MSU Extension office for workshops, activities and events.
- » If you are interested in a college education in communications or photography, visit MSU's website at www.msu.edu to explore those majors.

Adapted with permission from "4-H Photography Project," by Iowa State University Extension, 2011, *Iowa 4-H Project Hot Sheet*. Retrieved from <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/>

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Curricula & Resources, continued

Curricula — Other States

- » 4-H Photography Project (University of Tennessee Extension): <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/photography.htm>
 - Beginning (W043)
 - Intermediate (W121)
 - Advanced (W122)
- » Photography (Iowa State University Extension): www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/photography
- » Photography Project Worksheet (4H 0643 WS) (Iowa State University Extension): <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/ItemDetail.aspx?ProductID=474>
- » Photography (Wisconsin 4-H): <http://4h.uwex.edu/onlinpro/photography.cfm>
 - Creating Your Own Darkroom (IS370)
 - You Be the Photo Judge! (ACTpa003)