

4-H FOLK PATTERN GUIDELINES

The following are guidelines for providing learning experiences in the folk pattern project area. 4-H Folk patterns is designed primarily for youths who want to learn more about themselves, their families, and their communities. The word FOLK PATTERNS was coined to describe the traditions (patterns of life) of people (folk). It includes learning about traditions, skills and folklore.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL MEMBERS

- Explore in an organized way the various factors and influences that have affected and continue to affect the objects, traditions, and organizations that exist in communities.
- Explore the local history and traditions of a member's town, family, and his/her own life.
- Discover the unwritten history around each of us and gain an understanding in how the past is preserved.
- Understand how folk patterns inter-relate with other project areas, person's family, and actually everything a person does.
- Develop communication skills by learning how to collect, record and preserve information.

IDEAS FOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Project related materials are available from the Cooperative Extension Service office.
- Some folk pattern activities can be done at 4-H club meetings, at school, or at home. Some require the cooperative efforts of a group. Others are designed for individual work at home, close to the necessary materials and family members. Since sharing with a group is satisfying and motivating for everyone involved, it's important to create opportunities for informing others about individual projects, plus it shows the variety of the nature of folk patterns.
- As idea starters, members may study, collect information, and learn about any of the topics listed below, or any other appropriate topic.

Ethnic Celebrations

Old Photographs

Town Celebrations &

Centennials

One Room School Houses

Log Cabins & Wigwams

Proverbs

Riddles

Legends/Folk Tales

Vocabulary

Sayings

Children's Literature

Cooking/Recipes/Foods

Bumper Stickers

Pioneer Studies

Occupational Traditions

Collections

Heritage Gardening

Historical Clothing or Ethnic

Clothing

Shelters/Buildings/Architecture

Cemetery Studies

Traditions

Holidays

Family Celebrations

Folk Games & Toys

Recreation/Sports

Hunting/Fishing/Trapping Lore

Puzzles

Music/Songs

Indian Lore

Folk Medicine

Genealogy

Archaeology

Home Arts - Soapmaking, Candle making, Cider making, Butter Churning, etc.

Folk Skills & Crafts - Basketry, Corn Husks, Metals, Woodworking, Lumbering, Papercraft, Pottery, Textiles,

Spinning, Weaving, Dyeing, Quilting, Bobbin Lace making (see specific guide lines), etc.

Livestock - Butchering, Tanning, Milk, Butter, Cheese Manufacture, Medicine, Livestock Uses

Farm Animals - Health, Safety, Identification, Feeds, Housing, Auctions, Meats, Marketing

Farming - Crops, Harvesting, Stories

Foodways - Customs of Food Production, Food Preservation, Food Preparation, Food Presentation, Food Marketing, and Food Folklore.

FAIR CLASS FOR FOLK PATTERNS

Exhibits can be done on any aspect of folk patterns and are not limited to the ideas listed above.

Any type of exhibit may be prepared - whatever best shows the activities and accomplishments related to the project. Exhibits may range from written records of experiences, to tape

recordings, photos, posters, or items and articles relating to the project. The "4-H FOLK

PATTERNS BACKGROUND INFORMATION CARD " must also be completed and presented with all folk pattern exhibits. A copy of the form is attached.