

4-H FLORICULTURE GUIDELINES

The following are guidelines for providing learning experiences in the floriculture project areas.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL MEMBERS

- Gain an appreciation of plants and our environment
- Learn how to grow plants indoors and outdoors.
- Be able to identify common flowers and plants.
- Learn how to propagate plants.
- Learn about qualities and things to look for when buying seeds or plants.
- Explore floriculture as a hobby or career.
- Learn to make a variety of floral arrangements, corsages, plaques, dish gardens & terrariums.

For the fair: If exhibiting one flower species please include either one full flower plant potted or a bundle cut flowers. For flower arrangements please include one bouquet. Cut flowers and flower arrangements must be contained in a plastic container. Artificial flower exhibits must contain either 4 self-crafted flowers depicting two different flower species or a single arranged bouquet of fake flowers.

The exhibit displayed by the member should reflect his/her age and amount of experience in the project area.

EXPERIENCE GUIDELINES (These are some skills and ideas to cover at various age levels. Please do not feel limited to the activities listed below.)

Beginner

1. Grow and care for some of the common annual flowers and easy to grow house plants.
2. Learn some of the fundamentals involved in growing plants (soil preparation, fertilizing, planting, thinning, transplanting, watering, etc.)
3. Identify common kinds of plants and flowers. D. Learn about plant parts and their functions.
4. Visit a greenhouse or garden center.
5. Learn requirements of living house plants.
6. If desired, learn fundamentals of arranging flowers, making corsages, plaques, dish gardens or terrariums.

Intermediate

1. Grow and care for more difficult house plants and annual or perennial flowers or outdoor bulbs.
2. Identify additional kinds and varieties of plants and bulbs.
3. Make a garden plan that includes the location and spacing of plants in relation to each and to surrounding plants, buildings, fences, driveways, etc.
4. Learn how to tell the quality of seeds and plants.
5. Learn about specific groups of plants such as herbs, annuals, biennials perennials, tender and hardy bulbs. Compare different kinds and varieties of annuals.
6. Propagate plants by seeds, spores, cuttings, grafting, budding, layering, division, etc.
7. Learn requirements of additional house plants.
8. Increase skills in flower arranging, making corsages, plaques, dish gardens or terrariums.

Advanced.

1. Grow and care for a wider selection of plants and more difficult kinds of annuals, perennials or bulbs.
2. Learn how to combine different types of plants together in a border or planter around a home or apartment.
3. Learn about gardening in containers.
4. Compare different plants, seeds and supplies from various companies or sources.
5. Learn about buying and selling plants and plant products.
6. Learn how to use plants indoors in different ways.
7. Learn more about the indoor culture of plants: watering, fertilizing, humidity, artificial lighting, grooming, growing media, temperature, etc.
8. Force bulbs such as tulip, crocus, hyacinth, amaryllis, and paperwhite narcissus into flower.
9. Compare different kinds and varieties of annuals, perennials and bulbs.
10. Increase skills in flower arranging, making corsages, plaques, dish gardens or terrariums.

4-H ARTIFICIAL FLOWER GUIDELINES

The following are guidelines for providing learning experiences in the artificial flower project area.

1. Increase skills in flower arranging, making corsages, and plaques.
2. Learn how to select materials for artificial flowers.
3. Learn names and uses of materials & equipment.

4. Learn flower making skills for a leisure hobby and possibly for a vocational pursuit.
5. Learn how to make a variety of flowers and how to creatively arrange them.
6. Learn new skills each year by making artificial flowers not previously made by the 4-H'er.