



# 4-H BEE KEEPING PROJECT



## 4-H Thrive!

Help Youth:

### Light Their Spark

A spark is something youth are passionate about; it really fires them up and gives them joy and energy. Help youth find how this project excites them.

### Flex Their Brain

The brain grows stronger when we try new things and master new skills. Encourage youth effort and persistence to help them reach higher levels of success.

### Reach Their Goals

Help youth use the GPS system to achieve their goals.

**Goal Selection:** Choose one meaningful, realistic and demanding goal.

**Pursue Strategies:** Create a step-by-step plan to make daily choices that support your goal.

**Shift Gears:** Change strategies if you're having difficulties reaching your goal. Seek help from others. What are youth going to do when things get in their way?

### Reflect

Ask project members how they can use their passion for this project to be more confident, competent and caring. Discuss ways they can use their skills to make a contribution in the community, improve their character or establish connections.

Bees play an important role in agriculture all over the world. They act as vital pollinators for many of the crops grown today, in addition to producing several very useful products. The purpose of this project is to familiarize members with the roles bees play in an ecosystem, and how they can be used as a production species

- Discover the long history bees have with humans
- Learn about ecosystems and how each component can be related.
- Find out how to produce bee products such as honey and beeswax crafts
- Connect your learning with global issues in agriculture today.

#### Starting Out *Beginner*

- Identify major pieces of beekeeping equipment
- Learn how to keep yourself and your family safe around bees.
- Select an appropriate breed of bee for your family.
- Research what plants and food sources your bees will need to survive.

#### Learning More *Intermediate*

- Study hive dynamics and the social hierarchy of bees
- Discover major health concerns for your hive, and how to prevent them.
- Try out recipes that use honey, and how to make beeswax crafts like soaps and candles.
- Be able to identify each particular class of bee.

#### Exploring Depth *Advanced*

- Design a plan for a business utilizing bees.
- Investigate different career opportunities related to bees.
- Discuss major human health concerns related to bees.

The activities above are ideas to inspire further project development. This is not a complete list.



# Expand Your Experiences!

## Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

- Make a presentation about bees and their effect on crops. What would happen to our food if the bees were suddenly gone?
- Research the uses of bee products in medicine
- Create a diagram of the different breeds of bee and where they come from/

## Healthy Living

- Learn about bee sting allergies, and how they affect the people who have them.
- Teach others how to be safe around bees in the wild.

## Citizenship

- Teach others about your bees, and share your enthusiasm for beekeeping with the community.
- Find a local beekeeper's club and go to a meeting.

## Leadership

- Become a role model for others by taking the position of a Jr. or Teen Leader.
- Recruit others to join the Bee project.

### Resources

- America Beekeeping Federation  
<http://www.abfnet.org/?page=34>
- Beginning Beekeeping  
<http://www.beginningbeekeeping.com/>
- Old Farmer's Almanac:  
<http://www.almanac.com/home-pets-family/beekeeping-blog>
- Beeculture  
<http://www.beeculture.com/directory/find-local-beekeeper/>

Connections & Events	Curriculum	4-H Record Book
<p><b>Presentation Days</b> – Share what you've learned with others through a presentation.</p> <p><b>Field Days</b> – At these events, 4-H members may participate in a variety of contests related to their project area.</p> <p>Contact your county 4-H office to determine additional opportunities available, such as a field day.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>4-H Beekeeping Manual</b> <a href="http://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Re-source002759_Rep4060.pdf">extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Re-source002759_Rep4060.pdf</a></li> </ul>	<p>4-H Record Books give members an opportunity to record events and reflect on their experiences. For each project, members document their experiences, learning and development.</p> <p>4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.</p> <p>To access the 4-H Record Book online, visit <a href="http://ucanr.edu/orb/">http://ucanr.edu/orb/</a></p>

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