



4-H FORESTRY PROJECT



No matter where you live, you depend upon forests. In the 4-H Forestry project, youth will learn the importance of forests as a natural resource that provides many essential materials for our daily lives. Youth will explore forest ecology and forest issues and understand the importance of forests as places of resource management, recreation, as well as for beauty and solitude. This project will provide youth with knowledge and skills so they can

- Learn how forests and forests products are managed.
- Understand the complex nature of environmental challenges.

Starting Out *Beginner*

- Learn about the structure and function of trees
- Explore the diversity of trees in your community
- Observe trees closely to monitor changes over time and study trees as habitats

Learning More *Intermediate*

- Read about how humans depend upon forests for a number of ecosystem services
- Learn how forests provide oxygen for clean air and provide for clean water
- Conduct field study surveys and tree measurements
- Invite an urban forester to talk on forest issues

Exploring Depth *Advanced*

- Learn how trees support a healthy balance in dynamic ecological communities
- Create a place based community health plan including new tree plantings
- Become aware of how individuals can make choices for positive change in their communities

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

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

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

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



Expand Your Experiences!

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

- Conduct a site survey
- Create an environmental survey map with recommendations for improvements
- Measure carbon sequestration of tree stands

Healthy Living

- Recycle paper products
- Reduce excess use of paper products and buy products made from recycled materials

Citizenship

- Volunteer at a community clean up
- Plant urban trees for Arbor Week (March annually)
- Conduct a forest health check-up of a local area

Leadership

- Investigate the ecological significance of fires
- Learn how communities can become more fire safe
- Study invasive species that affect their local forests

Resources

- Project Learning Tree www.plt.org
- Guides: Walk in the Forest, Connecting Kids to Nature <https://www.plt.org/family-activities-connect-kids-to-nature-forest>
- Webinars: Climate Change, Schoolyard Trees <https://www.plt.org/webinars>
- California ReLeaf www.californiareleaf.org Forest Research and Outreach <http://ucanr.edu/sites/forestry/> [California forests/](http://www.californiareleaf.org)
- California Forest Foundation www.calforestfoundation.org
- Shasta Forests

Connections & Events	Curriculum	4-H Record Book
<p>Presentation Days – Share what you’ve learned with others through a presentation.</p> <p>Field Days – 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"> • Project Learning Tree Focus on Forests curriculum www.plt.org/focus-on-forests • California Oaks www.californiaoaks.org/ 	<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>



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