



Home Environment Project



The Home Environment project allows young people to learn the principles of design as they explore different design elements for a variety of indoor rooms and outdoor spaces.

From choosing color schemes, accessories, décor, and more, Home Environment allows you to be the interior designer while you style a room or outdoor space by painting, choosing new floor covering, refurbishing furniture, updating accessories, and more!

Inspire Kids to Do

Explore

“I might like to do this.”

Youth who explore a variety of interests before high school, through experiences like 4-H camps and educational events, can develop early interest in a career path and improve their academic performance.

Learn

“I can do this.”

4-H project-based learning, guided by adult volunteers, improves youth understanding of skills and concepts, as well as their ability to problem-solve and collaborate.

Practice

“I’m interested in this.”

Youth who have participated in sustained hands-on learning and engaged with professional mentors and volunteers before entering high school are more likely to explore studies and potential career paths.

Experience

“I will be this.”

Real-world application is key — 91% of Kansas 4-H members have a plan for reaching their goals. Youth that have been active participants in hands-on learning, combined with strong decision-making skills, are more able to effectively navigate life.

Starting Out Beginner

- Learn and define the language, including design elements and principles.
- Plan and design your own space using new design techniques.
- Select budget and consider costs when designing your space.
- Practice selecting different furnishings to create different looks.

Learning More Intermediate

- Explore furniture styles.
- Create design boards to visualize living space changes and plans.
- Consider needs, wants, and timelines to make decisions.
- Learn proper care techniques for different elements, including furniture, flooring, etc.
- Coordinate fabrics and patterns for your space.

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Select accessories to highlight features in your space.
- Consider lighting choices for your space.
- Use natural resources effectively.
- Be knowledgeable about energy efficient products.
- Implement place to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink in your space.

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Expand Your Experiences!

Healthy Living

- Learn about the process of decluttering to minimize stress in lives.
- Donate unused furnishings to local charities.
- Explore how colors and textures affect moods.

Science and Agriculture

- Experiment with durability, stain-resistance, or color-fastness of a material for spaces.
- Study energy efficiency and its importance to the environment.
- Create a floor plan to scale.

Community Vitality

- Coordinate a furnishing swap in your community to minimize costs on updating spaces.
- Assist with renewing community spaces, such as parks, to create an inviting and safe environment for community members.
- Organize or help with a recycling program in your community.

Communication and the Arts

- Create a tutorial video on how to refinish a piece of furniture.
- Demonstrate how to select a color scheme using the color wheel.
- Teach others the proper disposal methods for refinishing materials, including paint.

Career Development

- Explore careers through job shadowing and researching, including interior design, landscape architecture, professional organization, community and regional planning, marketing, publishing and advertising.
- Learn more about Kansas State University's various degree programs including from the Department of Interior Design and Fashion Studies, and the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional and Community Planning.

Local Contact Information

Resources and Events	Curriculum and Resources	4-H Record Keeping	Project Exhibit Ideas
<p>Participating in educational events and learning opportunities will expand your knowledge and skills in the project area. Contact your local K-State Research and Extension office for local opportunities. Take part in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kansas 4-H Home Environment Project Page• Project meetings• 4-H Club Day• County Fair• Kansas State Fair• Local and State FCS Judging Contests• Discovery Days	<p>Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your local extension office or you can order directly from the 4-H Mall.</p> <p>Nebraska 4-H:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design Decisions <p>Colorado 4-H:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Consumer Science Projects (Includes Home Design & Decor) <p>Iowa 4-H:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home Improvement	<p>Learning to keep accurate records is a life skill. The following forms can help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting 4-H Project Goals (4H1100)• Kansas 4-H Record Keeping• Kansas 4-H Home Design and Environment Floor Plan and Color Scheme (P1047)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refinish a chair, table, or dresser.• Develop a design board to show how an existing floor plan can be or was transformed.• Illustrate how colors and textures can have different effects on a space.• Demonstrate different lighting in a space.• Compare and contrast different flooring options, painting techniques, or fabrics.

