



Visual Arts Project



The visual arts project teaches artistic skills and the elements and principles of design. 4-H members explore techniques, study art history, culture, and discover their talents. Be creative; draw, paint and work with different mediums. Art is created through experimentation using a variety of tools and organizational strategies. The elements of design are color, value, form, line, shape, space, and texture. Design principles are balance, emphasis, movement, pattern, proportion, repetition, rhythm, unity, and variety.

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 about color: primary, secondary, complementary, shades, and tints.
- Try a cutting and pasting project such as scrap-booking or decoupage.
- Try free-form clay work.
- Make marker, crayon, and colored pencil drawings.
- Do school, day camp craft projects.

Learning More Intermediate

- Do a drawing project using shading and blending lines; learn use of pencil, charcoal or ink.
- Create clay pots, such as pinch pot, coil pot, or slab container.
- Try paper crafting such as quilling.
- Paint a still life with watercolors.

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Understand the financial costs of creating items to start a home-based business.
- Learn how to market your product.
- Use your drawing techniques toward calligraphy or cartooning.
- Purchase a kiln for clay or ceramic work.

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Expand Your Experiences!

Healthy Living

- Learn to use visual art techniques as a mean of relieving stress.
- Use recycled or re-purposed materials to create projects.
- Learn how previous generations used visual arts to create life necessities.

Science and Agriculture

- Study how to properly use resources from nature to be creative and form colors.
- Use art to promote science and agriculture.
- Learn what byproducts from animals are used to create art media and art tools.

Community Vitality

- Create cards and wall hangings to share with the elder care facilities.
- Help with a community holiday event to provide kids crafts.
- Work with other visual art members to create a community mural that cleans up graffiti.

Communication and the Arts

- Present to a local club the different ways to mix colors to demonstrate shades and tints.
- Create a tutorial video on how to make a basic project from start to finish.
- Demonstrate a variety of drawing techniques.

Career Development

- Explore careers through job shadowing and researching, including design, production, merchandising, retail management, entrepreneurship, and more.
- Learn more about Kansas State University's [Department of Interior Design and Fashion Studies](#).
- Graphic design work with local print shop, auto body shop or other business.

Local Contact Information

| Resources and Events | Curriculum and Resources | 4-H Record Keeping | Project Exhibit Ideas |
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| <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 Visual Arts Project Page• Project meetings• 4-H Club Day• County Fair• Kansas State Fair• Discovery Days• Local artist exhibitions or art/hobby shops | <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>National Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sketchbook Crossroads• Portfolio Pathways <p>Iowa State Extension:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design: Exploring Elements and Principle | <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• Keep a daily art journal or portfolio | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recycled or upcycled craft using supplies from around home.• Barn wood creation or pallet art• Button Art – Create a project only using buttons.• Clay art- create clay beads and design your own jewelry.• Paper crafts such as origami, quilling, scrapbook, journaling book• Group paint project |

