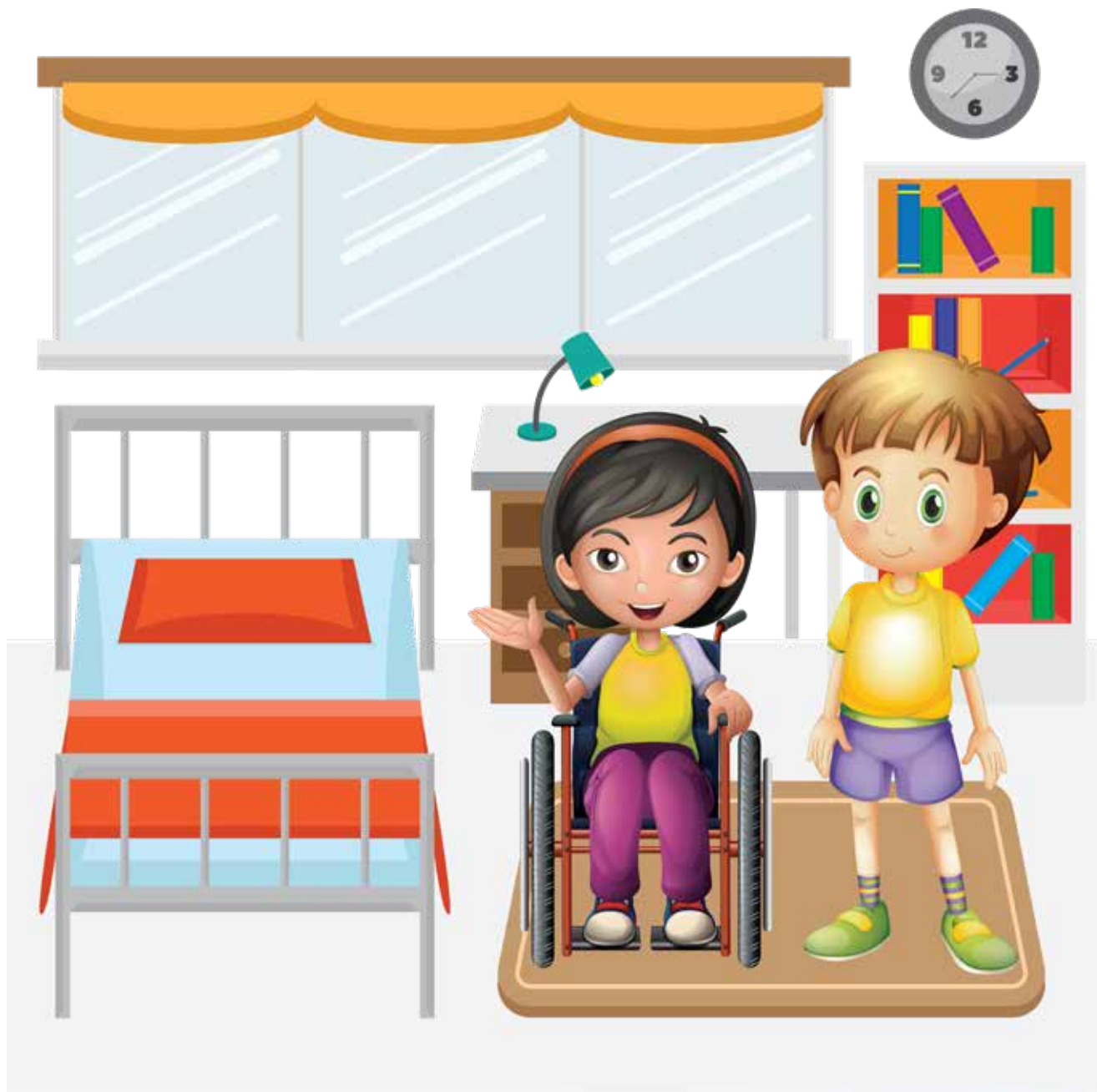


Home Environment Project

UNIT 1 : EXPLORING YOUR HOME



Home Environment Unit 1

EXPLORING YOUR HOME

Home Environment Unit 1—Exploring Your Home—introduces 4-H'ers to activities to help them become interested in their homes and learn how to make them more attractive. They can do some of the activities by themselves. Other things should be done with a guardian or a club leader giving guidance.

Encourage and help the 4-H'ers as they learn new skills. Talk over project ideas with them. Some suggested activities and exhibits are given in this booklet. Check websites (with an adult's permission), magazines, books and talk with your county Extension agent for instructions for other projects. Help your 4-H'ers select projects that are suitable for their abilities and skill levels. The project should not be so hard that the 4-H'ers will be discouraged, nor so easy that they are not challenged to learn new skills. It is important for members to see the difference in a 4-H project and a 4-H exhibit. Exhibited items are only one part of a larger learning experience: the 4-H learning experience.

After each new experience or when a project is completed, help members evaluate what they have done. Ask them questions and discuss what they have done well and what they need to improve. Encourage and help the 4-H'ers see where they are growing with the project.

Have fun and enjoy working with these young folx in this project!



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Introduction

Having a pleasant home environment is very important. It makes us happier, and it makes us feel better. Many things work together to make a good home environment. Most importantly, family members must respect and care for each other. Also they must respect and care for the family's shared belongings and each member's personal belongings.

Next, family members must work together in sharing the tasks that keep the household running in an orderly manner. Making your home run smoothly and look good is part of your responsibility as a family member. But it is also fun! This first 4-H home environment project will help you learn more about improving where you live.

Some things you will do by yourself. Some activities you will want to do with others.

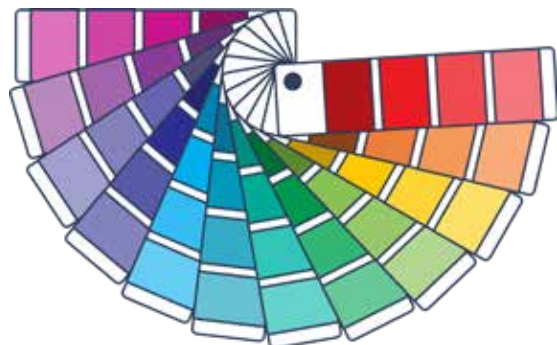
All 4-H projects help you learn skills for living. Some of the skills involve making items and exhibiting them for other folks to see and learn from. Other skills you learn will not be exhibited, but they will help you become a better 4-H'er and a happy, productive individual.

As you go through this project booklet, talk to your guardian and leader about project ideas. They can answer questions and help you plan a project and choose activities. It's best to plan a project for your room or some area of your house that needs to be improved.

WHAT WILL YOU DO IN UNIT 1?



- Explore colors, textures and accessories you like
- Learn how to accept responsibility of being a family member
- Complete a project for exhibition
- Give a demonstration
- Keep a record of your 4-H project



Getting Your Space Organized

The first place to start improving your home environment is in the area where you sleep and keep your belongings.

- Is it neat and orderly?
- Can you find things when you need them?
- Both shoes? Matching socks?

You'll be able to find things quickly when they are in their proper place. If you share your room with someone else, discuss how you can work together to keep your room looking good.

Start by making your bed! Your space will look better right away. Keep up this habit by making your bed every morning. It's always nice to climb into a neat bed after a long day. Try to change and wash your sheets every two weeks.



AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

Tidy your space by putting away items that you have left out over the past few days. If something does not belong in your space, take it to where it goes, or ask your guardians for help finding a place for it. Make your area sparkle! Dust at least once a week. You will need two kinds of dust cloths:

1. A dry, clean cloth for pictures, lamps, and small articles. An old cotton t-shirt works well for this.
2. A dust cloth or dust mitt for furniture.

Dusting will go faster if you start at one corner and work around the room. Make both hands work by wearing a dust mitt on each one. Go from top to bottom on each piece of furniture.



Turn off lighting fixtures before dusting them. Unplug lamps before dusting light bulbs. Don't miss the window sills and pictures. After you've finished, put everything back in its place. Remember that little things count.

Are window shades even? Do pictures hang straight? Are lampshade seams turned to the wall? Shake dust cloths outdoors and place in the laundry.

Next, throw away trash, and take any dishes, cups or food to the kitchen. It's best to always throw away food or drink related items away in the kitchen trashcan, not your room trashcan. Empty wastebaskets and wipe them out with a damp cloth. Neglected, overflowing wastebaskets can be fire hazards. If you don't have a wastebasket, you may want to make one.

Finish your job by cleaning the floor. Use a vacuum cleaner on rugs and carpets. Some vacuums will have a special attachment you can use for bare wood or tile floors. A broom or dust mop will work on bare floors, too (Ask your guardians for help, if needed.)

Getting Your Space Organized

Then, focus on your clothes. Look around and put dirty clothes in the hamper. Placing dirty clothes in a hamper as soon as you take them off helps to keep them out of the way. Remember, though that you might have some clothes that don't need to go in the hamper every time you wear them (some of your sweaters for example). It's a good idea to ask your guardians if you have clothes that you can wear more than once before washing. If you don't have a clothes hamper or bag, you can use a box, wicker basket, or make a cloth laundry bag with a draw string top to hang over a closet hook. Ask your leader or Extension agent for directions on how to make a laundry bag.

The clothes remaining in your space should be folded and put away in a drawer, hung up in your closet, or placed in their designated area. Organize your closet space so that all like things are together. For example, hang your shirts in one section and your pants in another section. Keep all of your shoes in one place. Sort all of your belongings this way, and you'll be able to find them quickly. Hang all of the hanger hooks pointing in the same direction with articles facing the same direction. This makes it easier to take the hangers out of the closet. Put out-of-season clothes in a different closet or area. Now look at your closet. Did you find an item you thought was lost?



Next organize your dresser drawers. Put like things together. Put all your sweaters in one place; put pajamas with pajamas and underwear with underwear. Fold and stack things neatly. Place the clothes you use most often on top and near the front. Then you can reach them quickly and easily. To keep dresser drawers in order, make drawer dividers from boxes.

Use the box covers for small things in the top drawers. If you wish, cover the boxes with bright paper. If your dresser drawers are too full of clothes you don't wear, look through them. Give away those clothes you don't need or use to someone who can use them. Store out-of-season clothing in a box or on a high shelf. Be sure to label the box or shelf so you'll know where to look when you want it again. You probably will have to reorganize your dresser drawers regularly to keep them in order.

Before going to bed, decide what you are going to wear the next day. Get out your clothes for the next day to make sure they are clean and free of wrinkles. If they have been crowded in the closet or drawers, you'll have time to press them or let the wrinkles hang out overnight. Then you'll be ready to go the next day!



Personalize Your Space

Now that your area is tidy, you can look around and see what you might like to do to help personalize it.

One way to do this is to add accessories. Accessories are the little things that add personal touches to any room. Some accessories are useful (functional) such as lamps or a bulletin board. Others, such as pictures or houseplants, add beauty or interest.



Here are some examples of accessories. Which are functional and which add beauty?

Lamps • Plants • Pictures • Mirrors • Books
Magazines • Clocks • Candleholders
Pin Up or Bulletin Board • Shadow Box
Boxes and Baskets • Pillows • Bowls
Desk Sets • Wastebaskets • Bottles
Radio • Charging Station

These are only some of the things we call accessories. Can you think of other things that will add beauty, personalize your space or help you do things better?

Without accessories, most rooms look bare and uninteresting. On the other hand, too many accessories give the room a cluttered look. It's up to you to add just the amount that's right for you. Give careful thought to the accessories you wish to use.

Select only those that you really like and want to live with (and don't mind dusting or cleaning).



Take a look at all the accessories in your room.

How do you feel about the things you now have? Look over the following list of questions.

1. Does the room look bare?
2. Does the room look cluttered with accessories?
3. Are there too many things to dust?
4. Are books and magazines neat?
5. Are hobby and sports things in order and easy to find?
6. Would some surfaces look better with nothing on them?
7. Is there anything that does not make the room look better?
8. Do your accessories help or hinder your ability to keep your space tidy and clean?

Some things may need to be rearranged. If so, experiment and move things around and decide which way you like best. Are there some things that could be added to make your room look better? If so, you may want to make an accessory for your room. A laundry bag would add color as well as provide a designated place for your dirty clothes. A pillow could be added to your bed or a chair. A small wooden box could hold desk supplies, jewelry, or other treasures.

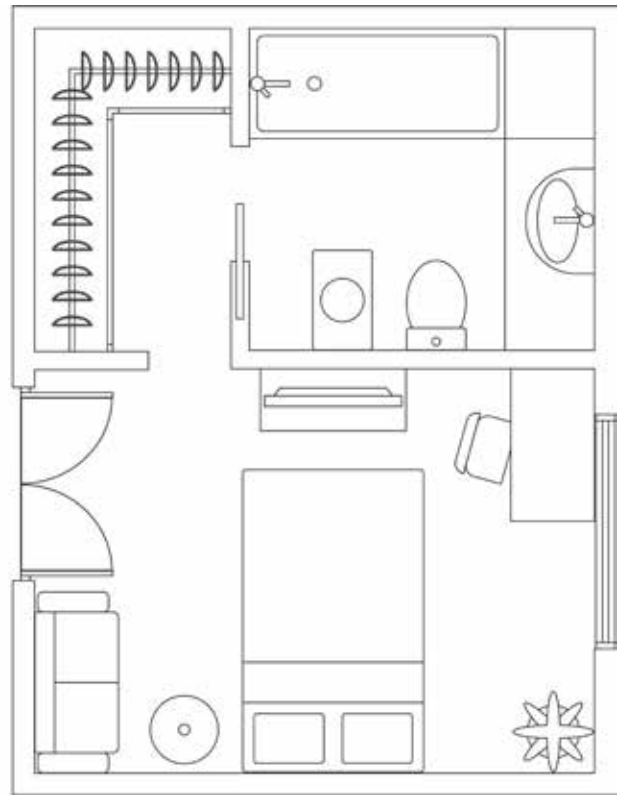
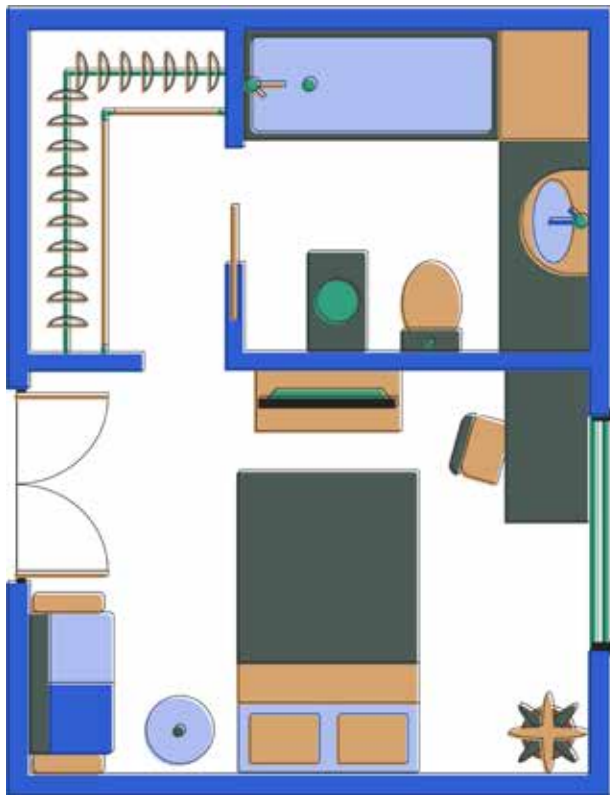


You The Designer

When you rearrange things in your space or select colors and materials for accessories, you become a designer, and you will work with the tools for design.

What is design? Every room needs a plan for order that makes all the parts of the room fit together as a whole. Design is a plan for that order. It involves many things; for example, how you plan a furniture arrangement for your space, or what accessories you select for your space, or what colors you choose. Design is an expression of yourself. The colors you select, the type or arrangement of furnishings, the way you arrange your accessories all help to make your room an expression of you.

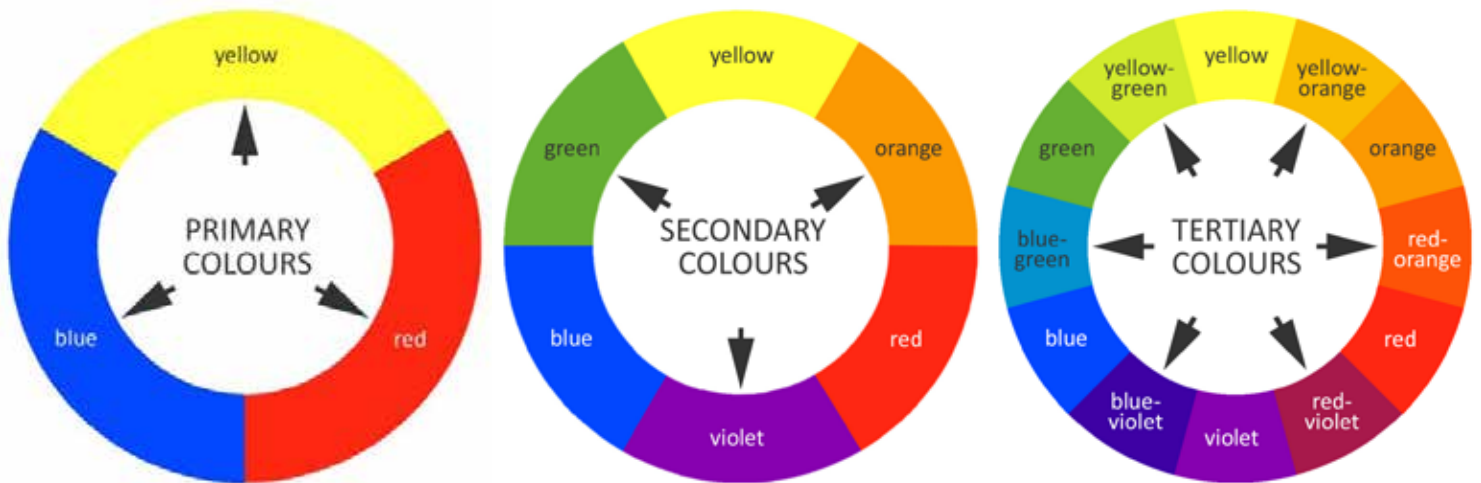
Your design does not require new furniture, or expensive accessories. Part of your design plan may be how to improve a space inexpensively. For example, objects of nature may be used, and they are free for the finding. Or perhaps you could make something for your room from fabric remnants or wood scraps. Look at magazines or design websites found on the Internet and see how objects found around almost any home can be used for a design plan.



Color as a Design Tool

As a designer, there are “tools” you can use to create your plan. Color is one of these “tools” that you can have fun experimenting with. You’ll hear several words such as HUE, VALUE and INTENSITY, used to describe color. “Hue” is the name for the actual color, for example: blue, green or yellow. We classify and group hues in ways that allow us to create unlimited color combinations. The word hue and color can be used interchangeably.

When the primary hues are mixed, secondary colors are created. For example, yellow mixed with blue makes green (a secondary hue (color)). Each time hues are mixed, another new color is formed. There are hundreds of possibilities for mixing colors. When secondary colors are mixed, intermediate or tertiary color are created.



Value describes the lightness or darkness of a color. Adding white to a color makes it a lighter value. Adding black to a color makes it darker in value. We create the color pink when we add white to red; think of pink as having a “lighter value” than red.

Intensity refers to the “pureness” of a color and how bright or dull a color is. Dull colors are a result of one hue being mixed with a little of its complementary color. Complementary colors are those that are located directly across from each other on the color wheel. For example, red and green are complementary colors.

Another set of complementary colors are blue and orange. Pure red can be made less intense by adding small amount of pure green.

Colors can impact our mood and there will be some colors that you like better than others. Some colors make you feel happy; some make you feel quiet. Other colors can make you feel depressed or cold.

Sometimes colors can remind you of things such as green grass and blue sky. Choose colors for your room that make you feel good or remind you of pleasant things. Write a word in the blank that describes how each of these colors makes you feel.

RED MAKES ME FEEL _____

YELLOW MAKES ME FEEL _____

GREEN MAKES ME FEEL _____

ORANGE MAKES ME FEEL _____

BLUE MAKES ME FEEL _____

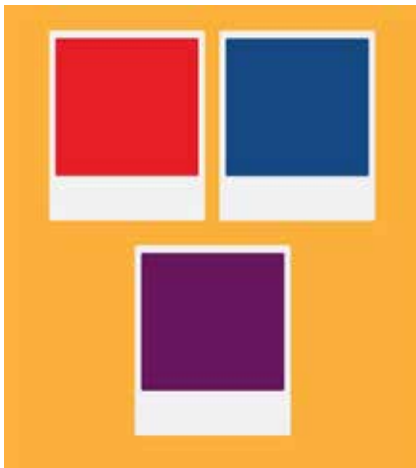
VIOLET MAKES ME FEEL _____

COLOR ACTIVITY 1

Make a color wheel. Use acrylic paints and colored white drawing paper for the background. Arrange your 3 primary colors (red, yellow, and blue) on the paper in a circle so that they are placed at the points of an imaginary triangle. Then experiment by mixing the primary colors together (two at a time), and add the resulting secondary color between the two primary colors it came from. Another idea is to use white frosting and red, yellow, and blue food coloring. (Check with your guardian first if using the frosting and food coloring.) If using frosting, mix a small amount of frosting in each primary and secondary color. Then frost cookies or graham crackers with each color. Share these with your friends or other family members. Which colors were eaten first? Why?



COLOR ACTIVITY 2



Cut red, violet (purple) and blue construction paper into large squares. Cut smaller circles of green, yellow, and orange paper. Place the complementary circles on the squares, or next to each other. (These are the colors directly opposite each other on the color wheel.) What happens to the colors when they are placed together? Do they become more intense? What does this mean when you are choosing colors for your room? Try other combinations of colors, such as red and yellow or green and blue. How do you feel about the combinations of colors now? Which combinations are quiet? Which are the most lively? What combination of colors do you like best?

COLOR ACTIVITY 3

Make a collage (or collection) of various colored papers, fabrics, wrapping paper, wallpaper, carpet samples, autumn leaves, or other materials. Select those colors that you particularly like and glue onto a heavy paper or poster board background. If you use colored tissue paper for your collage, try overlapping different colors as you work. How do you like your final design? Did the colors turn out as you expected? You may want to hang your finished picture in your room.



Texture as a Design Tool

Texture is another tool incorporated into design.

Wherever we go, whatever we see, textures are there! Texture adds interest. It tells us how an object or a surface looks, feels and handles:

- LOOK : shiny, dull, crinkled
- FEEL: smooth, rough, bumpy
- HANDLES: soft, stiff, rubbery

There are two kinds of texture: tactile and visual. You can feel tactile textures. For example, tree bark feels rough and glass feels smooth. Visual texture is what we see or think we see. Sometimes an object feels different than it looks. Fabrics and wall-coverings often have different tactile and visual textures.



Explore some of your outdoor surroundings. Close your eyes and feel with your fingers. Touch a sidewalk, grass, tree bark or some flowers. Now go inside and look around. Compare different fabrics and wall coverings. What textures do you particularly like? Next, touch some of the surfaces in your room. Can you find some textures that are similar? Which ones do you like the best?

TEXTURE ACTIVITY 1

Make rubbings of a variety of objects, such as tree bark, a brick wall, sidewalks or, textured vinyl floors and other surfaces inside and out. To make your rubbing, place paper over the surface and rub the paper with a crayon, soft-lead pencil or charcoal pencil until the texture shows through.

Try a variety of colors for added interest in your various rubbings. You may want to display your best rubbings in your room or a family room.



TEXTURE ACTIVITY 2

Collect various items that have interesting textures and make a collage. You may want to use smooth and nubby fabrics, carpeting, tree bark, leaves, textured cardboard and other items that have texture you can actually feel. You may also use items that depict textures that you can only see, such as photos of items that have texture, printed fabrics and wallpaper and other items with visual texture. Glue these items onto heavy paper or lightweight cardboard.

How do you like your collection of textures? Did you use more of one kind of texture with a variety of interest? If so, is this because you particularly like this texture? Do you have this same kind of texture used in your room? How do you like your final design? You may want to hang your finished collage in your room.

Your Design Plan

Now that you have organized your space and have learned some things about design, look around your space and decide on your design plan. Ask yourself these questions:

- What can I do to my space to make it look better planned?
- How much can I change my space? (Ask your guardian to help with this.)
- What accessories can I add?
- What colors would complement the colors already in the space?
- What textures do I need (smooth or rough, fluffy, or visual)?
- Do I need any additional plain accessories or patterned accessories?
- What items can I find around the house that would personalize my space?
- What nature items can I find to personalize my space?
- What projects or items can I add to my room that would serve as a 4-H project?

Take pictures of your space before and after you organize and personalize it. Take pictures of the accessories you add to your space. Use these pictures as part of your 4-H record.

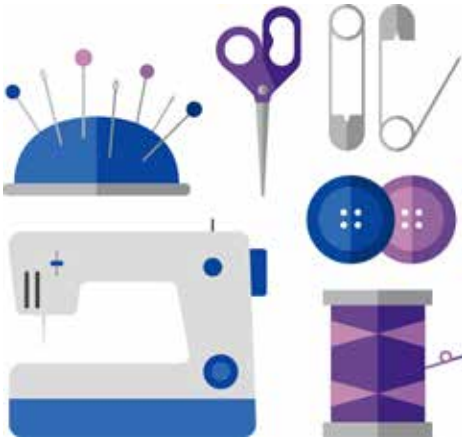


Things To Make

There are many things that you can make for your space or do as a part of your 4-H project. Be sure to write all of your activities in the 4-H record included in the back of this book. You may also want to make a project to exhibit at the fair. There are many choices for items that may be entered as 4-H exhibits. Check with your leader or county extension agent on the choices for exhibits. Here are some suggestions to help you get started. You may have other ideas on things you would like to make. If so, check with your guardian or leader for help in how to do it.

Project Ideas

Fabric Items: Do you like to sew?



- Pillow-without cording or applied design
- Fringed tablecloth
- Mug mats
- Place Mats and napkins
- Laundry bag

Finishing small wooden articles: Do you like to work with wood?



- Tray
- Cutting board
- Picture frame
- Small box
- Children's building blocks
- Small stool
- Game board
- Book ends

Improving your study area by making a handy helper:



- Wastebasket
- Pin-up bulletin board

MAKING A WASTEBASKET

A wastebasket will help keep your room looking neat. First, select a container (perhaps something you already have) to paint or cover. Think about the colors and textures that are in your room. If the walls are plain, you might cover the outside of the wastebasket with a small-patterned or striped paper. If the walls have a patterned wall paper, you might want to paint or cover your wastebasket to match one of the colors in the paper. If you have mostly rough textures (such as burlap) in the room, use a similar fabric for your wastebasket. If you have smoother fabrics, select a smooth fabric or paper. Adding braid or trim around the top and bottom is a good way to cover raw edges.

You will need:

Container for the wastebasket, such as an old wastebasket, a big metal can or bucket with wire handle removed.

Covering material:

Flat or semi-gloss paint and a paint brush, or Paper or fabric and glue. (Be sure to use a glue that will dry clear and not stain the fabric or paper.)

Narrow solid-color tape or braid (washable, easily cleaned material)

Old newspapers or disposable paper to cover work surface

Scissors, pencil, ruler and soft cloth to smooth edges as you work



What to do:

1. Spread newspapers over your working surface.

2. Paint inside of wastebasket, if needed, and let paint dry thoroughly. Be sure to read directions on your can of paint. Shake can or stir paint thoroughly if the directions say to do this.

3. Finish the outside of the wastebasket:

If you paint your wastebasket -

Use long strokes in one direction. Don't get too much paint on the brush. Dip brush about 1/3 of the way into the paint, then brush excess paint against the lip of the paint can to wipe off excess paint. Apply one coat. Let dry; then apply a second coat.

If you cover it with paper or fabric -

Measure the amount of paper or fabric needed to cover the wastebasket. When measuring the width of your paper or fabric to go around your wastebasket, allow for a small overlap in the back of the wastebasket. If you are using fabric, allow an extra inch of length at both top and bottom in order to fold over to create a hem. Mark paper or fabric and cut it out.

- For paper, apply glue to the back of the paper (except pre-pasted wallpaper).
- For self-sticking paper, remove the backing.
- For fabric, turn under and glue down 1 inch of fabric at the top and bottom to create a finished hem. Let this dry before attaching to the wastebasket.

Apply covering to the wastebasket, taking care to keep it straight as you work. Begin at one end and carefully smooth the paper or fabric as you go. Pat the covering with a soft, clean cloth to remove air bubbles (work from center to the outside edges). For easy care, fabric coverings can be sprayed with a spot- and stain- resistant finish. If your paper covering is not plastic or vinyl-coated, you may wish to give it a coat of clear, thinned shellac for easier cleaning. Thin the shellac by adding 2 tablespoons of denatured alcohol to 2 tablespoons of shellac.

4. Apply trim to cover the raw edges.

- Do the colors and textures look good in your room? Y/N
- Is the surface smooth (no air bubbles or paint drips)? Y/N
- Is the finish even (fabric or paper edges smooth, paint evenly applied)? Y/N
- Is the trim applied evenly without glue smudges? Y/N

MAKING A CRATE BOOKSHELF

Often times a bookshelf can provide storage for your books other small items in a stylish way. Think about the overall colors and theme of your space when picking out paint colors and patterns.

What you will need:

- 2 Unfinished wood crates
- White Chalk Paint
- Acrylic paint
- 4 wide wood pegs
- Four 2" wood toy wheels
- Painter's tape
- Foam brushes
- Paintbrushes
- Adhesive glue
- Newspaper or plastic to protect work surface



What to do:

- Paint outside of crates with one color and allow to dry.
- Paint interior sides of crates, wide wood pegs and wood toy wheels. Allow to dry.
- Using painter's tape, create geometric designs on inside back of crates using different colors. Allow each color to dry before applying additional tape.
- Create legs: Glue wide wood pegs to corners of crate. Allow to dry. Glue toy wheels to center of wide wood pegs. Allow to dry.
- Glue crates together. Allow to dry 24 hours so glue can cure.

Your bookcase:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Do the colors and patterns look good in your room? | Y/N |
| • Is the surface smooth (no paint drips)? | Y/N |
| • Is the finish even? | Y/N |
| • Are the pegs and wheels attached without glue smudges? | Y/N |

MAKING A FABRIC ITEM

You may want to make a mat, runner, or tablecloth for a small table in your room. Or you may want to make one for the kitchen or eating area.

These fabric items often serve for a background to items placed on the table. If you are making a cloth for a kitchen table these items will be the dishes, flat wear and centerpiece. If the dishes have patterns, the fabric should be plain. A patterned fabric may be used with plain dishes

You will need:

Washable woven fabric (if you are making a tablecloth enough to hang down 8 to 12 inches on all sides).

Thread to match

Scissors

Sewing machine



Straighten” the fabric and make sure you are working “on the grain” by pulling out a thread at the edge of both ends (not the selvages). Ask your leader or guardian to help with this. Cut the material on the line left by the thread drawn out. Next, cut off the selvages.

Your fabric is now cut on the grain with straight edges. To create a fringed edge, measure about 1/2 inch from edge of cloth. Pull out one thread that is about 1/2 from the edge. Repeat on other three sides.

Set the seam guide on sewing machine for 1/2 inch. Set the stitch length to about 10 or 12 stitches per inch. Stitch along the line created when you pulled out the threads. Keep fabric edge on seam guide. The seam guide will help you make straight lines. Begin stitching halfway between two corners. Turn corners while the machine needle is lowered. This will make the corners square. When finished, let the stitching overlap about 1 inch.

Gently pull or ravel off threads almost to the row of machine stitching.

Press.

Your fabric item:

Is the material washable?

Y/N

Is the item clean and well pressed?

Y/N

Is the fringe even on all sides

Y/N

Does the fabric complement the colors in your room?

Y/N



WOOD FINISHING

It's fun to work with wood. Many folk work with wood as a hobby. You can make useful things that look pretty in your home. Wood items such as small crates or boxes may be useful in your bedroom or other rooms of the house. Or a wood salad bowl or wooden tray could be useful in your kitchen or dining area.

You will need:

Unfinished wood item

2 pieces of fine sandpaper (4/0 grit or finer)

1 small pad of fine steel wool-No. 0000

1 can clear penetrating seal or tung oil*

Small dish or can-to hold small amount of finish

Clean, lintless cloth-to apply and wipe finish

Newspaper or butcher paper to cover work area

Paper towels or rags-for spills and cleaning up

Turpentine or hand cleaner-for cleaning up

*A commercial finish is available in stores for use on salad bowls



What to do:

1. Sand the wood until it is velvety smooth. Use two pieces of fine sandpaper, each piece about 4 inches square. Fold each piece inside the other. The rough sides will keep the pieces together as you sand. Place your thumb and little finger under the edges of the paper. Place your other three fingers on top. This helps you sand evenly. Always sand with the grain of the wood. Sand all surfaces of the object.
2. Now, rub the wood with your hand. How does it feel? Does it feel smooth like the skin on your arm? If it does, then you're ready to apply the finish.
3. Dust the wood with a:
 - a. clean, soft brush,
 - b. tack rag/cloth
4. Read directions on can of penetrating seal or tung oil. You may want to ask an adult for help. Be sure to follow the directions. In general, they will be as follows.
5. Pour some of the seal or tung oil in a small, clean can or dish. A shallow one will be easier to use.
6. Apply the seal or tung oil with a cloth pad. Let this stand 10 or 15 minutes for the seal to soak in. (Old nylon hose can be used for the pad.)
7. Now wipe the wood surface with a clean, dry cloth. This will even the coat of seal. Let this dry for 24 hours.
8. Rub the surface with the fine (0000) steel wool. Always rub with the grain of the wood. This buffing smooths the finish and prepares it for the next coat.
9. Repeat steps 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 until you have applied at least three coats.

Your wooden crate, salad bowl, tray or other wood item:

Is it attractive?

Y/N

Is the surface smooth?

Y/N

Is the finish even and spotless?

Y/N

Are you proud of what you did?

Y/N

Care Hint: Dip wooden bowls in warm, sudsy water.

Wash quickly. Rinse well. Dry thoroughly.



Helping in and around Your Home

You have learned how to care for your own space, but what about the rest of the house? The responsibility for keeping a home neat and orderly should be shared by all household members. You can do your share by helping to keep books, newspapers, and electronics put away, emptying wastebaskets, taking out the garbage, emptying the dishwasher or washing dishes and setting the table. Some chores may not be enjoyable but working with another individual is fun and makes the job go twice as fast. They will learn more about you, and you will learn more about them. Be proud of the new skills you are learning. Your family will be proud of you, too. Don't forget to write all of these activities in your 4-H record in the back of this book.



Demonstrations

Now that you have learned to do many things around the house, why not share with others? This helps them to learn and helps you to be a better communicator. Making an exhibit to show at the fair is one way to share with others. Another way is to give a demonstration and show someone else how to do something.

You may wish to select one thing you have learned and plan a demonstration. Here are some demonstration suggestions:

- How to make a bed
- How to organize your dresser drawers
- How to make a wastebasket or pin-up board
- How to sand and apply finish to a wood item
- How to make a fringed table cloth or
- How to give a demonstration



Items you Make and Exhibit

You will need to think about and select an item to make for an exhibit. Start early enough to allow time to complete the exhibit before you need it. You may select from one of the following categories:

- A small wood object with straight lines that has a natural finish applied to it, such as a bowl, tray, cutting board, game board, small box, picture frame, etc.
- A simple, small fabric article such as a plain pillow without an applied design, fringed tablecloth, mug mats, placemats and napkins or laundry bag.
- Item for desk or study area such as a wastebasket or pin-up board



Instructions are given in this booklet for some of the projects you may do, or you may want to do another project. If so, ask your leader for instructions on the other ideas you have. So look around your home.

What do you need? Talk over your ideas with your guardians or leader.

Be sure to make something you need and will use. When you exhibit an item, be sure it is clean and clearly labeled so it can be returned to you. Your leader will provide labels for your item(s).

Helping Others in 4-H

Learning to help others is also an important part of your 4-H experience. You can do this by:

- Helping other 4-H'ers with their projects.
- Accepting responsibility at home and completing assigned tasks.
- Helping an elderly or lonely neighbor brighten up their home with fresh or dried flowers, a collage or other item you've made.
- Helping relatives or neighbors with chores that they can't easily do.
- Bringing in a neighbor's mail and papers.
- Helping to decorate your classroom.



Completing your Project Record Sheet

Your record book is important. Be sure to write down your activities as you work through this first home environment unit.

Then write your 4-H story for the year. In your story, describe your experiences and explain how you feel about what you learned and the things you have made.

Each year you'll add another chapter to your 4-H story. You'll have fun looking back over your past experiences and projects as the years go by. You may want to keep a scrapbook to go along with your record book.

Home Environment 1 4-H Project Record Sheet

Date _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

Grade _____ County _____

I Made:	It Cost:	I Saved:

Some things I learned are:

I enjoyed this project because:

Pictures of project activities or samples of fabric or other materials used (add sheets if necessary)

I gave the following Demonstrations:

Topic:	Place Given:	Date Given:

I plan to and/or have exhibited home environment project(s) at:

- County Fair
- Area Event
- State Fair
- Other Events

I helped others with this project by:

What I did:	Who I helped:

List of awards I have won:

--

Home environment project story (add sheets if necessary)

--

Participants progress (to be filled out by project leader)

Excellent

Good

Would have been better if:

Approved:

Project Leader

Guardian

4-H Youth Development Agent

