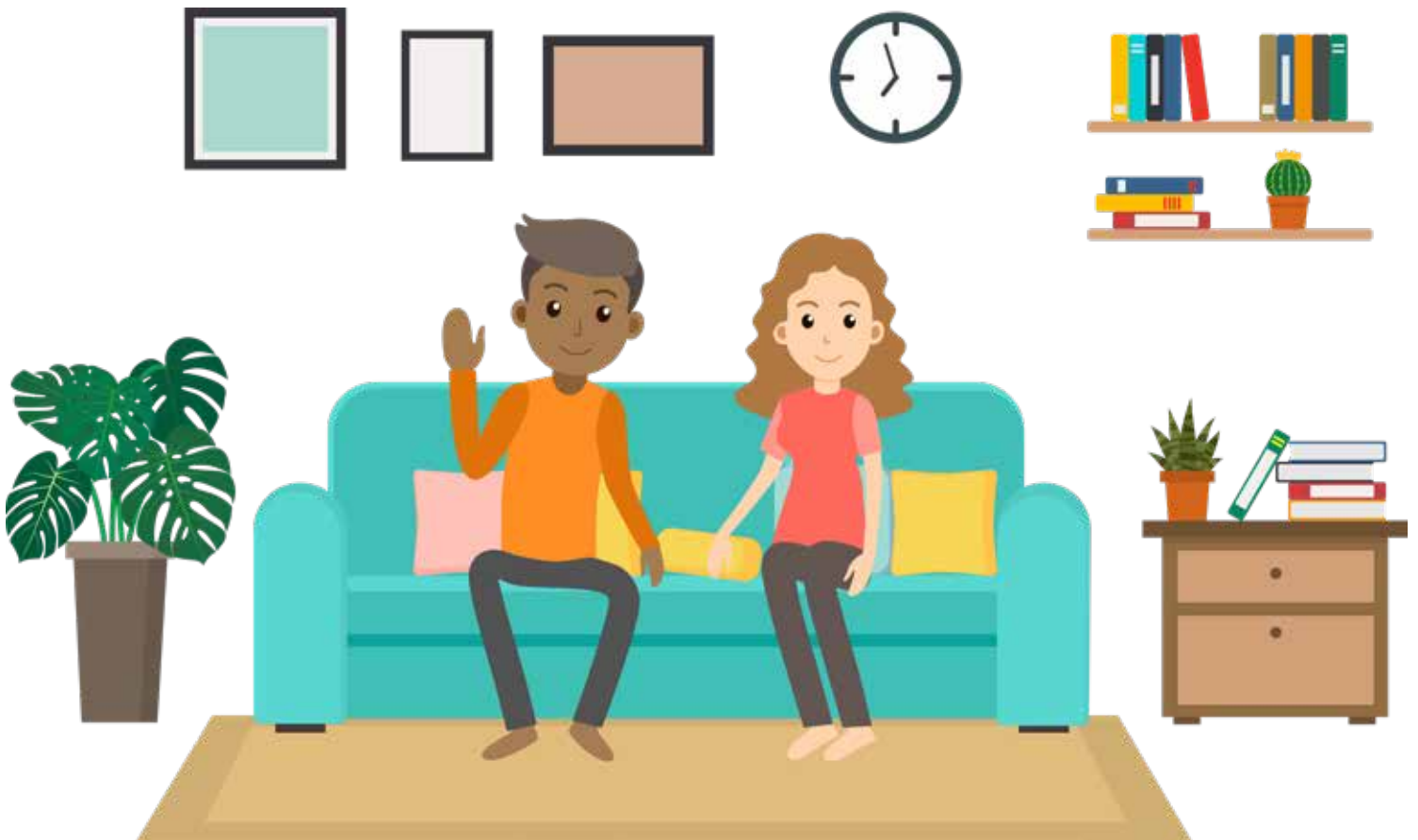


Home Environment Project

UNIT 2 : LIVING WITH OTHERS



Home Environment Unit 2

LIVING WITH OTHERS

Home Environment II—Living With Others—builds on the skills and concepts 4-H'ers learned in Unit I, Exploring Your Home. If some of your members have not completed that unit, they should review the material in order to learn some of the basic concepts of design.

4-H'ers will need some help as they go through this unit. The concepts of design can best be learned in a group sharing ideas and examples of the various elements of design. Also, as in the first project, 4-H'ers are encouraged to expand their project beyond the item they will make and exhibit. Exhibiting is only one facet of the total experience; the major goal of this project is to encourage members to learn how to make their home environment one that is pleasant for themselves and those they live with.

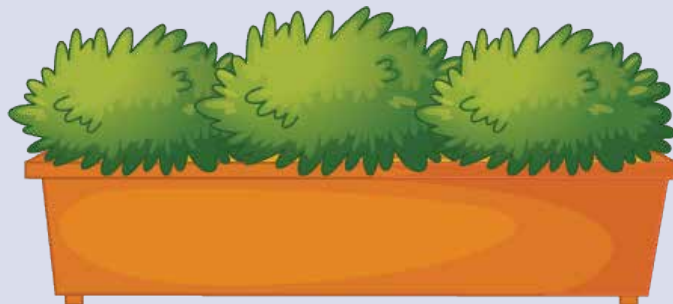
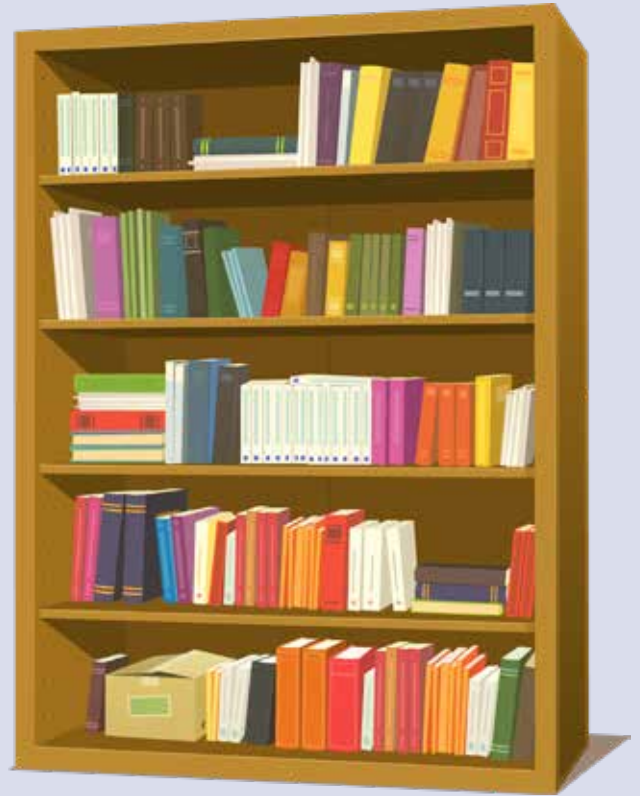
After each new experience or when a project is completed, help members evaluate what they have done. Ask them questions and discuss what they have done well and what they need to improve. Encourage and help members to see how their efforts are improving their home environment on whatever scale they have been working.

Enjoy Home Environment II, Living With Others!



Contents

- » WHAT YOU WILL DO IN THIS PROJECT ... 4
- » SHARING YOUR HOME ... 5
- » TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR SPACE ... 7
- » DOING YOUR PART ... 8
- » BRINGING FRIENDS HOME ... 9
- » SHARING VIA MAIL ... 10
- » LET'S LEARN MORE ABOUT DESIGN ... 11
- » MAKING DESIGN WORK FOR YOU ... 11
- » IDEAS FOR PROJECT ACTIVITIES ... 12
- » SHARING WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED ... 13
- » COMPLETING YOUR PROJECT RECORD SHEET ... 20
- » PROJECT RECORD SHEET ... 21



Introduction

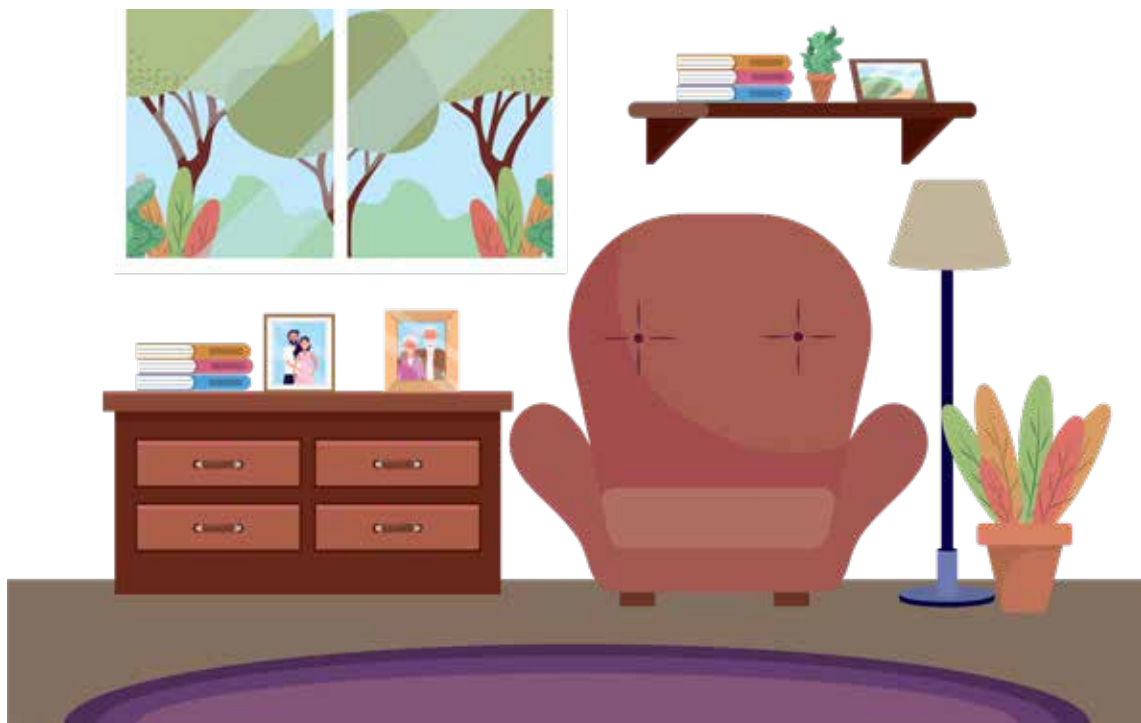
In Exploring Your Home, the first 4-H Home Environment unit, you learned some basic techniques about color and texture and how to use these tools of design in making an item for your home. In this unit you will learn more about caring for your home, living and getting along with others, and making things for your home.

You will also learn about tools of design called “line,” “shape and form” and “space.” Some activities you can do by yourself. Other things you will want to do with other members of your family, your project leader or other club members.

Talk to your project leader and parents about exhibit ideas. They will answer questions, help you shop for any supplies you need, and help you with any problems as you work on your exhibit.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN IN UNIT 2?

- Ways to share your home with family and friends
- Ways to share tasks
- How to use the tools of design in making and arranging accessories for your home
- How to use color coding to make your home safer
- How to make a pillow, wall hanging or other cloth item
- How to refinish wood
- How to plan and give a demonstration on something you have learned this year
- How to evaluate what you have made and learned
- . . . and many other things



Sharing Your Home

You're growing up! Your interests, your responsibilities and your activities are growing too. You're accepting more responsibilities at home. You're meeting new friends through school, 4-H, other groups, and becoming more aware of what's going on in your community. Learning how to live with others is important especially those people you live with every day. How you are treated by other in your household and friends, and how you treat them, can make days seem "good" or "bad." When you are thoughtful of others, it helps them feel good.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN SHOW OTHERS YOU CARE?

When others do nice things for you, it gives you a good feeling about your home, those in your household, and yourself. Thinking of others is important. It shows them that you care.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Do you do some things in your home without being asked?
- Do you say "thank you" to the person who has prepared your meals?
- Do you wait until everyone is seated for a meal before starting to eat?
- Do you show other folk in your household that you are interested in what they are doing?
- Do you listen when others are talking, without interrupting?
- Do you let others in your household know some of the exciting things that happen to you?
- Do you say "thank you" when:
 - Adults help you with laundry?
 - If you are given an allowance?
 - If a sibling helps you clean your room?
 - Someone finds your school books for you when you're in a hurry?



Can you think of other ways you can show others you care about them? If so, write them here.

Take A Look At Your Space

Unit 1, Exploring Your Home, suggested ways to help you keep your space clean and orderly. Take a look at Unit 1. Then look at your space. Are you proud of the way it looks? Do you like to invite other people to see your space? Why?

How does your space rate (Rate the following good, fair or needs more work)

- Is your bed neatly made?
- Are your closets and dresser drawers clean and well organized?
- Are the floors clean?
- Is the furniture clean and dust-free?
- Are books, magazines, and other items dusted and neatly arranged?
- Is your space free from clutter?
- Are small rugs clean and in place?
- Do your accessories show what you like and how you feel?
- Do you like the colors in your space?
- Are you proud of your space?



Personalize Your Space

There are many jobs to be done around your home in addition to taking care of your own space. Talk over the things that need to be done with another member of your household. Select one or two jobs that you will be responsible for doing. Here are some suggestions:

- Setting the table and washing dishes
- Helping a younger sibling clean up their bedroom or play area
- Helping sort and fold laundry
- Mowing the yard
- Taking out the trash
- Vacuuming or sweeping the floors
- Keeping a workbench in order and tools properly cared for
- Cleaning the garage or basement
- Raking leaves in the yard or shoveling snow from sidewalks
- Watering houseplants



Is there some household task that you particularly dislike? If so, is there something that would make the task quicker and easier? Ask other household members about the tasks they like and dislike. Come up with a family plan for doing both the tasks that everyone likes and the ones everyone dislikes.

Make it Easy!

Organize yourself for quick and easy cleaning. Try some of these ideas:

- Group all items together that will be used together. Store them where they are first used or used most often.
- Some items are used in more than one place in a home. Keep duplicates at places where these items are most often used.
- Plan your time. Make a list of all the household jobs you need to do every day and every week. Plan when you would like to do them and see if you can keep to this plan for two weeks. Then make any changes needed.
- If you share your room with another family member, you will also share the responsibility of keeping it neat and clean. Working together can be fun. If there are jobs neither of you likes to do, take turns and share the responsibility.

Bringing Friends Home

Making introductions

You probably bring friends home with you from time to time. It is important to introduce them to the rest of your family. This is a way of letting your friends and family know that you want everybody to know and be comfortable with each other. The rules for making introductions are easy to follow:

1. 'Say something about the people you are introducing. For example, "Destiny, this is my classmate Jordan."
2. When introducing an adult to your friends, always mention the adult's name first. "Antwan, I'd like you to meet Hailey. We're in the same class at school." Your guardians are interested in you and like to meet your friends. Both your guardians and your friends will feel better if you introduce them properly.
3. Every introduction should be acknowledged by both persons. A good reply is to say simply, "Hello" or "How are you?" This may be followed by a friendly comment to start a conversation.
4. If you forget a name in making an introduction, don't worry. Anyone can have this experience. Just say, "I'm sorry; your name has slipped my mind." Then the person you are introducing will say their name, and you can complete the introduction.
5. If you are at a party or in a new class at school and find that you don't know someone, you can introduce yourself. For example, "I don't believe we have met; I'm Xavier Johnson." The other person should then reply, "Hi (or hello), Xavier. I'm Jasmine Anderson." If the other person does not give their name, you can say, "What is your name?"

Introductions are easy if you make them often. Practice!

Sharing via Mail and Email

You probably haven't thought about it, but your mail carrier is very much a part of your home environment

Letters

It's fun to receive mail from a friend or relative who is far away. It's fun to write letters too. Besides the friendly letters you write, other letters are sometimes necessary. These include invitations, replies to invitations, and thank-you letters. The activity of sending and receiving mail can make your home more exciting and more orderly. Think of all the problems you would have if you couldn't correspond with friends or mail out payments for bills.

Emails

In today's world, emails are often times treated as formally as letters. As you are just beginning to have an email account, it is important to remember to avoid forwarding "chain emails". With emails, being considered formal communication you they should still be written with correct grammar. Always make sure to read and reread your email before sending it. Auto-correct could have changed the meaning of a word and result in misunderstandings.

Invitations

Handwritten Notes

A short, handwritten note is a perfect invitation to many kinds of events. (A telephone call may be used for informal parties.) In writing an invitation, include your name, the purpose of the event, the date, time and place.

Email

When sending an invitation via email make it clear who is sending the invitation with your email signature. Also make sure to state who is being invited at the beginning of the email. Often times folk emails are not their names and you might accidentally send it to the wrong person. It is still important to state the purpose of the event, the date, time and place.

Replies to invitation

When you receive an invitation, you should send a letter (or telephone call) of acceptance or regret within two days. The reply can be short and simple.



When responding to an email invitation you will often be given the option to respond through an online platform. If you are responding to these for a younger sibling or other member of your household make sure to put their name as the attendee so the host is not left trying to figure out who you are in connection with the individual invited.

Some invitations include the letters RSVP and a date. These letters are an abbreviation for the French phrase “repondez s’il vous plait” that means “please reply.” You should respond to the person sending the invitation whether or not you will be able to accept the invitation by the date indicated.

Thank-you letters

There are no set rules for writing thank you notes to friends or family. Here are some tips to keep in mind as you write your letter:

1. Write in the same manner you talk.
2. Do not make excuses for not having written sooner. Answer promptly.
3. Express your thanks clearly and briefly. It’s a nice idea to mention the specific gift or sentiment in your note, and let the giver know who you can use it or that you appreciate it.
4. Printed thank-you cards are not necessary. A personal note on plain paper is better than a printed thank-you note with just your signature.
5. The wording of the closing phrase depends on the person to whom you are writing. Some suggestions are “Sincerely,” “Thank you,” and “Love.”

Here is an example of a simple thank-you letter:

Dear Aunt Jada,

Thank you so much for the sweater you sent for my birthday. It’s just what I wanted to wear to school. I hope that some day I will be able to knit that well. Tell Aunt Mae I said hi.

Love, Chloe

Let's Learn More About Design

In your first home environment project you learned about color and texture as “elements of design.” Remember, design is the plan that makes all the parts of a space fit together as a whole. You learned about primary colors, secondary colors, intermediate or tertiary colors and complementary colors. And you learned about hues, value and intensity. You also learned about textures—visual and tactile textures.

MORE ABOUT COLOR

Some colors are called “warm” and others are called “cool.” People associate yellow, orange and red with heat. These warm colors encourage activity and excitement. Green, blue and violet are cool colors. They seem fresh and calm.

When you select colors for a room, think about the mood or feeling you want to express, and use that as your guide. Your choice of colors, the amounts used, and the placement of colors in the room all help to create the desired effect.

Do you remember what you learned? Complete the following exercise to see! Then check your answers by looking at Unit I, Exploring Your Home.

1. The primary colors are: (Circle three.)

red black yellow
brown blue orange

2. The secondary colors are:

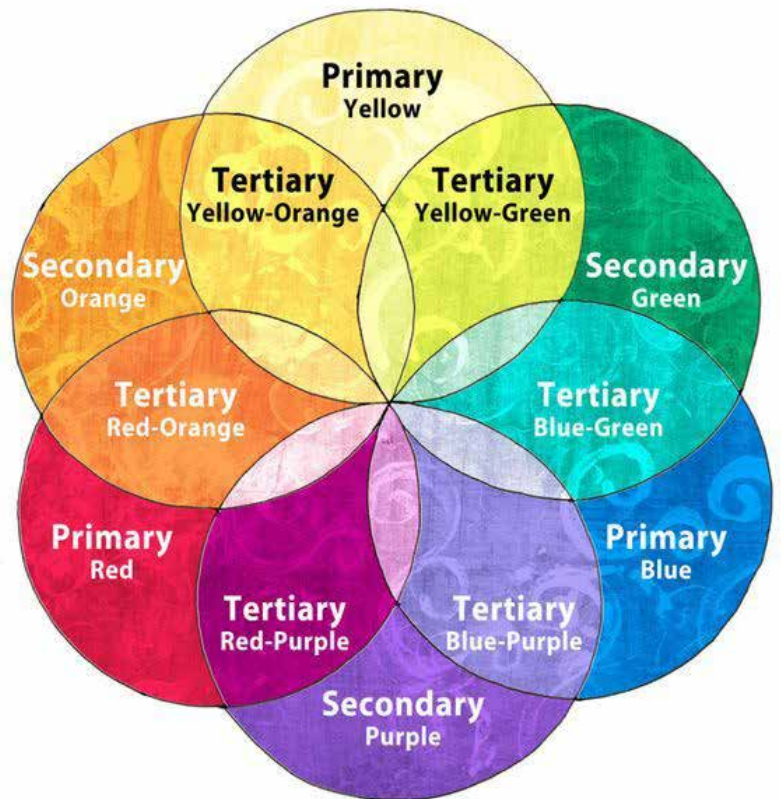
gray orange (Circle three.)
green
red black purple

3. One example of complementary colors is:

yellow and green
orange and blue
red and white

4. What is/are your favorite color(s)?

Have you had a chance to use your favorite color in your room yet? If not, talk with your leader or your parents to see if there is any way to add some of your favorite colors. Could you repaint? Could you make a throw pillow or accessories? Could you cover a pin-up board or make a desk set? Could you paint a picture frame or shelf to hang?



COLOR CODING FOR SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE

Color can be a useful tool around the home. Bright colors attract attention and can be used to help in home safety. Colors can also be used to keep things organized.

1. Look around your home and find examples of how color can be used for safety.

- Hand railings a different color than the walls
- Top and bottom steps painted a different color
- Ladder with top and bottom steps painted a bright, contrasting color
- Fire extinguisher-bright red
- Light switches - different color or the type that glow in the dark
- Poisons or other dangerous chemicals marked with a bright color

List other ways color is used for safety in or around your house.

2. What examples of color coding can you find in your home?

_____ Each household member has different color toothbrush.

_____ Each bed has certain color sheets; each bath uses certain color towels.

_____ Clothing may be color coded for household members (different color threads tacked in socks for each household member).

List other Ways Color Coding is used in your home:

Colors	Use Case
Red	Fire protection equipment and apparatus, danger signs, containers of flammable liquids, lights at barricades, stop buttons/switches
Orange	Signs and equipment designating dangerous or energized machines/equipment
Yellow	Specific physical hazards including falling, tripping, and striking, and designating caution
Green	Safety information and first aid equipment
Blue	Information not immediately safety related (i.e. property policies)
Purple	The significance of these colors may be defined by the end user.
Grey	
Black	
White	
Combinations of Black, White, and / or Yellow	

LEARNING ABOUT LINE

Line outlines a shape and causes the eye to move from place to place. Line creates a mood.

- Lines can be:
straight *curved*

- Lines have width:
thick *thin*

- Lines have direction:
horizontal vertical *diagonal*

- Lines have action:
relaxed horizontal
demanding diagonal *active vertical*

In nature you have a relaxed feeling when your eye follows the horizon along an open space. An area with upright forms such as rows of poplar trees or fence posts adds an active feeling. Diagonal lines, such as lighting, a falling tree or a leaning building attract your attention.

Lines in your home have the same effect.

Bedrooms and living rooms often have a relaxed feeling because of the long horizontal lines formed by sofas and beds. A room with many doors and windows may be less restful because the walls have vertical divisions. Open stairways, slanted ceilings and other diagonal features of a room demand attention and become major points of interest in a room.

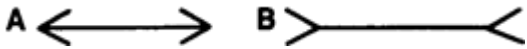
Look around your home. Find examples of lines that are built into the room (structural) and those that are part of furnishings (applied). List these lines below and describe what kind of line it is: horizontal, vertical, diagonal, straight, curved. See the examples already provided for you.

STRUCTURAL LINES	KIND	APPLIED LINES	KIND
Slanted Ceiling	Diagonal	Bed	Horizontal
		Stripes on wall covering	Vertical, Bold

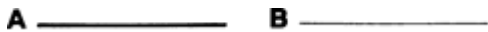
EXPERIMENTING WITH LINES

Lines can also create optical illusions. Study the examples below and answer the questions in the spaces provided (illustrations to be added in following).

Which line is longer?

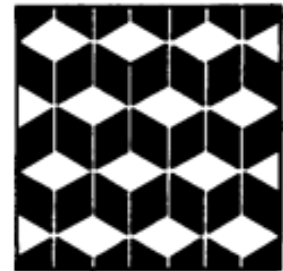


Which line is shorter?

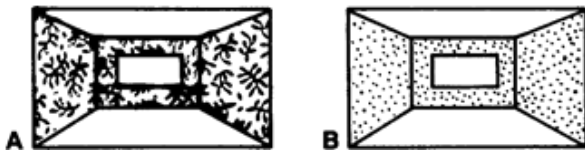


The type and amount of pattern created by lines makes a difference!
How many blocks are there in this picture?

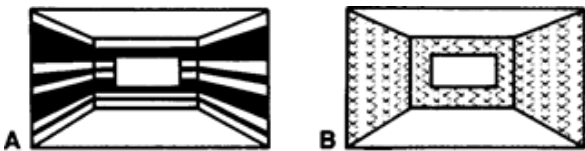
How would you like this pattern on a wall covering a large wall space?
How would you like this pattern as a wall hanging on a plain wall?



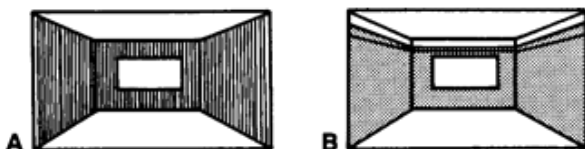
The boldness and direction of lines can visually change the proportions of a room!
Which room looks larger?



Which room looks narrower?



Which room seems to have a higher ceiling?



Using Lines

Look around your personal space. What kinds of lines do you notice first? A room with too much of one type of line can lack interest. Do you need to add an accent by adding different lines? Try to make the lines of the furnishings and the structural space work together. For example, use a tall piece of furniture or a long wall hanging in a vertical wall space.

LEARNING ABOUT SHAPE AND FORM

A shape or form is created when a line comes around and meets itself. Shapes are geometric (round, square, rectangular) or free and irregular. Forms are three dimensional. They can be seen from three or more sides. Examples of natural shapes and forms include: a leaf, rocks, or an apple. Name others. Examples of shapes and forms found in furniture are shown below. Find other examples in your home. Look for a combination of shapes and forms in designs or when furnishing a room. Use more of one kind to give an overall mood or feeling. Then add other shapes and sizes as accents to give interest.



LEARNING ABOUT SPACE

Space is another element of design we cannot forget. It is the amount of room we have. Too little space makes us feel cramped and crowded. When you have enough space, you have a feeling of comfort and relaxation. People differ in the amount of space they need. Some people prefer lots of open space while others are more comfortable in smaller, more intimate areas. Which do you prefer?

When shopping in a store, do you prefer to ride in an elevator or an escalator?

When talking with someone, how close can you get before you become uncomfortable? How far away can they get before you have a feeling that they are too far away? Is this distance the same for both a friend and a stranger? Do you prefer big, open rooms or smaller, cozy areas? What can you do to make large rooms more intimate and small rooms seem larger? Look over the design information in this book and talk over ideas with other 4-H members and your leader.

MAKING THE MOST OF SPACE

Look at the spaces in your home or at school. How much floor space is available? Can you walk easily or are there too many things in your way? Do the tables and shelves seem cluttered? Are there too many things hanging from the ceiling? Are there piles of stuff on the floor? Some rooms have too little space because they are filled with unnecessary items. Look around your room and see if it is cluttered with too many items. What items can you remove or rearrange to make more space?

The amount of space you have will help you decide on the number and size of furnishings you will use. Vertical pieces use less floor space than horizontal ones. Multipurpose and storage pieces help make the best use of the space you already have. Light colors on walls and fabric accents make small spaces seem larger.



EXPERIMENTING WITH SPACE

Look at the space you have in and around your home.

1. What is the largest room?
 - a. How long is it?
 - b. How wide is it?
2. Is there enough comfortable space for everyone who uses the room?
 - a. If not, how can you rearrange furnishings to make it accommodate all the people who use it?
3. Measure how much space you think is necessary for eating comfortably at a table. Remember that all people are not the same size and they need room to move their elbows. How much space should be allowed for each person?
4. Do you have this much space at your eating table, If not, what can you do to add more space? Can a table leaf be added? Can food dishes be served from a counter buffet style?
5. Look at the space over your sofa. How large is it?
6. Is it filled with a window, a picture, a collection of items on the wall or left open?
7. What lines help define the space over the sofa?
8. Is your sofa placed away from the wall? Does its placement impact the foot traffic in the room?

➤ Making Design Work for You ➤

Making color, texture, line, shape and form work for you in a defined space is what design is all about. It takes much planning to fit your environment to your likes and dislikes and to have it be attractive, orderly and convenient.



➤ Ideas for Project Activities ➤

Plan to make something for your room that will show what you have learned about design. You may need a desk set, a pillow or fabric covered pin-up board, or curtains. Or you may make something that is needed for another room in your home, such as a pillow for the living room. Whatever you choose, keep in mind what you have learned about design. Are the colors and textures attractive? Is it a good size for the space? Are the shapes interesting and appropriate for the item? What affect do the lines have? If you are using a fabric, is it appropriate for the end use?

You may also want to practice putting various accessory items together in groupings. Do the colors, textures, lines and shapes of the various items seem to belong together? Experiment and try round shapes with square ones, or one large accessory with several small ones. Consider varying the height of accessories and using different colors together. Your leader will be able to help you evaluate you groupings.

ARTICLES YOU WILL MAKE AND EXHIBIT

You will need to select an item for an exhibit. Look around your home. What do you need? What would you enjoy making? Talk over your ideas with your parent or leader. Select from one of the following categories for a fair exhibit:

1. A refinished wood item with straight lines and little, if any, carvings or turnings. This item might be a small footstool, a child's chair, a small box, picture frame, small bookshelves or a plant stand.
2. A small article of cloth. Depending upon what you need, suggestions include a pillow, decorative placemat, wall hanging, and flat, hemmed curtains.
3. A desk set, including pencil holder and paper organizer.

Some instructions are given for a few projects in this book. Ask your leader for instructions on other projects that you may wish to make. Be sure to start your project early enough to allow time to complete it before you need to exhibit it.

PILLOWS, PILLOWS, PILLOWS!

Pillows are decorative as well as useful. When choosing pillow fabrics, think about color and texture. Pick up colors used elsewhere in the room or select bold contrasts for emphasis. Use lots of pillows and vary the sizes and styles. There are many styles from which to choose. Instructions are given here for three styles — lapped-back, Quilted, and Ombre. Pillows and cushions can be made many other ways and you might like to try these, too. Check magazines, decorating websites or references that your leader or Extension agent may have.

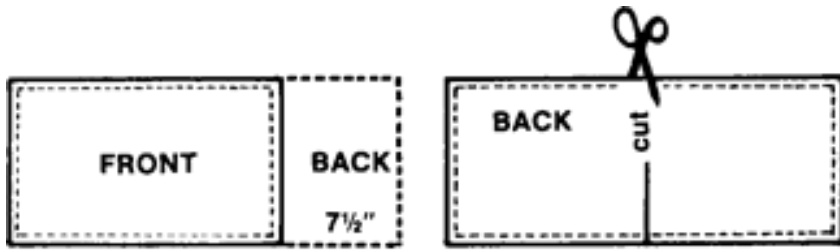
To make a Lapped-back cover you will need:

- Fabric — medium weight, washable fabric is best. Fleece can be fun!
- Sheeting muslin for lining pillow form
- Coordinating thread
- Washable stuffing or pillow form (polyester batting, kapok, or shredded nylon hosiery)
- Measuring tools, scissors, pins and other sewing aids
- Sewing machine
- Iron and ironing board

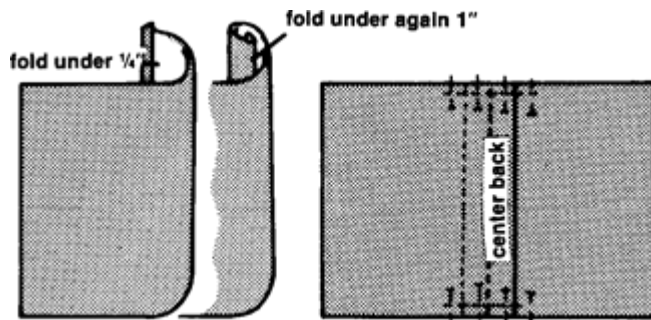


You will need to:

1. Cut pillow front, allowing 5/8 inch seam allowance. For the back cover size, add 7½ inches to the lengthwise end of the front measurement.



2. To provide a center lap, cut back piece in half as illustrated.

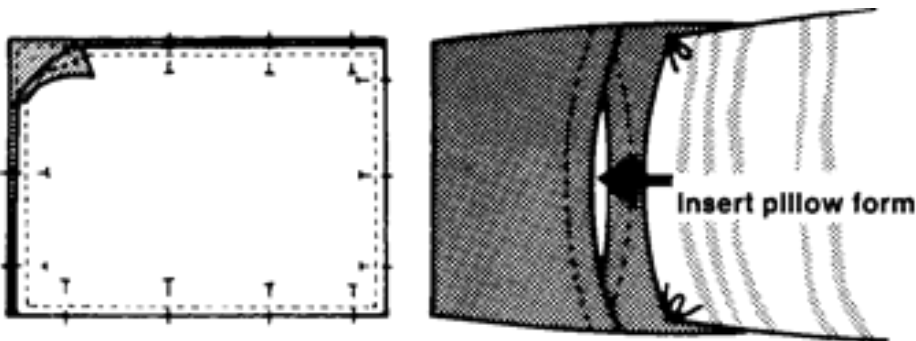


3. To make the lapped opening, press under 1/4 inch for the first turn, and 1 inch for the second turn on both back pieces.

4. Machine stitch or slip stitch hems. Press.

5. Now join the lapped-back and the front pieces. To do this, place the front piece on a flat surface, right side up. Then place the right and left back over the front piece with wrong sides up. The center hems should overlap when the outer edge of the front and back pieces are matched.

6. Pin and baste all edges.



7. Turn cover over so that the wrong side of the front piece is up. Stitch all four sides (5/8 inch seam allowance) along the four outside edges.

8. Press seams open. Turn cover. Insert pillow form.

To make a quilted pillow you will need:

- 1/4 yd of 6 coordinating fabrics in dark & light blue, purple, red, orange, green
- 3/4 yd gray fabric for backing and binding
- 20"x 20" Warm-N-Natural batting
- 2 yds Cording
- 18" pillow form
- Matching thread
- Basic sewing supplies
- Machine cording foot
- Rotary cutter and ruler

You will Need to:

- Use 1/4" seam allowance
- Determine color layout
- Cut strips 29"x 2" to 4" at one end and 1 1/2" to 3" at the other end (exact size does not matter).
- Lay strips out in a diagonal pattern. (see photo)
- Sew strips together, press seams to one side.
- Pillow top should measure approximately 20"x 20".
- Pin Warm-N-Natural batting to WS of pillow top.
- Stitch in a ditch or quilt as desired.
- Press and trim to 19" square.
- Cut several pieces 1 1/2" wide on the diagonal for cording.
- Sew pieces together - need a total of 40".
- Using a cording foot and 1/2" seam, cover cording with fabric and stitch to pillow front.
- For back, cut one piece 19" square.
- With RST, sew front to back piece, with a 1/2" seam, leaving an opening for turning.
- Clip corners and turn right side out.
- Insert pillow form and slip stitch opening closed.

To make an Ombre pillow you will need:

- Canvas Pillow Cover
- Light Acrylic Craft Paint
- Medium Acrylic Craft Paint
- Dark Acrylic Craft Paint
- Fabric Painting Medium
- Paint Brush
- Spray Bottle filled with water
- Soft & Craft Basic Pillow

You will need to:

- Spray entire canvas pillow case with water to soften fabric
- Mix 1 part fabric painting medium with 1 part acrylic paint. Do this for each color of paint
- Working from lightest paint color to darkest, brush paint directly onto pillow until ombre effect is achieved.
- Allow pillow to dry completely.

FURNITURE FINISHES

Adding furniture pieces for any room in your home does not necessarily mean buying new pieces. For those who enjoy finishing and making something over, new unfinished furniture or second-hand furniture can be a real savings to you and your family. This kind of furniture may be more unique or functional compared to the boxed, ready-to-assemble furniture you may find at some popular retailers. The classified ad section of your newspaper, online marketplaces, second-hand shops, garage sales, antique sales, and your own attic and barn can be sources for good used furniture. Make sure you are accompanied by an adult when making purchases from others.

When buying, examine the entire piece carefully and check on these points:

- Will the piece meet your needs? Will it be functional? How will you use it? Will it fit the space where you plan to use it?
- Is it well designed with pleasing lines and proportions? Does the style of the piece harmonize with the other furnishings in the room? Will the color of the piece blend with other furnishings after it has been restored?
- Is it constructed from one or several woods? If finished, scrape several small areas on an underside with your fingernail. Moisten with your finger to see if refinished wood will have a rich color (really?). The color may be freshened or added with wood stain, if needed.
- Are any parts missing? Would they be expensive to replace? Can you or another family member replace them at home with available tools and materials?
- If the piece has poor construction or design features, can it be remodeled to advantage?
- Does the piece just need cleaning?
- Will the piece, when finished, cost less than a new ready-to-use piece of furniture? If not, it may be wiser to buy a new finished piece, unless it is valuable as an antique.

If you'd like to try finishing new furniture or cleaning or restoring an older piece, ask your leader or Extension agent for information on what finishes to use and how to do it. They can help you with step-by-step directions for removing existing finish, preparing wood, removing spots and dents, and applying the new finish. Be sure to read all instructions and carefully follow all safety precautions. Keep a record of the time spent, materials used, problems that occurred and results for each of the steps in the process:

- Removing old finish
- Minor repairs needed
- Sanding to smooth surface
- Staining and sealing, if desired
- Filling the wood, if needed
- Applying the selected finish
- Polishing and waxing

Take photographs of your project before you start and after you have completed work on it. Add these photos to your notebook.

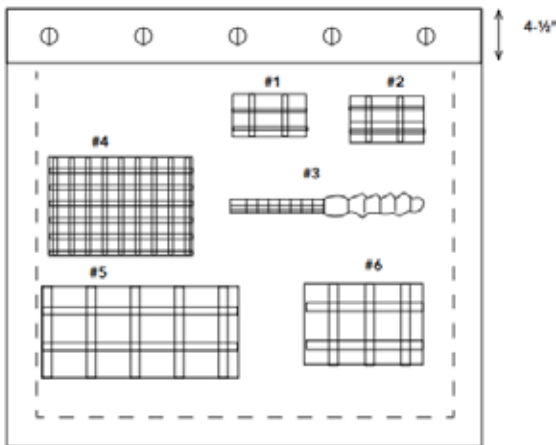
After your project is completed, answer the following questions.

- Did the wood article look like you had originally planned?
- If not, why not?
- What do you particularly like about your project?
- What would you do differently if you did it over?
- What was the total cost of your wood article?
- How much total time did it take to complete the project?
- What other ideas have you had for further refinishing work and study of woods?

DESK ACCESSORIES

Homework to do, letters to write, personal projects to complete. You can enjoy all these things more if you have your desk or table to use. Whenever possible, personalize this area to show your own interests and activities. By adding your own special touch, you can make it colorful and appealing. Keep this area organized so that you can find things easily. Make it work for you. Spark up your study area by making an attractive desk set. Select favorite colors that go with other things in your space. Add other desk accessories that you feel you would like to have. Consider making a set as a gift for another family member or a friend. If making a gift, select colors and patterns that you feel they would like.

Making a Cotton Desk Wall Organizer



What you will need

7/8 yd Solid color fabric for backdrop

4 1/2" Heavy interfacing

4 1/2" of second fabric

4 1/2" of third fabric

5 Grommets

Chalk

Thread

You will need to:

All seams are 1/4" unless stated.

Background Fabric: cut (1) 26 1/2"x 31 1/2".

Fusible Heavy interfacing: cut (1) 26 1/2"x 4 1/2".

Fabric 2: cut (2) #1 & #2 for pockets 4"x 3 1/2"

#5 pocket cut 9 1/2"x 4 1/2".

#6 pocket cut 4 1/2"x 4 1/2".

Fabric 3 : #4 cut 7 1/2"x 4 1/2".

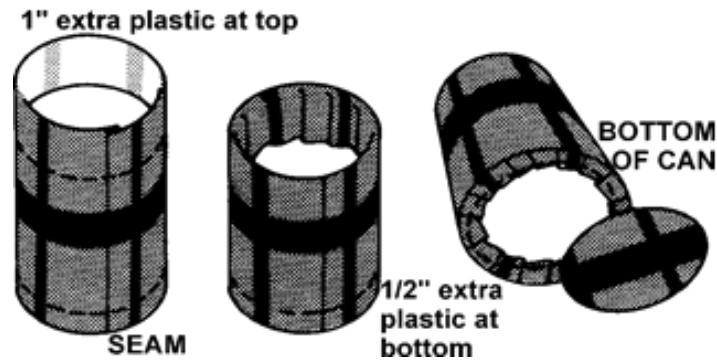
#3 pencil holder cut 2 1/2"x 9".

You will need to:

- All seams are 1/4" unless stated.
- Background Fabric: cut (1) 26 1/2"x 31 1/2".
- Fusible Heavy interfacing: cut (1) 26 1/2"x 4 1/2".
- Fabric 2: cut (2) #1 & #2 for pockets 4"x 3 1/2"
- #5 pocket cut 9 1/2"x 4 1/2".
- #6 pocket cut 4 1/2"x 4 1/2".
- Fabric 3 : #4 cut 7 1/2"x 4 1/2".
- #3 pencil holder cut 2 1/2"x 9".
- Press fusible to top of back. Mark with chalk 4 1/2". Fold over the 4 1/2", turn under 1/2". Hem sides and bottom with a turn and turn hem.
- Hem all Fabric 3 pockets at top edges with a turn and turn hem. Sew with a 1/4" hem to #1, #2, #5 and #6 to the sides and bottom to background fabric as shown in picture.
- Sew #5 the same as #1, #2, & #6, but add a straight stitch down the middle.
- Hem #4 fabric 2 with a turn and turn hem at the top, stitch to background fabric on the sides and bottom with a 1/4" seam.
- Fabric 2 pencil holder #3. Fold fabric over and over so that a raw edges are enclosed to end up finished 5/8". Turn under 1/2" seam allowance at the end, sew to background fabric. Sew 1" of fabric to a space of 1/2" for 6 loops. This gives a space to hang the pen to the holder. Continue making the rest of strip straight leaving an opening of 4 1/2", turning over a 1/2" seam to finish.
- Insert 5 grommets at the top. Placing one in the center, one on each end, then between each of those.

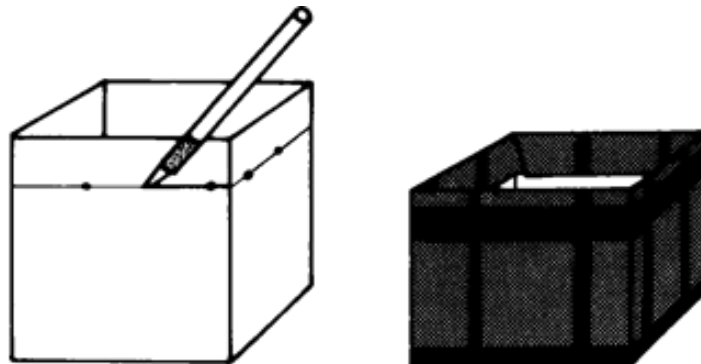
Making the Pencil Holder:

1. Select a can about the size of a regular water glass. Measure off the amount of plastic material you will need for the can. Allow 1 inch of material to fold down over the top of the can, and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to turn under the bottom of the can. (Or trim the plastic so it comes exactly to the edge of the rim. If you do this, paint the lower rim of the can first and let it dry before covering.)
2. Mark and cut the plastic. Remove the paper backing.
3. Cover the can. To do this, start at the seam of the can and press the plastic onto the can. Working carefully and slowly, pull the plastic around the can. Keep the bottom edge straight and do not let the plastic wrinkle. If it does wrinkle, pull it back far enough to take the wrinkles out. Let 1 inch of plastic stick up at the top.



Making the Letter Holder:

1. Select a cardboard box in the size needed for note pads, letters or what you wish to store. Measure how tall you want your holder to be. Mark this on the box in two or three places and draw a line around the box, connecting your points. Cut the box off on this line with a sharp knife. (Get someone to help you if necessary.) Finish smoothing the edge with scissors. Be sure the edge is even all around.
2. Cover the box using the same method as for the can. You may want to line the inside of the box if you have enough plastic left over.



Other Ideas for Project Activities

As you work around your house, think about what is needed and what you can do to make your room or your home look better and work better. Accessories are one way to make your home look better. You may also want to make curtains for the windows or refinish a piece of furniture to use in some way. Check in sewing or design books, magazines, or decorating websites for ideas on what to make and how to make them. Your parents, 4-H leader and county Extension agent can also help you on supplies needed and directions for your projects. If you have ideas on things you would like to make or do in this project, talk over your ideas with them. They'll be able to help you learn how to carry out your project ideas and complete your project year in 4-H.

Sharing What You Have Learned

Now that you have learned to do many things around your home, why not share with others? Here are ideas for some ways you might like to let others know what you have learned.

- Give a demonstration at your club meeting.
 - Give a talk to your class at school.
 - Present a “how-to” demonstration for a club or organization in your community.
 - Plan an information booth for your county fair.
 - Help a relative or a neighbor clean their house just because they’re your friends or because they may need help.
-
- Take a project-to exhibit at the fair. Suggestions include:
 - a refinished wood item with straight lines and simple design
 - a small cloth article, perhaps a pillow
 - a desk set, pencil holder, or letter holder to help brighten up your study area.
 - Take a demonstration to the fair. Ideas for talks and demonstrations include:
 - how to make introductions
 - how to prepare for guests
 - experiments with color
 - how to make a pillow
 - how to make curtains
 - how to refinish small wood furniture
 - how to use elements of design

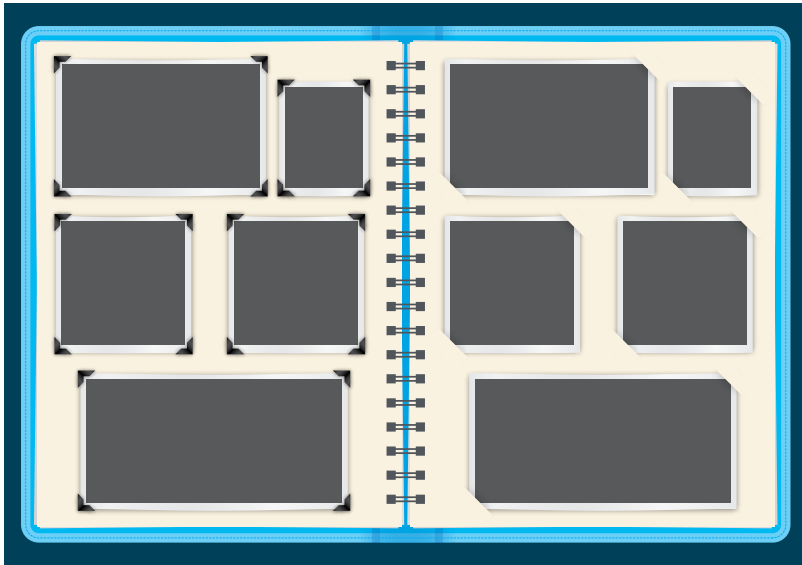
You may have other ideas for demonstrations and talks. If so, talk to your leader for ideas on presenting your topic.



➤ Completing Your Project Record Sheet ➤

Be sure that you write down all of your activities during the year on the attached record sheet. It's easier to write them down as soon as you do them rather than wait until the end of the year and try to remember what all you did. As you keep your records each year, you will see your growth and appreciate what you have learned and accomplished each year that you are enrolled in the project. Be sure to include in your 4-H story not only the things you have made, but also the experiences you have had and how you feel about them. You may also want to keep a scrapbook of pictures, newspaper articles and mementos.

Congratulations on completing your second year in the 4-H home environment project.



Home Environment 2 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

