

# Exploring 4-H

## 4-H Project Newsletter

*This Exploring 4-H Project Newsletter contains information specific to the EXPLORING 4-H Project. Please use it in conjunction with the General 4-H Information Bulletin, so that you are aware of Achievement Day completion requirements as well as general opportunities and information pertaining to all 4-H members. This Project Newsletter, as well as the General 4-H Information Bulletin, will be updated in December of each year, if necessary, based on changes made at the 4-H Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting.*

Welcome to the Exploring 4-H Project! Since this is likely your first year in 4-H, welcome to the 4-H Nova Scotia program and congratulations on becoming a member of Canada's premier rural youth program. 4-H is a hands-on program where you will:

- Have fun getting together with other 4-H members;
- Work on projects that you have chosen yourself;
- Take part in club and county activities, tours and events;
- Learn many skills such as decision making, public speaking, meeting procedures, and leadership.

This project newsletter will give you an overview of the Exploring 4-H project, answer some of your questions concerning expectations of the project, and provide you with project ideas and some resources. Project newsletters are an excellent reference to keep on hand to refer to throughout the year. Good luck and have fun! If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator (ALC).

The Exploring 4-H not only enables new 4-H'ers to become familiar with what is involved in the 4-H program, but also allows them to explore a variety of projects. Exploring 4-H members will 'explore' at least six (6) different projects or aspects of the 4-H program. Exploring 4-H can take on a variety of fun-filled, hands-on learning activities, all which are meant to help you EXPLORE the 4-H program! **Junior 4-H members, in their first year of the 4-H program, are eligible to enroll in the Exploring 4-H project. Members enrolled in Exploring 4-H are not allowed to enroll in any other 4-H projects in the given 4-H year.**

### Exploring 4-H Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Exploring 4-H members will be required to display six (6) simple articles that they have completed. Each article should represent a different project that they have explored. Displayed articles do not need to be complex, but rather meant to be exploratory in nature. Article examples which could be displayed include: potted plants to represent 'Exploring Gardening'; paper beads to represent 'Exploring Crafts'; a short description and / or picture of a

visit to a dog kennel, accompanied by a thank you letter, to represent 'Exploring Small Animals'. Additional article ideas which represent involvement in the 4-H program as a whole, include: cue cards from your 4-H speech; a photo and short description of a club level event; a practice judging card, accompanied by written judging reasons.

*To ensure that each member's articles are kept together, it is recommended that all six (6) Exploring 4-H articles be displayed together, in a box or a container (not exceeding 3' x 3').*

#### **4-H NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL SHOW CLASS & SECTIONS:**

Each county is eligible to send the top two junior Exploring 4-H display boxes to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. The sections are as follows:

#### **CLASS 14: EXPLORING 4-H**

<i>SECTION 1:</i>	Exploring 4-H Collection
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**NOTE:** All reports, posters or displays must include a bibliography for information taken from a source other than the 4-H member. For example, should a member utilize information or pictures from a reference book or from the internet, then the member must include credit for the source of the information.

**NOTE:** 4-H members must complete their project at Achievement Day in order to compete in, or to participate in, any further county, provincial, or national 4-H competitions relating to that project in the current 4-H year. (i.e., judging, project competitions, etc.)

**NOTE:** Live animals are not to be used for display at 4-H Achievement Days, Exhibitions, or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show in the Exploring 4-H project. Reports, displays, posters or demonstrations are acceptable methods of displaying projects about live animals.

**NOTE:** If members require video/slide equipment to display their project, specialty item or project activity, they must provide their own equipment at achievement day, exhibition and 4-H show.

#### **LEADER RESOURCES**

Please ask your Regional ALC for Exploring 4-H resources.