



Child Development Ideas for New 4-H Exhibits

As Nebraska 4-H continues to expand programming needs for youth and focus on the new strategic outcome areas in 4-H, one of the changes will be child development exhibits focusing on these outcomes. These include career development, agricultural literacy, science, leadership/citizenship, and healthy lifestyles.

As you consider your exhibit for the fair (toy, game, or activity), remember that you must be trying to teach a child about one or more the outcome areas. This could be a game that teaches them about healthy eating (healthy lifestyles); an activity where children role play being a farmer (careers/agricultural literacy); or a toy bug that relates to science. Be creative!

Each exhibit will need to answer the following questions

- 1) Where did I get the idea for this exhibit?
- 2) What decisions did I make to be sure exhibit is safe for child to use?
- 3) What are children this age like? Give 2 examples that help in understanding the appropriateness of this exhibit for the age of the child (see project manuals).
- 4) What can the child learn from this exhibit, or how does it promote growth and development as it pertains to the outcome area?

In the past, many of the child development exhibits at fair have already been related to the outcome areas. Here are some ideas from the Nebraska State Fair 2011.



Left: Role play experience for preschoolers about agriculture.



Right: Puzzles with picture of animals.



Know how. Know now.

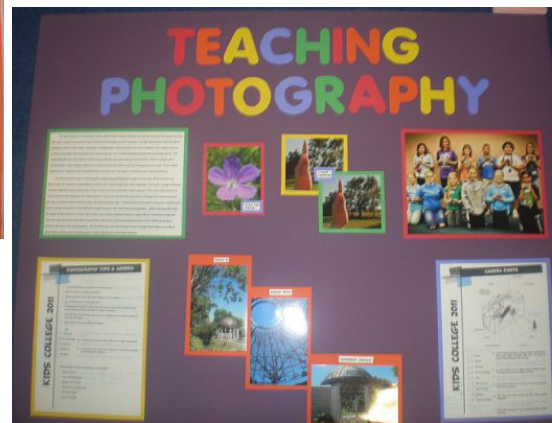


Nutrition game with fruits and vegetables.

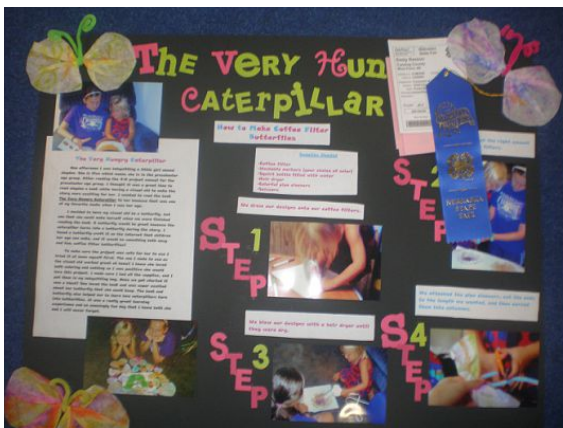


Role play experience for youth to prepare healthy foods and/or career exploration.

Matching game using animals to teach vocabulary words.



Youth activity to teach photography skills and explore this career.



Youth activity using a popular story to teach about insects, healthy eating, etc.



Science game based on insects.



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.