

365 Self-Determined Project

Member determines and designs own project or uses one of these idea starters:

365.01 Astronomy
 365.02 Model Railroading
 365.03 Weather
 365.04 Clowning
 365.05 Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils
 365.06 American Sign Language
 365.07 Computers
 365.08 Discovering Genetics
 365.09 Canoeing
 365.10 Local Foods: Does It Matter What You Eat?
 365.11 Camp Counseling
 365.12 Miniature Gardens
 365.13 Reptiles and Amphibians
 365.14 Climate Change
 365.16 Viruses, Bacteria, and Fungi, Oh My! (Plant Pathology)
 365.17 Babysitting
 365.18 Ways of Knowing Water
 365.19 The Work World is Calling . . . Are You Ready?
 365.21 Skateboarding
 365.22 Pigeons
 365.23 Native American Artifacts: Arrowheads
 365.24 Shale Gas Extraction
 365.25 Flower Gardening
 365.26 Hedgehogs
 365.27 Ferrets
 365.28 Chinchillas
 365.29 Field to Faucet: What Determines Water Quality

1. Complete all project guidelines as listed in the Self-Determined Project Guide. (see next 5 pages)
2. Neatly create an educational exhibit and/or a poster illustrating and describing some aspect of your project. Your name and club name need to be visible on the front of the display.
3. Bring to Interview Judging:
 - a. Any accumulated materials needed for project.
 - b. Completed Self-Determined Project Guide #365.
 - c. Project records. Include pictures, examples of items made, price list, or other records to illustrate what you have learned.
 - d. Educational exhibit or poster.
 - e. Know the 4-H Pledge, 4-H Motto, and 4-H Colors.
4. Exhibit at the fair:
 - a. The educational exhibit or poster from Interview Judging. (Project book **does not** qualify as an exhibit.)

Revised December 2017



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Self-Determined Project Guide

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Project Background

A 4-H Self-Determined Project is an opportunity for members to go beyond the scope of their current project or to explore a topic that is unavailable as a project book. Self-Determined Projects on the same topic may be repeated if new areas of interest, learning experiences and leadership/citizenship activities are selected.

Not sure what topic to explore? You can get some great ideas by reviewing the Idea Starters available online at ohio4h.org/selfdetermined.

Project Guidelines

1. Identify a possible topic for your project.
2. Complete the Planning Your Adventure section (Steps 1 through 3) of this guide by discussing and researching your topic, by planning and completing at least two learning experiences, and by planning and completing at least two leadership/citizenship activities.
3. Complete the Conducting Your Adventure section by identifying and completing three areas of interest and three activities within each area.
4. Complete the Reporting Your Adventure section of this guide.

Name: _____

Age (as of January 1 of the current year): _____ County: _____

Club name: _____ Advsior: _____

Topic you've chosen to explore: _____

PLANNING YOUR ADVENTURE

Step 1. Let's Begin (Check off what you plan to do.)

- ☐ Discuss your ideas with family, friends, and of course, your project helper.
- ☐ Check books about your topic at the library before you begin.
- ☐ Visit websites that provide more information about your topic.
- ☐ Check your county's project guidelines (if any) for additional requirements, especially if you choose to participate in county project judging or prepare an exhibit for the fair.

Step 2. Learning Experiences

Choose at least two learning experiences from the list below (or create your own). Write them in the table below. Record your progress by asking your project helper to initial next to the date each one is completed. You may add to or change these activities at any time.

- Attend a clinic, workshop, demonstration or speech on a topic related to your project.
- Prepare a public service announcement for school, radio, television or the Internet on a topic related to your project.
- Help organize a club activity on this project.
- Prepare your own demonstration, illustrated talk or exhibit.
- Participate in county judging.

Learning Experience	Date Completed	Project Helper Initials
<i>(Example) Demonstration: Showed different sizes of model railroad cars to club members.</i>	<i>7/15/YR</i>	<i>BH</i>

Step 3. Leadership/Citizenship Activities

Choose at least two leadership/citizenship activities from the list below (or create your own). Write them in the table below. Record your progress by asking your project helper to initial next to the date each one is completed. You may add to or change these activities at any time.

- Assist in setting up and/or cleaning up for a show or event.
- Help someone with his or her project.
- Help organize a workshop or show in your community.
- Encourage a friend to join 4-H and take a project.
- Teach someone something that you learned about 4-H or about your topic.
- Invite someone to talk to your club about your topic.
- Give advice to a member who is preparing a project for the fair.
- Prepare and exhibit a display promoting your topic or 4-H.

Leadership/Citizenship Activity	Date Completed	Project Helper Initials
<i>(Example) Helped younger members set up a model railroad.</i>	<i>8/11/YR</i>	<i>BH</i>

CONDUCTING YOUR ADVENTURE

Every self-determined project is broken down into areas of interest. These are the specific things you wish to explore during your project adventure. In the space provided on the next page, identify at least three areas of interest with at least three activities per area.

If you are using an Idea Starter, you will find suggested areas of interest and things to do there.

Ask your project helper to initial next to the date each one is completed.

(Example) My first area of interest is to plan a layout.

Activity 1: *Locate a reference book on model railroading to use during the project.*

Activity 2: *Create a track plan for a model railroad.*

Activity 3: *Identify a knowledgeable person who is willing to help.*

Activity 4: *Talk with parents about where to put a layout.*

Date completed: *4/18/YR* **Project helper initials:** *BH*

CONDUCTING YOUR ADVENTURE (CONTINUED)

My first area of interest is to _____

Activity 1: _____

Activity 2: _____

Activity 3: _____

Activity 4: _____

Date completed: _____ Project helper initials: _____

My first area of interest is to _____

Activity 1: _____

Activity 2: _____

Activity 3: _____

Activity 4: _____

Date completed: _____ Project helper initials: _____

My first area of interest is to _____

Activity 1: _____

Activity 2: _____

Activity 3: _____

Activity 4: _____

Date completed: _____ Project helper initials: _____

My first area of interest is to _____

Activity 1: _____

Activity 2: _____

Activity 3: _____

Activity 4: _____

Date completed: _____ Project helper initials: _____

