

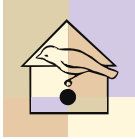


4-H ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & CONSERVATION ACTIVITY PAGE

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Beginning

Your 4-H ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & CONSERVATION Project



We are responsible for taking care of our planet, including the forests, wildlife and fish. Natural resources help us live. The outdoors is also a place where we have fun. This 4-H project will help you learn about the natural world and how you can help take care of it. Some of the skills you can learn and activities you can do in this project are listed below. Check your favorites. Then, work with your 4-H leader and parents to make a 4-H project plan of what you want to do and learn this year.

- Learn ways to conserve our resources.
- Learn ways to practice environmental stewardship.
- Learn how to set up a bird-feeding station.
- Learn the basic needs of wildlife.
- Learn about renewable and non-renewable resources.
- Learn how to identify trees by their leaves.
- Learn how to plant a tree.
- Complete a service project using project skills learned.
- Give a project demonstration in the 4-H club meeting.
- Make an exhibit or poster about environmental science.
- Other _____



Life Skill
Responsibility

Saving Energy

Check the ways you save energy.

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Open and close the refrigerator door quickly.
- Put on a sweater when cool instead of turning up the heat.
- Set thermostats no higher than 65 degrees in the winter and no lower than 75 degrees in the summer.
- Turn off TV when not in use.

Renewable Resources

Some resources can be grown and replaced once they are used. These resources include

- ▶ Plants and trees
- ▶ Wildlife and livestock

But the environment must support them. In other words, these resources are renewable only if you take care of them! In your 4-H project folder, list three things that harm these resources and three ways to renew them.

Non-renewable Resources

Other resources are natural resources no longer being created. Supplies of these resources are limited. These resources include

- ▶ Minerals like iron and aluminum
- ▶ Coal
- ▶ Oil

When these resources are used up, they are gone forever. In your project folder, list ways to conserve resources.



Remember to
reduce
reuse
recycle
to save our resources!

Try This Activity—Make a Leaf and Twig Collection

Things You Need

- Field guide*
- 3-ring notebook
- Newspapers
- Marker
- Plastic bags
- Heavy books
- Cord
- Paper
- Clear tape

Do you know what type of trees are in your neighborhood? Learn more about the trees around you by making a leaf and twig collection.

Collect leaves and twigs from the trees. Leaves attached to the twig will help in identification. You might collect or record other parts of the tree as well. Use one plastic bag for each leaf/twig and number the bag. Make notes in your notebook describing the location.

For best results, press your leaves as soon as possible. Press each leaf between paper towels or newspaper weighted with heavy books and bound tightly with the cord. Keep your "leaf press" in warm, dry place. Change the papers every two or three days. Press the leaves for two weeks. When completely dry, use tape to mount your leaves on pages in the 3-ring binder.

Use a field guide or other resource to identify the leaves. Label your pages with the name of the tree, date of collection and location. Share your leaf and twig collection in a 4-H meeting.



* Field guides may be available from your county's 4-H office or the library.

Feed the Birds

Make a backyard bird-feeding station. Be responsible for feeding your birds regularly.

The most economical way to attract birds is to feed them black oil sunflower seeds. You can make a pine cone feeder by coating a pine cone in peanut butter or lard and then rolling it in bird seeds.

Remember that a clean feeder is important—birds don't like moldy food.

In your 4-H project folder, keep a record of the birds you see. Share your list with others.

Career Scavenger Hunt

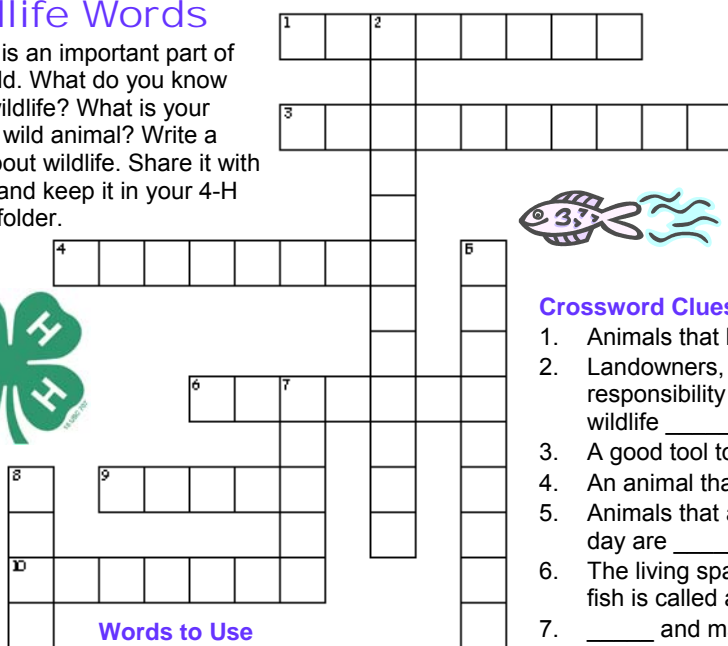
By asking others, researching on the Internet or reading a book or magazine—search for a job that uses environmental science & conservation skills and knowledge. Here's what you are looking for.

1. Job Title _____
2. Job Description _____

3. Education Required _____

Wildlife Words

Wildlife is an important part of our world. What do you know about wildlife? What is your favorite wild animal? Write a story about wildlife. Share it with friends and keep it in your 4-H project folder.



Words to Use

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| SPECIES | CONSERVATION |
| BACKBONE | BINOCULARS |
| NOCTURNAL | WATER |
| BIRDS | PREDATOR |
| HABITAT | FISH |

Crossword Clues

1. Animals that have a _____ are called vertebrates.
2. Landowners, hunters, fishermen and wildlife watchers all have a responsibility to protect and manage wildlife by participating in wildlife _____.
3. A good tool to help with watching wildlife is _____.
4. An animal that feeds on other animal life is called a _____.
5. Animals that are more active during the night-time than in the day are _____.
6. The living space that provides the basic needs of wildlife and fish is called a _____.
7. _____ and mammals are warm-blooded.
8. Reptiles, amphibians and _____ are cold-blooded animals.
9. Wildlife have basic needs, including food, _____, cover and space.
10. _____ is a distinct kind of animal or plant.

Service Ideas

- Teach younger children how to make pine cone birdfeeders.
- Make and display posters about forestry, wildlife, fisheries or conservation.
- Set up a recycling box for aluminum cans.
- Raise a goldfish with students in a day care. Teach them how to care for their fish.

Additional Resources

We are responsible for taking care of our environment. This activity sheet has given you the opportunity to explore things about the world around you. You've made a leaf collection, created a bird-feeding station and learned lots of other cool things. But this is just the beginning! Use the resources listed below to continue learning about environmental science and conservation.

- School & public libraries
- People who know about the environment, forestry, wildlife, fisheries and conservation
- 4-H project groups
- The 4-H environmental science & conservation Web page:
www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/envscience.htm

Don't forget to submit your project report to your 4-H leader.

For more ideas, contact your 4-H office.

Other 4-H Environmental Science & Conservation Activities
4-H demonstrations
4-H visual exhibits
F.A.C.E. for Wildlife Camps

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