



4-H Wood Science

Leader Guide

4-H 442L
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Introduction

Congratulations! You are embarking on an adventure in working with wood and tools. The experience can be fun and educational for you and for your members. This guide has been designed to introduce you, the leader, to the exciting world of wood science and woodworking.

As a leader in the 4-H Wood Science Program, you hold a key position in the lives of your 4-H'ers. You may start a child toward a noble career or help develop an avocation in woodworking or wood science that will last throughout his or her lifetime. If you enjoy working with young people and like woodworking and wood science, you will find the time and effort spent as a 4-H leader most rewarding.

Objectives

The objective of the 4-H wood science program is to help boys and girls develop leadership skills, character, and citizenship responsibilities by sharing woodworking experiences. Realizing that youth have their own individual backgrounds, talents, experiences, and aspirations, the aim of this program is to accept boys and girls where they are in terms of woodworking knowledge and skills, and to help them build upon their current levels of attainment until they are able to achieve personal goals, which they have set for themselves, in the wood science project.

Woodworking provides one of the best “learn by doing” opportunities in 4-H. Members almost have an unlimited scope of interesting, educational challenges including designing, constructing, finishing and refinishing, analyzing, identifying, and experimenting with numerous woods, tools, processes, and materials. Many youngsters, especially senior 4-H'ers, can build or design their own work areas; procure tools, machines, and equipment; design and build their own work benches and tables; and make tool panels, too. 4-H'ers can have many positive experiences while making useful articles for home, school, and/or recreational use. With the help of this guide, you will be able to plan and conduct enjoyable, educational activities and experiences for youth.

The 4-H wood science program gives youth opportunities to:

- Develop leadership abilities, build character, and assume citizenship responsibilities
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of the many products from the forest

- Acquire knowledge and develop skills in the selection and appropriate use of various types of wood and wood products
- Acquire knowledge and develop skills in the selection, care, and safe use of woodworking tools and machinery
- Explore career opportunities associated with the manufacture and utilization of forest products
- Develop an awareness for business and economics of the forest products industry

