



NATURE CRAFTS

WELCOME

Welcome to the Nature Crafts Project! Please read through this guide carefully, as it contains information and suggestions that are important for your project. **4-H Leaders can obtain a Project Leader Guide and other resources from the PEI 4-H Office.** Hopefully you, as a member, will “Learn to do by Doing” through hands-on activities that will encourage learning and enjoyment. If you have any questions, contact your District 4-H Officer or your 4-H project leader.

4-H YEAR COMPLETION

You complete a project by:

- completing the project Achievement Day requirements
- completing a communication project
- completing a community project
- completing an agriculture awareness project
- taking part in Achievement Day

You must complete all of the listed aspects in order to show at Fairs and Exhibitions.



ACHIEVEMENT DAY REQUIREMENTS

Pine Cone Creature (1)	10
Shell, Rock or Driftwood Creation	10
Pressed Flower Arrangement or Fruit/Nut Creation	30
Additional Item A...Choose one of the following:	25
Simple wheat weaving	
Vegetable person	
Cornhusk doll	
Apple doll	
Dried or fresh flower arrangement (small centerpiece)	
Home-made/recycled paper	
Additional Item B...Create one of the following:	25
Birch bark decoration	
Orange spice ball	
Mini wreath	
Potpourri - sachets or gift bag	
Rose or potpourri pomander	
Spiced or herb vinegar/oils	
Old fashioned outdoor broom	



100 Marks

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENT

Pressed flower arrangement or the fruit/nut creation

KEEPING IT ALL TOGETHER!

It is recommended you get a duotang or a three ring binder in which to keep this member guide and any other project materials you receive from your leader. The duotang or binder can be displayed at your Achievement Day with the above listed requirements.

HELPFUL RESOURCES!

www.flowerpressing.com
www.greetingsofgrace.com
www.preservedgardens.com
www.save-on-crafts.com
www.pioneerthinking.com
www.wheatweaving.com
www.appledolls.org
www.snowowl.com
http://cascadecones.com
www.pineconelady.com
www.thirftyfun.com
www.allfreecrafts.com/naturel
www.familycrafts.about.com
www.allcrafts.net
www.kidsdomain.com/craft
www.familyfun.go.com

A variety of books are available at the PEI 4-H Office which can be borrowed for a two week loan period. To book these, call 368-4833 or drop by the PEI 4-H Office at 40 Enman Crescent, Charlottetown.

BE A GOOD SPORT!

In the spirit of learn to do by doing, all those involved in 4-H are encouraged to practice good sportsmanship, use common sense at all 4-H activities, and the work in any 4-H project should be the member's own work.

PINE CONE HINT:

When making things with pine cones, first bake the cones on a foil-lined cookie sheet for about 45 minutes at about 200 °F. This kills any bugs or spider mites that live in them. This also allows the seeds to fall out.

PLAY IT SAFE

It is very important that members follow safety procedures when making crafts. Remember: Glue guns are HOT! The glue comes out quite fast and can burn your skin if you are not careful. Keep your fingers away from hot glue. Use a toothpick or craft stick to hold pieces in place until the glue sets. Be careful with sharp pointed items like scissors, knives or other cutting tools. Always carry and pass scissors with the handles turned toward the other person.

Ages for 4-H members as of January 1st of the 4-H year:

Junior: 9-11 years
Intermediate: 12-14 years
Senior: 15-21 years

Check out the PEI 4-H Web Site

www.pei4h.pe.ca

Material Collection

Purchase Supplies at Craft or Novelty Shops: If you start your project in late fall, there are still a lot of places to get your supplies. Cones of all kinds are available at many shops. Shells and rocks can be found where you purchase aquarium supplies. Plants such as a Christmas cactus or a geranium can provide flowers while plants such as an asparagus fern can provide the foliage.



OR

Enjoy Mother Nature and Take a Nature Walk: If you start your project in the early fall, supplies will be readily available. Plan a field trip to collect the materials you will need such as shells, pieces of driftwood, rocks, pine cones, flowers, grasses, birch bark or even grapevines. Mother Nature provides an abundance of materials and in this project, you will take some of Mother Nature's materials indoors to make your own creations.

Select the items you plan to make and plan ahead so the needed supplies will be on hand when you are ready to do your work

Good luck and have fun!

PINE CONE CREATURES (Achievement Day Requirement)

Use cones and your imagination to create your own Pine Cone Creatures. Add a bit of glue, dried seeds or scrap of felt and you can create very life-like creatures.

Plan your creatures using the large cones for bodies and the smaller ones for heads, ears, arms or legs. Let the shape of the cone suggest the creature. Use scissors to carefully trim away parts of the cones to make a better shape.

Fit cones together dripping glue in where it is needed to hold your creature securely together. **CAUTION:** If using a glue gun, please keep cool water on hand in case glue sticks to your fingers.

Give your animals eyes, noses, mouths with seeds, apricot pits, corn kernels and acorns. A touch of paint, a snip of felt or other tidbits can be added to make your creation even more realistic.



STONE, SHELL OR DRIFTWOOD CREATIONS (Achievement Day Requirement)

Pick one of these OR create your own. Make ONLY ONE Stone, Shell OR Driftwood Creation.

STONES

Use a stone or combination of stones to create anything from a paperweight, to stone people, to a stone statue.

Paperweights: Large smooth stones make attractive paperweights especially when decorated with a monogram. Select your smooth stone(s). Paint each stone with several coats of acrylic paint and allow to dry. Use a coordinating paint color which has been thinned, and apply with an old toothbrush. Draw your thumb over the bristles to splatter fine drops of paint on your painted stone. Use a fine brush to paint your initial the same color as the splatter. For a gloss finish, apply a coat of acrylic varnish when the paint has dried.

Stone People: Select a suitable stone to create your stone person. Use paint, felt, dried flowers, lace, ribbon or fabric to create your stone person. Create anything from Anne of Green Gables to a one-eyed pirate. It's lots of fun.

Stone Statues: Select a variety of stones suitable for your statues. With a small rag and a tiny drop of vegetable oil, polish the surface of the stones. Be sure to wipe off any excess oil. Use play clay, plasticine or silly putty that does not dry out easily and split. Use this clay to hold statue stones together and to hold decorations in place. The results is a fun stone statue.



SHELLS

Select shells, large or small, and make a fun shell creation.

Seashell Ornaments: A bit of ribbon, glue, and a variety of shells from a trip to the beach can create special ornaments that remind us of summer. Select one large shell (2x3 inches approx.) or three smaller ones (3/4 to 1 inch approx.), a few tiny accent shells and a narrow satin ribbon 24 inches long. When using a large shell, form a 12 inch loop in the ribbon and glue it to the back of the shell. Take an 8 inch length of ribbon and form a small six loop bow. Use 6 inches of ribbon to form the streamers. Glue bow, streamers and small shells to the large shell and your project is complete. When using small shell, take a 18 inch length of ribbon and fold in half creating a 5 inch hanging loop and 4 inch streamers. Attach the three shells. Make a small bow with 6 inches of ribbon. Glue bow and accent shells in place. Your ornaments are now ready to hang.

Shell Creatures: Select snail, scallop or clam shells and use one or more to create a unique craft. It could be a person, an animal or a decoration of any kind. You can use paint, glue, scraps of felt, ribbon or fabric, moveable eyes, or anything on hand to make your creation.

DRIFTWOOD

A walk on the beach could result in finding unique pieces of driftwood. Combine driftwood with shells, stones, dried flowers, dried mosses, ribbon or any craft supplies to results in a unique driftwood creation.

PRESSED FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

(Achievement Day and Exhibition Requirement)

Members can do this OR a Fruit / Nut Creation

Pressing

For smaller flowers, place them on paper towel on a sheet of construction paper. Cover with more paper towel and a second sheet of construction paper. Large flowers can simply be placed between two sheets of construction paper. When all are ready for pressing, place each set of construction paper between magazines. Be sure your magazines are heavy enough to keep the flowers flat.

* Note: If your materials for your flower arrangement are not completely dry, it is possible the flowers will develop a mould.

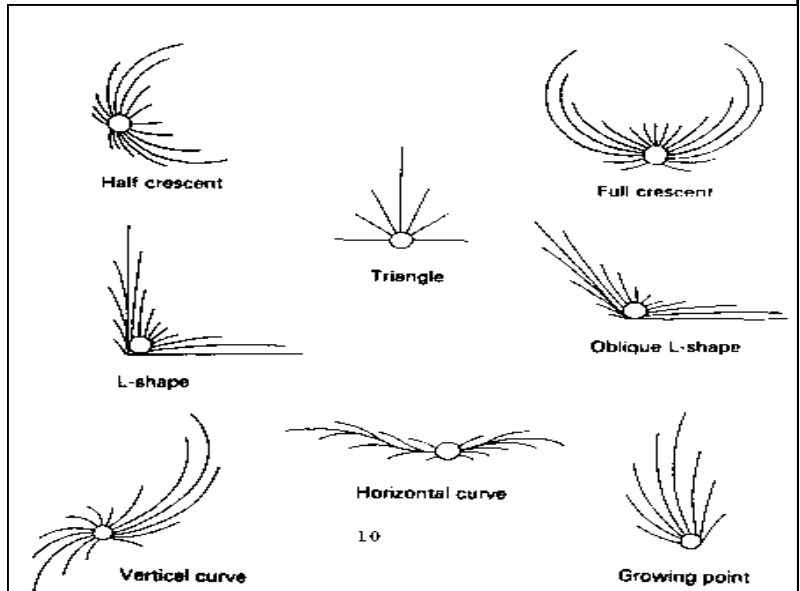
Flower Arrangement

When putting your pressed flower arrangement together, spend some time deciding how the flowers, weeds, and/or leaves can be combined to achieve a pleasing result. These design shapes may help give you some ideas.

Putting it All Together

Your pressed flower arrangement is now ready and you may select a suitable way to display it. The choice is yours. Some will select a commercial picture frame, others may use two layers of Plexiglas and a home made frame, still others may decide to display them in a candle holder. You may also make a sun catcher using your pressed flower arrangement. Be sure to add a clip or hanger when gluing your sun catcher together.

* Note: Remember it is your pressed flower arrangement that is being judged.



TIP!

When deciding to make a pressed flower arrangement, select flowers, weeds, grasses, or leaves that are not too thick, so they will press well. When selecting flowers, choose young blooms with rich colors to make a more impressive array.

Flowers can take up to six weeks to press. Smaller flowers will press in a shorter time. Pressing can be hurried by placing the flowers between construction paper and pressing with a cool iron until they are dry, then by pressing under heavy books for a day or more.



FRUIT AND/OR NUT CREATION **(Achievement Day and Exhibition Requirement)**

Members can do this **OR** a Pressed Flower Arrangement

From the kitchen come fruit and nuts that can be used alone or in a combination with many other materials to create wonderful craft items. You may make a Fruit and/or Nut Creation for a wall or table top decoration.

If Using Nuts...Use a variety of unshelled nuts - almonds, walnuts, hazelnuts, chestnuts, brazil nuts and black walnuts. Black walnuts may be cut in half to show their heart shape. Applying a coat of gloss varnish to some nuts will bring out their color.

If Using Fruit...Apples and oranges make great snacks but once sliced and dried they can be used in crafts as well. Make dried apple and/or orange slices and use these alone or in a combination with some nuts and/or cones.

Drying Fruit Slices - Cut thin cross section slices of oranges and apples (could try lemons, limes, etc.). For apples, soak slices in a mixture of one teaspoon salt with the juice of a lemon, for a few minutes. Dry slices on paper towel. Place fruit slices in a single layer on baking sheets. Bake at 200°F for eight to 10 hours. Keep the oven door slightly ajar as this will help regulate the heat inside the oven and keep the air circulating. Turn slices occasionally so they will bake evenly.

ADDITIONAL ITEM A **(Achievement Day Requirement)**

You are also required to make one item from the following list for Achievement Day...

- Simple Wheat Weaving
- Apple Doll
- Cornhusk Doll
- Vegetable Person
- Flower Arrangement, Fresh or Dried
- Homemade / re-cycled Paper



NOTE: The instructions for the above listed items are in your Leader's Project Manual. However, you are free to use other variations to make any of the above listed items. Check out craft books and magazines and the internet for other designs and instructions to make these Achievement Day requirements.

ADDITIONAL ITEM B **(Achievement Day Requirement)**

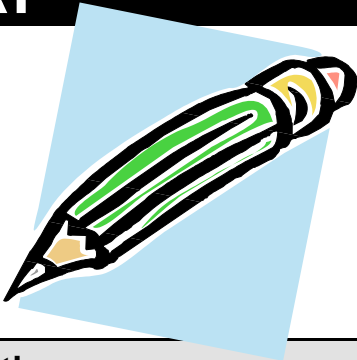
You are also required to make one item from the following list for Achievement Day...

- Birch Bark Decoration
- Orange Spice Ball
- Napkins Rings / Mini Wreaths
- Potpourri—Sachets, gift bags, pomander
- Specialty Oils and Vinegars
- Old Fashioned Outdoor Broom

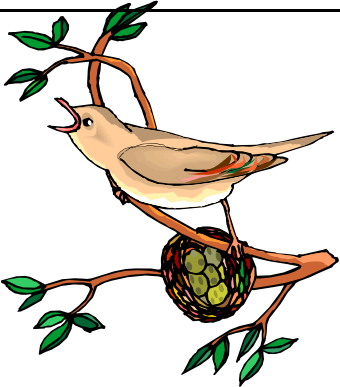
NOTE: The instructions for the above listed items are in your Leader's Project Manual. However, you are free to use other variations to make any of the above listed items. Check out craft books and magazines and the internet for other designs and instructions to make these Achievement Day requirements.

PROJECT MEETINGS DIARY

Most projects will require at least six to eight project meetings to complete the project.



Meeting Date	Location	Time	At this meeting, we...



Community and Agriculture Awareness Projects

COMMUNITY PROJECT

Each year you are encouraged to provide a service to your community as a 4-H member. This introduces you to the responsibilities of citizenship. You must participate in your club's plan for a community project and you should have a role to play. Describe your involvement with your club's community project this year.



Our Community Project was _____

I helped by _____

It was beneficial because _____

I learned _____

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS PROJECT

Agriculture is one of PEI's main industries. You are expected to participate with your club to complete a project (or provide a service) which helps your club or others become aware of the importance of agriculture in our lives. As in the community project, you should actively participate.



Our Agricultural Awareness Project was _____

I helped by _____

It was beneficial because _____

I learned _____