

Interactive Exhibit - 6th - 8th grade & 9th - 12th grade Div.

The goal is to get your audience to...**Stop, Read & Remember!**

A good exhibit has to attract attention, focus attention on a central idea, and sell the person on the idea that you are trying to present.

Follow these 10 steps for an effective Exhibit:

30 **Determine your Audience:** Your audience will be a group of judges that will have a short amount of time to look at your exhibit. So you will need an exhibit that gets their attention. Think about what you would like to look at. Do you want to read a long paragraph to get the idea of an exhibit?

40 **Determine your Purpose:** Do you want your judge to: Take Action? Solve a problem? Or Change his/her opinion? Without a purpose or objective, your exhibit may be a jumble of elements without any particular point or effect. With a purpose, your exhibit will have something definite to say and do so clearly and briefly!

50 **Develop the Theme:** Choose a single theme or subject to be treated briefly. Make sure that every element, whether visual or text, supports your theme. Leave out anything else! Use strong visual elements and brief text.

60 **Treat the Subject Visually:** You must be able to get your purpose across without having to explain it to someone. In other words, ask yourself the following questions: If I set up

5. **Develop the story line:** The story line consists of 3 steps: state the problem, offer solutions, and show the benefits.

6. **Design:** Good design leads the judge to stop, look and remember! Determine the size, shape, and kind of space your exhibit will occupy. Know the kind of lighting the space has and what is needed. The layout should guide you from one part to the next. Your judge should be able to understand the overall story, not just notice separate parts. Don't over crowd your exhibit, keep it simple but informative!

7. **Visuals:** Good visuals are a must! Use photos, drawings, maps, charts, graphs, actual objects or models.

8. **Lettering:** When planning your exhibit, pay attention to the size, weight, style, and spacing of the letters. Avoid using fancy or ornate letterings. Capitals are good for titles, but upper and lower case should be used for text. The size of the letters should be judged by the viewing distance or the emphasis of the letters on the exhibit.

9. **Color of Board and Letters:** Contrast is one of the most important considerations in determining color combinations for exhibits. Use dark letters on a light board and light letters on a dark board:

10. **Text:** Exhibits are not bulletin boards or enlarged leaflets. Viewers are standing, moving, or have an interrupted or obstructed view. Reading a lot of text is difficult to do. Keep it brief! Try to use active verbs. For example "Improve Your Farm" rather than "Farm Improvements."

Jr High 4-H Interactive Exhibit Scorecard



EXHIBITOR	Possible points	
Appearance of 4-H member Neat & well groomed, Good posture, enthusiastic Voice Pleasing, clear, distinct, correct English	10	
Oral Explanation Main points clearly stated, well organized, Practical questions answered accurately (4-H'er is allowed 1-2 minutes to explain exhibit)	30	
EXHIBIT		
General Appearance of Board Artistic, neat, well balanced, easy to read	20	
Message Told Current interest, one central theme, tells story simply and clearly, message grasped quickly	30	
Creativity Original idea, freshness in presentation	10	
TOTAL POINTS	100	

Projects

Beef

Citizenship

Communications/Public
Speaking

Companion Animal

Computers/Technology

Consumer Ed/Economics

Creative Arts & Design

Dairy

Electric

STEM

Entomology

Food Science

Goat Leadership

Creative Arts &
Design

Photography

Plant Science

Poultry Sheep

Swine

Vet Science

Engineering/Safety Science

Entrepreneurship

Environmental Science/
Conservation,

Forestry/Wildlife/Fisheries

Horse

Horticulture/Garden

Nutrition/Health/Fitness

Performing Arts,

Outdoor Recreation &

Shooting Sports,

Personal Development

Interactive Junior High 4-H Project Exhibit Score Card

RULES:

There is no limit to the number of project exhibits per project per county. Each exhibitor will be 1/4 of an eight foot table (four feet wide by two feet deep) for the exhibit. Free standing exhibit boards or posters should be used. Space from the table to the floor may be used. Items may be displayed on the table.

The 4-H member will be expected to explain their exhibit in two minutes. The judge will have 2-3 minutes to ask questions. **The interactive exhibit will be for judges, not an audience.** The audience may view the exhibits when judging is completed.

Make sure the exhibit has a title and includes the word 4-H or the 4-H Emblem somewhere on the exhibit. The exhibit needs to be related to the project material for that level.

JUDGING INSTRUCTIONS: Exhibitor

Appearance: As the speaker presents, is his/her posture good? Does he/she stand solidly on the floor? Are his/her clothes (whether or not they are new or fashionable) clean and pressed? Or does the speaker sway from one foot to another, lean on the lectern or table, slump and show poor grooming?

Voice: Is it understandable pleasing, meaningful, vivid, properly pronounced with correct grammar?

Projection to Judges: Does he/she have eye contact? Does the presentation have sufficient volume? Is it clear, distinct and presented with expression and enthusiasm? Or does the speaker instead present a memorized or read "report?" Does he/she communicate?

Oral Explanation: Does the speaker have his/her thoughts together, showing good use of short preparation time? Can he/she communicate original or pertinent ideas?

Well Organized: Do ideas center around a central theme in a logical order, easily followed and understood by listeners? Or does the presentation seem poorly organized, with random ideas or ideas which do not fit the theme?

Source of Information: Is the information accurate? Is the topic narrow enough for the message to be given completely? Has the speaker earned the right to speak on the subject through study and experience, preferable in 4-H? Is the information apparently current?

Questions: How well does the speaker answer the questions? (Judges should be consistent as to the numbers and types of questions they ask each participant.)

Exhibit

General Appearance: Does the exhibit have a pleasing composition?

Attractive: Is the poster well balanced and neatly done? Is the size in accordance with the rules?

Dynamic,/Eye-catching/Original: Does the exhibit cause viewers to stop and read it? Is originality used in combining the design and style of lettering to catch the viewers attention? Are color combinations pleasing and used for emphasis?

Message Told: Does the poster attract attention, focus interest on the idea and motive someone to take action? Is the message brief and direct?

Creative: Does the poster convey an original idea?



Williamson County Extension & 4-H
4215 Long Lane, Suite 200
Franklin, TN 37064

TO: 6th-8th, and 9th- 12th grade 4-H'er's

RE: Williamson County 4-H Interactive Exhibit Project Contest

You are invited to participate in our **2026 Williamson County 4-H Interactive Exhibit Contest**, which will be held at The Williamson County Ag Expo Park, **Monday night, March 23rd**. Once you have registered for the contest, after the deadline, you will be assigned a designated time between 6:00 -7:45 PM to present your Interactive Exhibit. You will need to be present for your scheduled time. Contest results will be emailed to all contestants following the contest. Contest details and check-in information will be emailed to the email address you provide when you register for the contest. Remember to practice your presentation so you will do well. You will compete with 4-H'ers from across the county.

Pre-registration is required! - <https://tiny.utk.edu/InteractiveExhibit>

LOCATION: Williamson County Ag Expo Park, 4215 Long Lane, Franklin, TN

CONTEST FORMAT: The Contest will be in-person. You will be assigned a table top space to set up your exhibit. Review contest rules for your space allocation. Remember that you can use all the space from the floor up.

PRE-REGISTRATION: Now through March 17, 2026. Complete the registration form online. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Williamson County 4-H Interactive Exhibit Contest on Monday, March 23, 2026. If you have any questions, please call us at 615-790-5721.

TIME LIMIT: 1-2 minute explanation, 2-3 minutes for Q & A with the judges.

You may enter both an Interactive Exhibit and a Project Demonstration this year. You might consider how to do both on the same project area or topic so that your demonstration and interactive exhibit are similar in theme and design. You may only advance to the Area contest with your Interactive Exhibit.

Project Interactive Exhibit Registration Deadline is March 17th, so don't delay! You can sign-up now if you would like!

Williamson County Interactive Exhibit Contest: <https://tiny.utk.edu/InteractiveExhibit>

Doug Berny, 4-H Extension Agent
dberny@utk.edu

Kaitlyn Boughton, 4-H Extension Agent
kboughto@utk.edu

4-H Projects

Projects for Project Presentation, Project Display, and Portfolios

Beef

Clothing and Textiles

Companion Animals

Consumer Education/Economics

Culinary

Energy

Entrepreneurship

Food Science

Goat

Horse

Mechanics/Safety Sciences

Performing Arts

Plant Sciences

Sheep

Veterinary Science

Citizenship

Communications/Public Speaking

Computers and Technology

Creative Arts and Design

Dairy

Entomology/Beekeeping

Environmental/Ag Engineering (EASE)

Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries

Healthy Living

Leadership

Outdoor Education/Shooting Sports

Photography and Digital Media

Poultry

Swine

STEM

- STEM has been added as a project. This project is added only for regional project achievement day. This is not a statewide project.
- STEM is not available as a project for portfolio competition.

Pre-registration is required for the contest by March 17th.



Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

4-H Interactive Exhibit

Name: _____ Topic: _____

Objective: _____.

Introduction:

**Story line – Step 1
State the Problem**

**Story line Step 2
Offer solutions**

**Story line Step 3
Show the benefits**

Conclusion:

Anticipated Questions:

Planned Visuals/Props