
Telling your 4-H Story

The 4-H Story is a major sections of your 4-H Record Book. The story should emphasize the impact of 4-H on the individual, their family and the community. It should include personal reactions and feelings that could not be placed in the Arkansas 4-H Report Form. The story should convey what the 4-H'er has done and learned by participating in 4-H.



4-H'ers should be creative in writing their 4-H Story, using a unique ways to introduce their story or developing a central theme in telling the story. Avoid a year-by-year listing of activities and accomplishments. Do not save the best for last, put in near the beginning to catch the reader's interest.

Rules to Remember when telling your 4-H Story

1. The 4-H Story is limited to 5 pages.
2. Each page should be typed or printed in black ink, double spaced and only on one side of the page.
3. Use 8 ½" x 11" white paper.
4. Use a one inch margin on all sides of the page.
5. The title should be "My 4-H _____ Story". The blank should be the main project.
6. **Check for spelling and grammar errors.**
7. The 4-H Story should be in the 4-H member's own words!

The following outline can assist in developing your 4-H Story.

- I. **Introduction:** Introduce yourself, tell your age, interests, about your family, where you live, where you got to school and when & why you joined 4-H. (1/4 page).
- II. **Main Project:** Tell about the project area in which you are submitting your record. Why did you choose this project? What goals did you set and which ones did you reach? What have you learned in the project? How has it grown? Describe the things you have tried and found successful and some things that were NOT so successful. How have you arranged financing? Make it interesting! This is your chance to share feelings with the judges. (1 to 1 ½ pages)
- III. **Other Projects and Activities:** Highlight other 4-H projects and activities. Give information about other projects and activities you have participated in, including major learning experiences, special interests, and unusual situations you have encountered. (1/2 to 1 page).
- IV. **Leadership and Community Service:** Explain how 4-H has helped you become a better citizen and leader. Describe the most important offices you have held and the committee assignments you have accepted. Tell about what you have learned from working with other 4-H'ers. Explain how you have learned to accept responsibilities. (1/2 to 1 page).
- V. **School and Career Goals:** Describe how 4-H participation has influenced your school and career goals. Describe life skills you have learned through 4-H work. Tell about your plans for the future and the career you would like to pursue. (1/4 to ½ page)