

Preble County Awards Tip Sheet

Completing a Preble County Award Form is a great way to

1. Be recognized for your achievements
2. Provide a record of your activities that can be used for college and scholarship applications
3. Lay the foundation for applying for state level 4-H awards and trips

This document will help you as you think about being recognized for your achievements.

Plan for Success

It is important for 4-H'ers to set personal goals for his or her 4-H project(s) or activity(ies). These goals can help with project completion and in turn, recognition for efforts. A well-developed 4-H record should be an outgrowth of stated personal goals for the project or activity. It should include a report on the accomplishment of these goals and reports on accomplishments in project work, leadership, community service and personal development.

A successful 4-H project or activity takes advance planning and accurate, continual record keeping. A County Yearly Project Report Form is an excellent method of keeping records. Members should complete a form each year.

Members who aspire to compete for both county and state level awards should start planning when the member is 12 to 13 years old. The member should think about what his or her favorite project area is and consider ways to strengthen this area. The member can consider activities that can help the member progress in the project area. For example, a member who has a focus in food and nutrition projects might serve on the county Food and Fashion Board and help plan a county level nutrition clinic.

Completing the Form

Some things to consider as you complete the award form.

1. What you write on your form is what evaluators use to select awards. You have to “sell” yourself on paper. Remember that the evaluators will not know what you have done with your project unless you tell them. Be clear and complete with your project work and accomplishments. Be specific if you have done something unique as part of your project work. For example, I conducted an experiment with my 2 beehives to see which is better – letting the bees build their own comb or using sheets of premade comb. I found that the bees who built their own comb had a stronger hive.
2. Your Essay and picture page/timeline are a chance to add more detail about your project work. You can show the evaluator what you have done with your project through pictures.
3. Don't be intimidated by the space on the form. You can add additional sheets if necessary.
4. Keep records along the way. Use a draft copy of the pink sheet to make notes of activities and achievements throughout the year. Write on the back of ribbons so you remember why you won them.

