2016 District 11 4-H Roundup
April 9, 2016
Northside Baptist Church
4100 N Laurent
Victoria, TX

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GENERAL INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

EVENT INFORMATION

District 11 4-H Roundup will be held on Saturday, April 8-9, 2016, at Northside Baptist Church, Victoria, TX as part of District 11 4-H Spring Spectacular

District Roundup Contests include:
- Educational Presentations
- Public Speaking Contest
- Share-the-Fun Contest
- Beef Quiz Bowl
- Horse Quiz Bowl
- Nutrition Quiz Bowl
- Leaders 4-Life Skillathon (Seniors ONLY)
- Discover Scientific Method Poster Competition
- Photography Display (Junior and Intermediate entries only)

AGE CLASSIFICATIONS

Please make sure all participants are entered in the correct division. Descriptions of age divisions are:

- **Senior Division** - Contestants must be in 9th – 12th grade for the 2015-2016 4-H year.
- **Intermediate Division** - Contestants must be in 6th- 8th grade for the 2015-2016 4-H year.
- **Junior Division** - Contestants must be in 3rd – 5th grade for the 2015-2016 4-H year.

For all quiz bowl contests, there are only two age divisions: Junior and Senior. Descriptions are as follows:

- **Senior Division** – Contestants must be in the 9th- 12th grade for the 2015- 2016 4-H year.
- **Junior Division** – Contestants must be in the 3rd – 8th grade for the 2015 – 2016 4-H year.

For educational presentations and share-the-fun entries that are composed of teams, Junior 4-H members may compete as a member of an Intermediate team. However, intermediates may **not** compete on a Junior team. Only senior age members can compete on senior teams since members must meet age criteria to advance to State Roundup.

CERTIFICATION

Participants must be certified by their county Extension agent as one of the top three (3) scoring individuals/teams for each contest in order to compete at District Roundup.
ELIGIBILITY

All contestants must be enrolled in 4-H and actively participating as a 4-H member. Team members must have competed as a complete entry at the county level to be eligible for the district contest.

The top three (3) entries (team/individual) per age division from each county may participate in any contest at District Roundup.

SENIORS ONLY –

Please note the Texas 4-H Roundup rule change: 4-H members MAY enter the same category in which they have previously been part of a first place entry at Texas 4-H Roundup; including the category in which they won first.

According to the Texas Education Code, a 4-H member must be deemed “eligible” to compete in an event that takes place on a Saturday.

All 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or home school must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility:

Complete a “Declaration of Eligibility Form”
Or
Name of 4-H’er must appear on a list of eligible students to participate in a specific Extracurricular activity signed by the school principal or designee.

If a 4-H member is ineligible for a 4-H competitive event, the agent must notify the 4-H member, their parents, and the district office, by letter, of this situation. If the parent has any questions, he/she should be referred to the school administrator.

CONTEST REGISTRATION

Participants will be REQUIRED to register for all District 11 4-H Roundup Contests on 4-H CONNECT (on-line registration system). The registration will be open from 12:00 a.m. on March 1 through 12:00 midnight on March 18, 2016. 4-H members may submit an entry at any time during this registration period. Late registration will be allowed from March 19 through March 25 for an additional late registration fee of $25.00. All entries on 4-H CONNECT must be certified by the respective county Extension agent within two (2) business days following the registration deadline. It is important to be aware that registration will close at Midnight on March 25 and will NOT re-open. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO REGISTER.

ENTRY FEE

An entry fee of $10.00 per INDIVIDUAL will be charged for all contests. An additional late registration fee of $25 will be added from March 19 – March 25, 2016. No refunds will be given for any reason.
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Individuals who require an auxiliary service or accommodation in order to participate need to contact the District 11 Office at 361/265-9203 no later than April 1, 2015 in order for proper arrangements to be made.

JUDGE RECRUITMENT

Each county is required to submit the names and addresses of a minimum of THREE (3) qualified individuals that are available to serve as judges. This will be done on the attached Judges Recruitment From. Please submit only names of adult leaders or mature 4-H members who have agreed to serve as judges and who will be present for the orientation. County Extension agents are also assigned to attend this event and serve as a judge where assigned. Assignments will be sent shortly after the March 18th registration deadline.

NUMBER OF CONTESTS

Senior members may only compete in one “Tuesday” contest, one “Wednesday” contest and one “Thursday” contest (see list below).

** Exception: Share the fun participants may compete in one Wednesday competition and one Thursday competition.**

- Tuesday contests at Texas 4-H Roundup are: Quiz Bowls, Fashion Show, Trashion Show, Fashion Storyboard, Leaders for Life, Recipe Rally.
- Wednesday contests at Texas 4-H Roundup are: Judging Contests and Food Challenge. Share the fun contests on Wednesday are: Choreographed Routines, Dramedy, Poetry/Prose, and Vocal.
- Thursday contests at Texas 4-H Roundup are: Food Show, Public Speaking, Discover Scientific Method Poster Competition and all Educational Presentation contests. Share the fun Thursday Contests are: Celebrate 4-H, Musical/Instrumental, and Solo/Band Performance.

PERFORMANCE ORDER

There will be no assigned order of performance for all Roundup contests. However, if a 4-H member is involved in another 4-H contest during Roundup, he/she needs to notify both contest superintendents and make arrangements to perform first in one contest in order to go to the other contest.

PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOTAPING

Photography and videotaping equipment are not allowed in contest rooms and/or facilities unless used as props in a presentation. Contest superintendents will take up and hold all photography and videotaping equipment found in contest rooms until completion of the contest.
TECHNOLOGICAL DISTRACTIONS

Beepers, cellular phones, laser pointers and PDA’s, etc., may be disruptive to the presenter or judges and are strictly forbidden in all contest rooms or facilities. Please make sure all items are turned OFF during the contest.

PROPS

No firearms, weapons, fireworks or live ammunition are allowed to be used in any District Roundup contest. However, posters and pictures of such items are allowed. This rule also applies to the Shooting Sports Educational Presentation contest.

RESULTS/AWARDS

Results will be announced, and awards presented, in the individual contest rooms, immediately following judging and tabulation of results. Once announced, all results are final.

STATE QUALIFIERS (SENIORS ONLY)

Senior 4-H members are the only age division eligible to qualify for Texas 4-H Roundup. The following number of entries will qualify for Texas 4-H Roundup.

- Educational Presentations: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place from each contest
- Quiz Bowls: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place from each
- Share-the-Fun: 1st and 2nd place from each category
- Leader 4 Life Skillathon: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams

District 11 senior members can qualify to compete in one Tuesday, one Wednesday, and one Thursday contest at Texas 4-H Roundup.

SUBSTITUTIONS

Only the 4-H members and the number of 4-H members who qualify at district, qualify for state. Substitutions should be used only as a means of keeping a team active when members have been forced to drop out for unexpected reasons (i.e. major illness, death). Substituting for the purpose of having one or more team members compete in another contest is not an unexpected reason and is unacceptable. Any substitutions MUST be approved through the District Office.

PRIOR COMPETITION:

Effective September 1, 2013: A change is being implemented to allow most state winning teams and individuals the opportunity to come back and participate in state events and contests after winning 1st place (as an individual or member of a team). This includes some judging contests, recordbook judging, fashion show, food challenge, shooting sports, and others. The current rule that restricts youth from participating in the same category will also be revoked. Examples of this include: Fashion Show, Food Show, and Share-the-Fun. Youth will have the opportunity to participate in the same category after winning state the previous year.

**ALL STATE ROUNDUP RULES WILL SUPERCEDE DISTRICT ROUNDUP RULES**
EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION CONTESTS AND GUIDELINES

Educational Presentation Contests can be entered as an individual or a team of up to five (5) members. Educational presentations consist of method demonstrations or illustrated talks.

The following is a list of educational presentation contests that will be held at District 11 4-H Roundup. For a description of each contest, please refer to the Texas 4-H Roundup Guide.

- Beef
- Clothing & Textiles
- Companion Animals
- Health
- Horse
- Open
- Open – Agriculture
- Open – Family & Consumer Sciences
- Promote 4-H
- Safety & Injury Prevention
- Sheep/Goat

NOTE: The computer educational presentation category has been eliminated

TOPIC SUBJECT
Subjects in educational presentations should address emerging or current issues in each of the contest areas. Some contests provide a suggested list of topics that the presentation can cover, along with a resource list, that is available in the Texas 4-H Roundup Guide. Contestants are encouraged to research these emerging and/or current issues to develop current and new presentations.

ACCURACY OF INFORMATION/RESOURCES
When the internet is used in preparation of an education presentation, it is important that 4-H members must know the difference between research and non-research based information. Contestants are required to use information that is factual and can be supported through adequate documentation. Examples of such websites are federal, state, and local governments, independent research sites, and Texas AgriLife Extension Service websites. Internet information that is questionable includes personal documentation sites, chat rooms, message boards, etc. 4-H members should prepare a list of references (i.e. bibliography, references) for their presentation.

SUBJECT MATTER
The skills and knowledge used in any 4-H contest should be the result of experiences in a project in which the member has participated. A presentation should relate to the contest entered, should contain information and should not be more suited for another contest. It should be appropriate for the 4-H member’s age and experience. Appropriate credit should be given for references used.
TIME LIMITS
A time limit of 12 minutes will be allowed for each educational presentation. An additional nine (9) minutes will be provided for on-stage arrangements and cleanup in connection with the presentation. A penalty of two points per minute, or partial minute, overtime will be deducted from the final score. Adults are permitted to assist the 4-H members with the on-stage arrangements and cleanup.

VISUALS
The use of charts, photographs, computer graphics/programs and other visual materials are permitted. Visuals should contribute to the presentation. Each presentation is an example of the participant’s ability to communicate an idea. Participants will be expected to provide all materials used including projection screens, extension cords, computers, projectors, easels, etc.

VIDEO, AUDIO, AND DISPLAY EQUIPMENT FOR DISTRICT:
Participants are responsible for all video and audio equipment used in a contest. Set up of the equipment will be included in the set-up and take-down time of the participants. Video and audio equipment includes: computers, video projectors, extension cords, viewing screens, compact disc players, easels, etc. Adults are allowed to assist with the set-up of computer equipment (i.e. setting up computer, screen, extension cords, etc.) and must remain in the nine (9) minutes time requirement for set-up and take-down.

FOR STATE: Laptops, screens, extension cords and projectors will be provided.

JUDGES’ QUESTIONS
Judges and/or Superintendents may ask contestants questions at the end of the presentation. This will be done on the judge’s time. Only official judges and superintendents may ask questions of the contestants, not other 4-H members and/or leaders.

JUDGES GIFTS/HANDOUTS
Gifts of any kind may not be presented to the judges in any contest. Handouts may be available to the entire audience.

SCORECARDS
4-H Educational Presentation Score Sheet (4-H 3-5.041 - Revised August 2005) will be used by contest judges in scoring educational presentations regardless of presentation style (method demonstration, illustrated talk, etc.). Separate scorecards are used in the Public Speaking and Share-the-Fun Contests. All scorecards are available on the Texas 4-H and Youth Development publication website.
PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST GUIDELINES

ENTRY
The public speaking contest is limited to an individual (one person) entry.

TIME LIMIT
Individuals must present a five (5) to seven (7) minute talk suitable as a platform speech or radio broadcast. The presentation should serve to persuade others regarding a particular youth issue or concern.

PROPS
Props and visual aids are not permitted and recordings of any type may not be used.

QUESTIONS
Contestants should be prepared to answer questions concerning the subject matter of their presentation. Judges and/or Superintendents may ask contestants questions at the end of the presentation. This will be done on the judge’s time. Only official judges and superintendents may ask questions of the contestants, not other 4-H members and/or leaders.

SCORING/SORECARDS
Presentations will be scored with equal consideration of composition and delivery utilizing a score sheet (revised August 2005) specific to the Public Speaking Contest. A copy of the scorecard is available on the Texas 4-H Publications Website.

SUGGESTED PRESENTATION TOPICS
Current events, youth issues, or other topics related to youth.
SHARE-THE-FUN CONTEST
INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

OBJECTIVES
• To provide an opportunity for 4-H youth to develop a spirit of cooperation through working together to develop self-confidence through public appearance.
• To stimulate interest and encourage a broad-based recreation program in Texas 4-H at the club and county level.
• To encourage 4-H members to discover and develop their talents.
• To provide for social, cultural, and leadership development of 4-H youth.

RULES
There are seven (7) categories, each with a separate description and score card. Category descriptions are listed below and also included in the Texas 4-H Roundup Guide. The 7 categories are:
- Poetry/Prose
- Vocal
- Musical - Instrumental (playing instrument(s) only; no vocals)
- Solo/Band Performance (instrument AND vocals/singing)
- Choreographed Routines
- Celebrate 4-H
- Dramedy

Share the fun participants may compete in one Wednesday competition and one Thursday competition.
- WEDNESDAY CONTESTS: Choreographed Routines, Dramedy, Poetry/Prose, Vocal
- THURSDAY CONTESTS: Celebrate 4-H, Musical/Instrumental, Solo/Band Performance

The first, second, and third place winners from each category at the county contest will qualify for the district contest.

NOTE: PARTICIPANTS MUST COMPETE WITH THE SAME MATERIAL AT ALL LEVELS OF COMPETITION - COUNTY, DISTRICT, STATE. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CANNOT CHOOSE ONE SONG FOR YOUR ACT AND THEN CHANGE SONGS BETWEEN DISTRICT AND STATE. ACTS MAY FINE TUNE PERFORMANCES BASED ON CRITIQUES FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT JUDGING, BUT CHANGING MATERIAL COMPLETELY IS PROHIBITED.

To determine category for entry, please refer to the category descriptions. County Extension Agents are strongly encouraged to review entries for proper category and appropriateness of material, and ensure that all other rules and regulations are followed. Judges will determine if an entry is in the correct category.

PROPS
Regulations for props should be followed. Props utilized must be able to go through doors that are 6 feet wide and 7 feet tall. Space at the district and state contest is limited.

PROHIBITED ITEMS
The following materials may not be used in any category: talcum powder, flour, pies, water, oil, feathers, flower petals, hay or other substances which are hard to clean up, may cause damage, or be dangerous
to participants. No roller skates, shoes with spikes, cleats, motorized vehicles, live animals or real fire arms are allowed.

TIME LIMITS
Time limits for all categories will be strictly enforced. All categories will have a time limit of six (6) minutes for presentation and four (4) minutes for set-up and break-down. A penalty of five (5) points per minute, or partial minute, over the time limit will be deducted from the total score.

ADULT ASSISTANCE
Only adult coaches and/or agents will be allowed backstage, in the vicinity of the storage area for props, and to assist with set-up and break-down of props and equipment. 4-H members or other youth who are not a part of the team will not be allowed to assist with set-up and break-down. No Accompanist will be permitted for any category. If music is required, it must be on a CD, cassette tape or performed by the contestant. See specific rules for each category for information related to this topic.
During a performance, adult coaches may give cues for music backstage or help with costume/prop changes backstage. They are NOT allowed to participate in any other form while the act is going on. Any voices heard during the performance from back stage must be either a participant OR a taped voice.

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS
• **POETRY/PROSE** – 1 to 9 participants. Acts which showcase poetry or prose are required.
  The act may NOT incorporate vocal, musical, and/or choreographed routine. This category does not require 4-H related material, however, if an original poem or prose piece showcasing 4-H is written, this would be acceptable. Every 4-H member entered in the category must be a part of the performance on stage. **All material must be memorized. No script may be used during the performance.** Judged on material chosen, message, talent, presentation, style, props/costuming. Four (4) minutes total for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

  Defining Poetry and Prose: Poetry is generally characterized by structured meter and rhyme that tells a story or provides a message to the reader. Prose is distinguished from poetry by its greater variety of rhythm and its closer resemblance to the patterns of everyday speech. Another description might be an excerpt from a larger piece such as a play or book.

• **VOCAL** – 1 to 9 participants. Vocal presentation may be done a capella or with an accompaniment CD/tape. **No accompanist will be allowed for this category and the vocalist(s) may not play an instrument.** All members in the act must be singing. No lip sinc will be allowed. **Contestants may not present skits, poetry or other speaking during the act. They may, however, move around the stage and incorporate choreography with their presentation for the purpose of enhancing their showmanship.** Sign language may be added to enhance the performance, but entries that strictly showcase sign language without vocal presentation are not permitted in this category. They must be entered in Choreographed routines. Judged on talent, showmanship, vocal presentation, and material chose. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

• **MUSICAL - INSTRUMENTAL** – 1 to 9 participants. Musical presentation may be musical instruments accompanied by background tape or an instrumental performance only. **No**
accompanist will be allowed. Participants may not sing or incorporate a skit, poetry, prose, or choreography with their act. Judged on talent, showmanship, musical presentation, and material chosen. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

- **SOLO/BAND PERFORMANCE** – 1 to 9 participants. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act by playing a musical instrument, singing or both (solo performance must play an instrument and sing). Participants MUST incorporate singing in the acts, but cannot incorporate skits, poetry, or prose. They may, however, move around the stage and incorporate choreography with their presentation for the purpose of enhancing their showmanship. Judged on talent, showmanship, musical presentation, vocal presentation when applicable and material chose. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

- **CHOREOGRAPHED ROUTINES** – 1 to 9 participants. No speaking to form a skit or story line. The act requires choreography and can be demonstrated through twirling, pom pom squad routines, jump rope teams, basketball dribbling exhibitions, or dance (jazz, tap, country & western, ballroom, etc.). Sign language presentations to music have been added to choreographed routines. However, if a participant is SINGING and SIGNING, this entry should be entered in the Vocal Category. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act. Acts may use taped music on CD or cassette tape but may not use an accompanist. Judged on material chosen, talent, uniformity, creativity, showmanship, costuming. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

- **CELEBRATE 4-H** – 1 to 9 participants. May be a 4-H based story line, promoting 4-H, community service, a project or activity. This category may also address a specific youth issue and present ways in which this issue can be addressed through 4-H efforts. May incorporate music, vocal selections, and/or choreographed routines but these aspects cannot be more than half of the performance. Skits can be humorous, creative and make fun of but not degrade Extension employees or the 4-H program. All 4-H members entered in the category must be a part of the act. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costumes and props. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.

- **DRAMEDY** - An entry may consist of one (1) to nine (9) participants. This is an acting category. A dramedy (also known as a comedy-drama or comedic drama) is an act that combines elements of comedy and drama, having both humorous and sometimes serious content. Acts cannot incorporate 4-H related material or theme. (Otherwise, it would be categorized as Celebrate 4-H.) Skits can be currently available scripts, original material, or a combination of the two. Humor and creativity are encouraged, but the degradation of any individual or organization is not permitted. May incorporate music, vocal selections, and/or choreographed routines, but these aspects cannot be more than half of the performance. Judged on material chosen, talent, creativity, showmanship, costumes and props. Four (4) minutes for set-up and break down; maximum of six (6) minutes for presentation for a total of ten (10) minutes per act.
QUIZ BOWL INFORMATION
BEEF, HORSE & NUTRITION

All quiz bowl contests may be played as a single or double elimination tournament (based on the number of teams entered). If there are not significant teams registered for the district contest (i.e. only one Junior and one Senior team), the teams will still be required to participate in the bowl contest. For example, a tournament may be conducted between the Junior and Senior teams.

** Note: Depending on participation, a separate and agreed upon date may be discussed for the Horse Quiz Bowl Contest

The Texas 4-H Quiz Bowl Guide is available at:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/publications/project_resources/

** BEEF QUIZ BOWL
The Beef Quiz Bowl is an exciting, fast paced opportunity for youth to display their knowledge of the beef industry and the science surrounding beef cattle. The contest will follow the rules and procedures listed in the 1999 revision of the Texas 4-H Quiz Bowl Guide, 4-H 3-2.030.

Contest Resource:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/publications/project_resources/

** HORSE QUIZ BOWL
This contest will follow the rules and procedures listed in the 1999 revision of the Texas 4-H Quiz Bowl Guide, 4-H 3-2.030. Horse Quiz Bowl Supplement, 4-H 302.031, should be utilized for support information. Official references utilized for contest preparation should be from the Fall 2002 reference list. Contest Resources:
http://animalscience.tamu.edu/youth-projects/index.htm

** NUTRITION QUIZ BOWL
This contest helps participants increase knowledge of basic nutrition, consumer information, food and kitchen safety, food preparation skills and storage, and nutrition and health. This contest will follow the rules and procedures listed in the 1999 revision of the Texas 4-H Quiz Bowl Guide, 4-H 3-2.030. Nutrition Quiz Bowl Supplement, 4-H 3-2.032, and the Food & Nutrition Quiz Bowl Study Guide (2012) should be utilized for support information.

Contest Resources:
http://fcs.tamu.edu/food_and_nutrition/4-h_youth.php
LEADER 4 LIFE Skill-A-Thon
(Open to Senior level 4-H members ONLY)

CONTEST INFORMATION
The Leader 4 Life Skill-A-Thon is a competitive event designed to challenge county 4-H council teams in their leadership skills, parliamentary procedure and service learning. It is a three-fold contest that will include the following:

- Parliamentary Procedure Contest - This is a demonstration of a simulated 4-H meeting using a standard agenda, which will be provided. Teams of four to six 4-H members will have 20 minutes to conduct their model meeting in front of a panel of judges.
- Question and Answer with the Judges (10 points per question)
  - Each team will be asked TEN questions. Every team member must answer at least one question, but no more than 3. Remaining questions may be answered by any team member, and the team members will choose who will answer the extra questions. No team member may answer more than two questions. The questions will be based on parliamentary procedures.

Community Service Interpretation – The teams will submit a very simple document that asks the name of the project they are interpreting with a short paragraph (3 to 4 sentences max) that describes the project.

- This document is not judged, but is to prepare the judging panel for an interview with the team.
- The judging panel will ask interview questions of the team including, but not limited to, the project and how the 8 Steps of Service Learning (outlined on page 6 of “Use Your Hands... For Service” document) were utilized in their project.
- Interviews will last approximately 10 minutes and will be scored by the panel of judges (max 70 points).

ENTRY
Entry into the Leader 4 Life Skill-A-Thon is made up of a team of 4 to 6 members

CONTEST RESOURCES
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/leaders4life/
DISCOVER SCIENTIFIC METHOD: RESEARCH POSTER
**INVITATIONAL for TEXAS 4-H Roundup**

DISCOVER SCIENTIFIC METHOD RESEARCH POSTER CONTEST OVERVIEW
The Discover Scientific Method Research Poster Contest is designed to help youth identify a question or problem, then focus learning and solving the problem using the scientific method. Topics can cover any field as long as it is research oriented, and may include humanities or social sciences that meet the research criteria. The County Extension Agent or their designee will document and certify all projects.

The research poster contest will allow youth an opportunity to display and explain through the scientific method their project, research and observations.

*Scientific Method Steps*
- Name the problem or question
- Form an educated guess (hypothesis) of the cause of the problem and make predictions based upon the hypothesis
- Test the hypothesis by doing an experiment or study (with proper controls)
- Check and interpret the results
- Report the results to the scientific community

OBJECTIVES
- To increase awareness of science, engineering and technology among 4-H members
- To implement science, engineering, and technology in the forefront of 4-H project work through the use of 4-H S.E.T. Abilities:
  - **Science** abilities encompass the entirety of the cause and effect on the world
  - **Engineering** is recognized as a problem-solving and design process within science and technology
  - **Technology** is human innovation

TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL
Research projects may be an individual effort, or be comprised of a team of up to 3 4-H members. If a team of two or 3, both 4-H members must keep separate notebooks, with individual notes and then combine the notes for final project notebook.

AGE DIVISIONS
- Participants will enter based on 4-H Age Division.
- Topics for the Texas 4-H Research Poster Contest should be age appropriate.
- Research should be of a nature that the 4-H member can develop, research, process, and write a meaningful paper on the age appropriate topic.
CONTEST CATEGORIES


**Contest Categories are:**
- Biochemistry/Microbiology/Food Science
- Environmental Science/Chemistry/Earth Sciences
- Animal Science
- Plant & Soil Science
- Engineering/Physics
- Consumer Product Testing

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT APPROVAL FORMS

The County Extension Approval Forms MUST be on file with the Extension Agent prior to competition as well as the Human Vertebrate Endorsement and non-Human Vertebrate Endorsements if applicable (as described in the State Guidelines).

SAFETY RULES

All guidelines for safety as described in the state Discover Scientific Method Guidelines MUST be followed or participant will risk disqualification. **Note: No access to electrical outlets will be provided at district contest.**

POSTER GUIDELINES

- Poster dimensions: No larger than 48” wide by 30” deep (the distance from front to back) 108” high (from floor to top, includes table if project is on table top), unfolded. Failure to meet these requirements will result in disqualification. Please note that the tables vary per convention location are generally 24” wide.
- Posters must stand upright on a table or the ground once unfolded.
- The poster should include an abstract, introduction, background, methodology, results and/or conclusions.
- Items not adhered to poster must fit on the tabletop within the dimension of the unfolded poster. Nothing may be hung from the top of the poster (lights, banner, shelf, etc.) that will be outside of the above mentioned poster dimensions.

Research Notebook (All Age Divisions)

See the Texas 4-H Discover Science Method official rules and guidelines for more information.

JUDGING PROCESS

Contestant(s) will be provided a place to set up a research poster display prior to the judging of the event. Each display should include a lab notebook relating information about the work conducted on the research topic and suitable props if appropriate. Please note that each team member MUST have a lab notebook to show their individual research and contributions to the project. Each research poster must have an abstract and references listed on the background information. Please refer to contest guidelines for specific on the research post display and lab notebook. Each contestant (s) will give a short two-minute presentation to judges and respond to interview questions posed by judges on the research and
the project notebook. The judges will convene to compare scores and select the top entries in each category.

RESULTS/AWARDS
Results will be announced and awards presented in the contest location, immediately following judging and tabulation of results. Once announced, all results are final.

STATE QUALIFIERS
The state level Discover Scientific Method Contest is open to INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR age divisions. Participation in the District contest is NOT REQUIRED to participate in the state contest. The state DSM contest will be held in conjunction with Texas 4-H Roundup.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
The 4-H Science web page is located at:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/4h_science/index_4h_science.php
The latest updates are located within the links.
4-H SET Abilities - What are they and how do I know what to do with them? The Abilities are located at:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/library/files/4h_science Abilities.pdf contains 4-H Project Addendums (24 pages) with emphasis on 4-H SET Abilities.
Research Poster Contest and Resources - What is it? Guide is located at:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/library/files/4h_science poster guide.pdf
Two major resources to teach and conduct a Discover Scientific Method (DSM) Research Poster Contest (Middle School Science Fair) are to be referenced.
(1) Science Buddies web based resources. http://www.sciencebuddies.org . On the Parents Page, look for the 4-H link for ideas. The entire site is based on self-guided learning, Resources for Teachers, Parents, participant are listed.
(2) INTEL ISEF (International Science and Engineering Fair) site at:
http://www.intel.com/education/isef/ and at:
http://www.intel.com/education/isef/middleschool.htm
Resource targets Middle School ages with complete guide (247 pages) to assist the Science Teacher, or a Volunteer wanting to teach in an After-School setting, leading up to a Science Fair or Discover Scientific Method Research Poster Contest.