

Larimer County 4-H Shooting Sports

Project Ideas



We've compiled this list of ideas for projects by discipline. Some ideas work better for display boards while some are better for stand-alone projects. Remember, your project must be based on what we do in 4-H. Feel free to pick from the list or be inspired by the subjects to create your own.

Remember, arrow tips cannot be on any exhibit. No live ammo, knives, functional firearms, or bows are allowed on an exhibit.

Our best advice is to choose a topic that you are interested in.

Pinterest is also a good resource for ideas.

Air Pistol or .22 Pistol

(Concentrate on Air or .22 Pistol, not both.)

- Parts of a pistol
- Silhouette course of fire (.22 Pistol only)
- Shooting positions (Senior or Junior)
- Differences in positions for juniors and seniors
- Line commands
- What is a CBI? Its purpose? How do we use it?
- Make a pellet box/trap
- What safety equipment does 4-H recommend?
- Make a case for your pistol
- Targets used
- History of the pistol
- How to clean your pistol

Air Rifle or .22 Rifle

(Concentrate on Air or .22 Rifle, not both.)

- Different types of sights
- How to clean your rifle
- Positions in rifle
- Equipment beyond the rifle
- Classes in rifle
- Parts of a rifle
- Bullet board
- What is a CBI? Its purpose? How do we use it?
- Safety equipment
- Make a case for rifle
- Competitions outside of 4-H
- How to recycle ammo
- How is ammo made?
- Make a backer/target

Archery

- Parts of a compound bow
- Parts of a recurve bow
- Differences between compound and recurve bows
- Differences in compound bow classes
- Make a bow case (Sew one or use a 3D Printer)
- Parts of an arrow
- How to crest an arrow
- Make an arrow cresting machine
- Differences between vanes and feathers
- Different arrow tips
- Make a paper tuner
- How to score targets
- Make a target
- Scoring a 3D target
- Show examples of 3D targets
- Make a 3D target
- Different types of sights
- Adjusting for distances
- Course of fire
- How to make a shooting range
- Whistle commands
- Make a bow stand - wood or PVC
- Make a Ground Quiver - PVC
- Make a Hip Quiver - Recycle Jeans or PVC
- Make an arm guard
- What is a stabilizer and how does it work?
- History of archery
- Evolution of bows
- Types of materials arrows are made of
- Archery outside of 4-H—types of competitions
- How does the compound bow work?
- Arrow Lube - different materials to use
- How does a cam in a compound bow work?
- String angles



Larimer County 4-H Shooting Sports Project Ideas

Muzzleloading

- Make your own muzzle stand (use a sawhorse)
- Picking your powder
- How much powder to use
- Different types of targets in muzzleloading
- Loading the muzzleloader
- Make a gong
- Calibers of muzzleloader
- History of the muzzleloader
- Cleaning
- Different types of powder horns
- Make a powder horn
- Different shooting distances used in 4-H
- All the equipment needed
- What is a rendezvous?
- Make a toolbox of supplies

Outdoor Skills

- Using a compass
- Map reading skills
- What is orienteering?
- How to read animal tracks
- Differences in bird wings
- How to identify antlers
- Difference between antlers and horns
- Reading the scat
- Different types of shelter
- How to build a shelter
- Materials to start a fire
- What is needed for a day hike?
- Pick a weather condition and describe survival
- What to do if lost
- Hunting seasons in Colorado
- Age requirements for hunting
- Types of waterfowl in Colorado

Shotgun

- Different calibers
- Chokes: differences and uses
- What is trap?
- What is skeet?
- What is shooting clays?
- What is 5-stand?
- 5-stand versus shooting clays
- Make a shotgun vest
- Make a shotgun pouch
- Different types of shells
- Lead versus steel shot
- How are clay pigeons made
- Make a case for shotgun
- What Colleges offer shotgun programs?
- How to make a trap house
- Different types of shotguns

Western Heritage

- Developing a persona
- How is Western Heritage performed?
- What firearms are used
- Difference between junior and senior
- Western clothing from the specific era
- Different types of shooting patterns
- How to develop a shooting pattern
- Make a loading block

The Science of Shooting

(Concentrate on your specific discipline.)

- What is eye dominance?
- Why is it important to shoot with the dominant eye?
- Eye dominance versus right- or left-handed
- Trajectory: What it is for your discipline, or how it can change based on ammunition/loads
- Different types of hearing protection
- How hearing protection works
- How does an action work?