



## Entomology

Georgia 4-H Project Achievement empowers young people with skills for a lifetime. Through a competitive process, students explore their interests, unleash their creativity, share their work, and celebrate their achievements! This guide provides 9th—12th graders with examples for getting started with their project exploration.

### Description of Project:

4-H'ers may explore the science of insects and other arthropods (spiders, ticks, mites, scorpions, etc.). Through this project 4-H'ers may:

- identify insects and other arthropods and their habitats
- differentiate between harmful and beneficial insects and arthropods
- develop knowledge about insects' and arthropods' economic importance and interrelationship with natural resources
- acquire knowledge on appropriate control of insects and arthropods
- understand safe use of insecticides and other methods of insect and arthropod control
- acquire knowledge of by-products and end-products relative to specific insects
- explore career opportunities related to entomology

### Overview:

- ⇒ Choose project
- ⇒ Develop skills in:
  - Project
  - Leadership
  - Service
- ⇒ Prepare portfolio for work completed from January 1—December 31
- ⇒ Prepare presentation
- ⇒ Practice
- ⇒ Compete
- ⇒ Reflect

### Examples of Project Development Experiences:

- Make a special collection on one insect order and name the specimen by family and scientific name (genus and species)
- Collect and display beneficial insects and pest species found in landscapes, gardens, and natural areas throughout Georgia. Include all life stages and a description of their benefit or damage
- Create and display a collection of useful products produced by insects (silk, honey, wax, etc.)
- With permission, establish plant pollinator plots at your home or in community spaces
- Meet with your county public health officials to learn of local pest management
- Correspond with a professional entomologist or the Entomological Society of America
- Submit an essay to the Georgia 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

## Project Sharing and Helping Examples:

- Share what you have learned in the Entomology project with county 4-H clubs, school classes, and/or civic clubs
- Enter an Entomology project-related booth or exhibit at a fair
- Learn the proper way to control common household pests, then offer to help senior citizens control those pests (i.e removing wasp nests at doorways)
- Teach about establishing and managing plant pollinator plots
- Start an Entomology project club. Contact your local Extension Agent to discuss your plans
- Collaborate with elementary schools to describe beneficial insects in your community
- Mentor a younger 4-H'er in the Entomology project
- Organize a tour of a local apiary. Consider visiting a local orchard or farm to explore the important role of bees
- Inform homeowners about environmentally friendly fire ant control methods
- Share about termites with community members and neighbors
- Send your 4-H Beekeeping Essay to the local newspaper

## Recommended Resources:

- [Georgia4h.org/ProjectAchievement](http://Georgia4h.org/ProjectAchievement)
- [Georgia4h.org/Beekeeping](http://Georgia4h.org/Beekeeping)
- [naturalhistory.uga.edu](http://naturalhistory.uga.edu)
- [gen.uga.edu](http://gen.uga.edu)
- [fcs.uga.edu/extension/home-healthy-homes-pests](http://fcs.uga.edu/extension/home-healthy-homes-pests)
- [insectzoo.uga.edu](http://insectzoo.uga.edu)
- [entsoc.org](http://entsoc.org)
- [insectidentification.org](http://insectidentification.org)

## Special Considerations:

- Youth should use precautions when working around insects.
- Ask permission before photographing, taping, or quoting someone.
- Remember that safety for you, other staff, and animals is of the utmost importance. Be respectful when shadowing professionals and always follow instructions.
- Give plenty of notice for any mentoring requests.
- Always ask permission from owners before working with animals, and be sure proper release forms are signed.
- Live animals/insects and weapons are not permitted in project.

## At Competition:

*Entomology 4-H projects may use posters, artifacts, biofacts, and/or technology to support their presentation. The time limit for these presentations is 12 minutes. Computers, projectors, screens, and other technological devices may be used.*

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Date: 09/1/2016

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Sources:

The University of Georgia CAES. 2016. Project Achievement. <http://www.georgia4h.org/projectachievement/>

