



Montana 4-H Center
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

So,
you are
HISTORIAN
of your 4-H club ...



EXTENSION

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**So, you're HISTORIAN
of your group ...**



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You, and all officers of 4-H groups, are representatives. You represent not only your local 4-H group but also the whole 4-H program throughout Montana. Your skills and abilities, standards and ideals, grooming, speech, and even smiles represent the Montana 4-H program and its members.

Representing others is one of your most important responsibilities because it exists at all times—not just while you are at the 4-H meetings. Those who are not acquainted with 4-H often evaluate the program through the behavior and attitudes of its officers.

Checklist for Historians



- I will keep a record of the group's accomplishments and activities for the year.
- I will collect items such as pictures and news clippings about the group and its members.
- I will organize a scrapbook to tell my 4-H group's story for the year.
- I will try to make the book meaningful to members as well as to future members.
- I will make the book compact and yet complete. Items are only included if they involve members of the group.

Guidelines for Historians

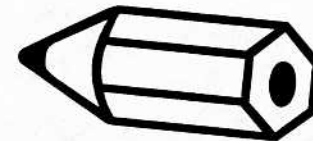


1. The cover of your historian's book should be durable so it will last for several years. Your book is a record, after all, of your club's activities and accomplishments and you want it to last.
2. Make sure each page is securely fastened in the book.
3. Historical items you include in your historian's book as evidence of club accomplishments should be attached firmly to pages. You don't want things falling out over the years.
4. Historical items you include in the book should be in good condition, clear, unbent (when possible) and unmarked. Fragile items or items that can fade (such as newspaper clippings) should be covered in plastic or some other material which will protect them.
5. Your historian's book should be neat and clean.

6. The historian's book tells the story of the group for the year. In order to tell this story, you should probably include the following kinds of things in your historian's book:

- Title page
- Club name
- Year
- Historian's name
- Group members, officers and leaders
- Club goals
- Historian's story—your chance to tell about the important events and accomplishments of the past year. This story may be written as separate paragraphs on each page, along with pictures and other historical documents of each event, or it may be one story. Your story should be complete but not wordy. It may tell of delegates to conferences, camps, tours, nominees for county positions (like Ambassadors), award winners, presentations at the county and state levels, family nights or other significant events.

- Charter (if the club has one)
- Clippings (underline members' names)
- Pictures (labeled with activity, date and names)
- Ribbons (only if a group award)
- Correspondence (special letters only)
- Secretary's book from the previous year
- Treasurer's book from the previous year



Help for Historians

Here's a sample paragraph describing a family fun night

Family fun night was a special activity our club hosted May 10, 1995 at the city park. Each of our club members invited his or her family members to a pot-luck meal followed by fun and games. We wanted each member of our families to feel a part of our Busy Bees 4-H Club by getting to know each other.

Here's a photograph labeled correctly.



Greg Magone helped start a llama project for 4-H'ers in Flathead County by working with Flathead County Extension Agent Cheryl Weatherell, by writing for information on Colorado's 4-H llama project, and by contacting local breeders. Greg is shown here with Autumn Ranger, a llama owned by Ron and Kathy Wright.

Practice for Historians

Which of these would you include in the historian's book?

1. ___ A picture of your club's delegates to Montana 4-H Congress.
2. ___ Tickets to your club's magician show.
3. ___ An invitation to the county roller-skating party.
4. ___ A news article listing county fair ribbon winners.
5. ___ The program that your group designed for the county fashion revue.
6. ___ A thank you from the city for your group's work at a baseball field.
7. ___ A napkin from your group's family fun night.
8. ___ A photograph of the "Adopt-A-Highway" sign along a stretch of highway in your club's area that your club cleaned.

(Answers on the next page)

Create a caption that would be suitable for this picture.



Answers: 1, 4, 5, 6, 8

Make a list of three activities in which your club participated last year. Write a short paragraph about each for the historian's book.

1.

2.

3.