

Why Do We Have Record Sheets?



You can gain a lot of valuable knowledge and skills through 4-H. But kids are usually so busy having fun, they don't always recognize the life skills or other competencies they learn while participating. Record-keeping can help 4-Hers as well as parents and leaders realize more of the value of their involvement in clubs, camps, projects, and other educational activities. But, unfortunately, completing a 4-H record sheet often has become a mundane, outdated chore or something youth do at the last minute as a requirement to take part in competitive events. Despite this, there are many positive reasons for integrating record-keeping into 4-H projects throughout the year.

Keeping good records can help you:

- ✓ learn how to organize yourself
- ✓ learn how to set reasonable goals
- ✓ appreciate what you've learned each year from goals you've reached
- ✓ recognize what you've learned in your 4-H projects
- ✓ explain what you've learned
- ✓ keep track of project costs
- ✓ gather information needed to apply for awards and scholarships
- ✓ complete applications and resumes for jobs and college
- ✓ meet requirements to participate in some county, state or national 4-H events