



4-H Project Clarification for 2026 4-H Year

This guide includes projects that were recently renamed and recategorized, as well as information regarding the Douglas County Animal Lease Opportunity. For a complete 2026 4-H Project list and descriptions, visit: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/>

Douglas County 4-H'ers must establish project enrollment by 11:59 pm, **May 1, 2026**, to be eligible to exhibit in those project areas at the 2026 Douglas County Fair. This deadline is for all 4-H members. 4-H membership is open all year. However, after May 1, 4-H'ers who join or have an enrollment status that is **still pending** will not be eligible to exhibit in the 4-H division at the 2025 Douglas County Fair.

Building Block Engineering (Previously known as STEM – Architectural Block Construction and Construction Zone)

Members must be enrolled in the Building Block Engineering Project to exhibit any Lego Project at the Douglas County Fair. Legos will NOT be exhibited under Visual Arts.

The Building Block Engineering area uses architectural blocks (“Legos”) to construct dioramas. This project allows youth to explore architectural design in a three-dimensional space. This program intends to enable youth to explore the construct and gain knowledge through interaction with a common toy. **Kits and non-diorama displays will be displayed in this division, but are not eligible for the Kansas State Fair. Refer to the 2026 Douglas County Fair Book for exhibit information.**

Interior Design & Architecture (Previously known as Home Environment)

Architecture and Design are important aspects of creating work and living environments that feel good and serve a purpose to those who utilize them. Designing a room's feel, look, or mood with lighting, furniture, wall placement, and design elements is one way to incorporate the design process into your environment. Learning and experimenting with design elements – color, line, value, space, shape, form, and texture- is essential. Knowing how to work with design principles – proportion, scale, balance, rhythm, unity, and variety- is equally important. Being a designer (architect, industrial/product designer, interior architect, or interior designer) starts with having an end goal in mind and using each step of the planning process to support the end goal. Good designers understand how design makes a space look good and the components needed to put it together. The overarching goal is to create a structurally sound, safe, inclusive, functional, and inviting space. **Refer to the 2026 Douglas County Fair Book for exhibit information.**

Sewing & Textile Design (Previously known as Clothing & Textiles – Construction)

This project will teach you the basics, such as sewing a pillowcase or a shirt, learning different stitches, and installing a zipper. Learn to create and sew your clothing and accessories while exploring the world of fashion and how to take the design of your choice and customize it for the perfect look, color, and fit. **Exhibit options for the county fair are modeling, consultation, judging, and educational exhibits. Refer to the 2026 Douglas County Fair Book for exhibit information.**

Shopping in Style – (Previously known as Clothing & Textiles – Buyamanship)

4-H members will learn which clothing styles look best on them and gain skills to build a versatile wardrobe while staying within their budget. **Exhibit options for the county fair are modeling and an educational exhibit. Refer to the 2026 Douglas County Fair Book for exhibit information.**

Woodworking –

The Wood Working project allows youth to exhibit a wide variety of items made by working with wood and using tools. You will learn to create and read plans to build projects for the farm, shop, household, or other areas.

There will no longer be a Repaired or Refurbished Furniture class option starting in 2026. Any items that would have been entered into this class should now be entered into Away with Waste. (This will be a county-only entry)

Douglas County 4-H Animal Lease Program

4-H Project Enrollment Deadline – May 1 of the current 4-H year | Animal ID deadline for 2026 - June 15 - Bucket Calf/Breeding Beef | Breeding Goat | Breeding Sheep | Dairy Goat | Poultry | Rabbit | Alpaca/Llama

The Douglas County 4-H program recognizes the educational value of participating in animal science projects. Douglas County 4-H will allow the leasing of animal science projects to encourage more members to have the opportunity to experience the showing of livestock projects. This program is designed to allow a 4-H member to have a non-owned 4-H project that can be exhibited at the Douglas County Fair. The 4-H member will gain hands-on experience in managing and showing the 4-H animal science project(s) through the cooperation and mentorship of local animal owners. To view the Animal Leasing Fact Sheet and Animal Leasing Form, go to: <https://www.douglas.k-state.edu/program-areas/4-h/4h-resources/youth-livestock/>