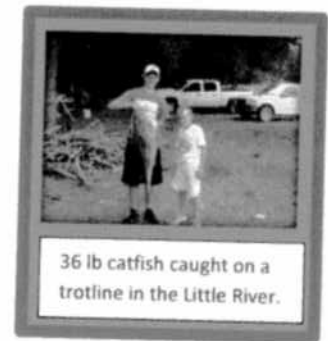


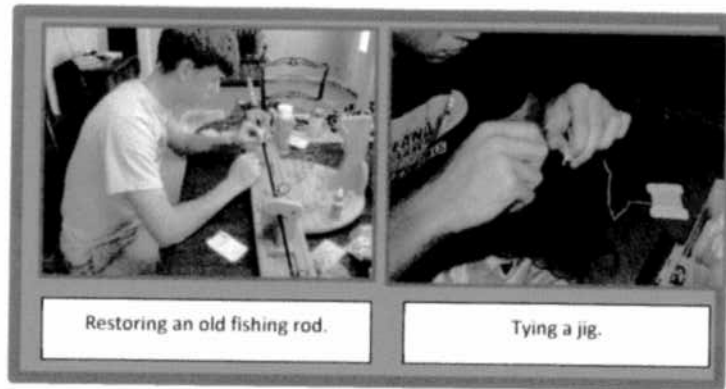
My 4-H Sportfishing Story and Photo Portfolio



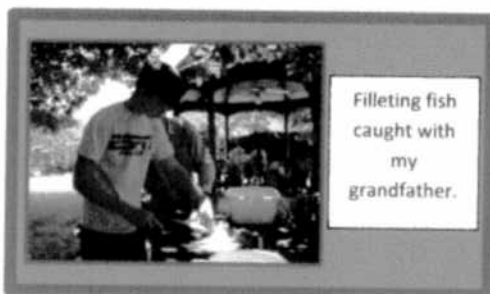
"Hook, line and sinker." Some people think that phrase means to give it your all. When I hear it all I can think of is getting my rod and reel and heading to the closest river or lake. My name is Tyler Ramthun and I am a member of the Holland 4-H Club in Bell County, Texas. I live on 28 acres with my dad, mom and sister. I have another sister that is a senior at Texas A&M University. I am 16 years old and a sophomore at Holland High School. I am a very active member of my 4-H club. I have held many offices and served as the 2nd Vice President of our club this year. I am a Bell County Ambassador and State Livestock Ambassador. I am also very active in athletics at school. I run cross-country, track and play basketball. I joined 4-H when I was in the third grade. I already felt like a member because I attended meetings with my sisters and parents. I helped my sisters with their projects and couldn't wait to start my own. When I saw that sportfishing was a project in 4-H, I thought that I had died and gone to heaven. I have been very lucky to have a dad, grandfather, and uncle that have taken me fishing since I could walk. Fishing is pretty much what I love to do and would do it every day if I could. I started two years ago with this project



and made it my main project this year. I decided this year to make my main project one that I have had all my life and

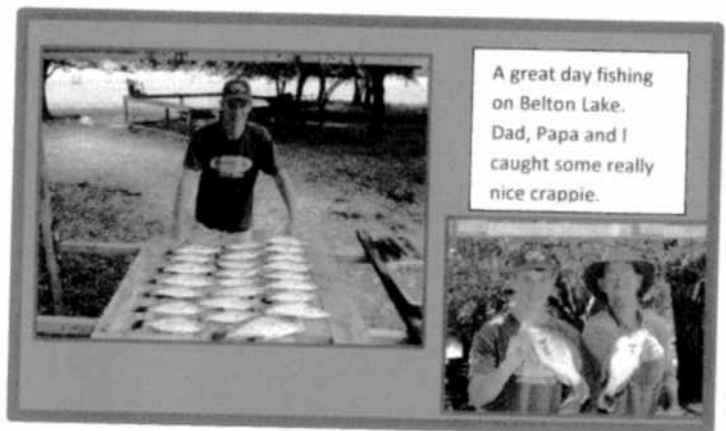


will continue long after my 4-H days are over. Fishing is a lot more than baiting a hook and casting your line out. My dad taught me how to make jigs that I use when I go fishing. I make my own jigs starting with melting lead and pouring the lead into the jig molds where I have placed a hook. Once they are cooled I can start wrapping them with thread and attaching the feathers. I make different color jigs depending on what type of fish I am fishing for that trip. I save some money making my own jigs but I really enjoy making them myself. I also learned how to repair and wrap fishing rods. I find some old rods at garage sales or other people know that I like to repair rods and give me rods that they have found. I love taking old rods that no one wants any longer and rebuilding them into rods that look like new. This



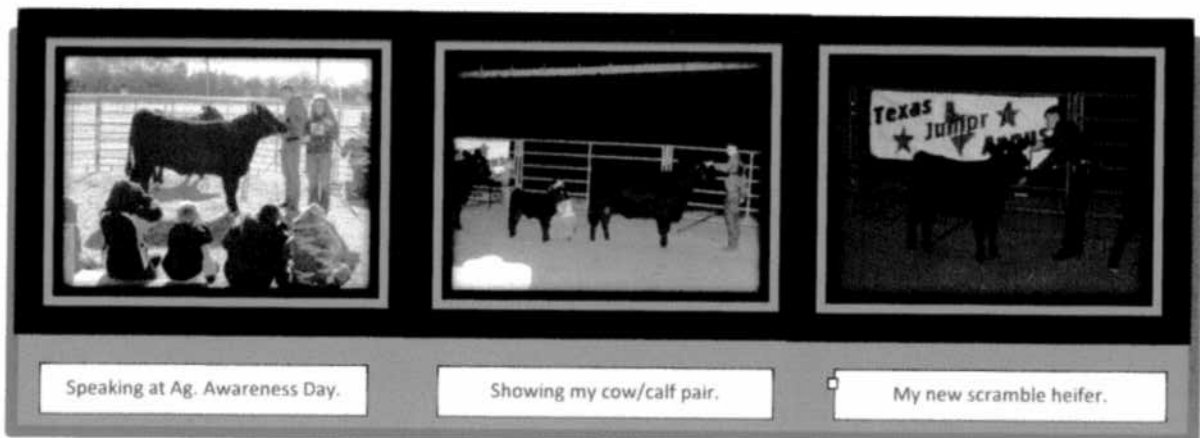
is a project that takes a lot of patience. I replace the eyes on the rod first then start with the time consuming task of wrapping the rod with different color threads. I have made many different rods with several different color combinations. I have researched many different patterns in several books that I got from my uncle.

Over the last three years I have kept a journal where I list how many fish I catch, keep and clean, and where I caught them. It is great having a journal that I can reflect on and look to see how I did the previous year at the same spots. I had a booth at the Bell County 4-H Open House where I showed people how tie their own fishing jigs. I also had several of the rods with me that I have wrapped and personalized. I spoke to several people at Open House that are interested in having Sportfishing as one of their projects and I am hoping in the future to hold a few meetings to teach others how to tie jigs and to go over fishing regulations that are in place in Texas. I was able to demonstrate jig tying for my club and hope to have another presentation for them next year. I volunteered to help at the Angler Educational Workshop in Bell County this year. It was fun and I met several new people from our community that love to fish almost as much as I do. Several younger 4-H members from our county attended and I helped show the kids how to cast. This year I decided to take my project to another level by touring a fish hatchery and touring Aquarena Springs on their glass bottom boats. I got to see up close how the fish are raised to be released in the Texas rivers and lakes. I also learned about fish that are located in the cold San Marcos River when I went on the glass bottom boats. I learned that there are many job opportunities in

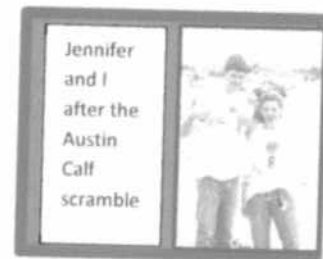


research in Wildlife and Fisheries. I could really see myself working and raising fish. I have spent several hours researching the different fish around the world. I use many online sites and have also learned a lot about the different species of fish by watching River Monsters and Monster Fish. If I could have a dream job, it would be to host a show like River Monsters and travel the world searching out all of the different species of fish. I also would love to teach others about fishing, tying jigs and wrapping rods. I have great plans ahead and have set many goals for next year. I hope to continue educating others in our county about fishing. I am planning on taking a trip to the Aquarium in Corpus Christi to learn more about salt water fish. I also plan on touring a saltwater fish hatchery in the fall. I may just find a great job doing something that my father and grandfather taught me to love.

Raising steers and heifers is another project that I love. I have raised heifers since I was in the fourth grade and steers since I was in the sixth. I love raising heifers, having them bred and raising their calves. This year I was able to show a cow/calf pair at the State Junior Angus Show. I plan on showing this heifer



calf next year. I take pride in my Angus heifers and enjoy getting them out to compete. I have participated in several calf scrambles at some of the major stock shows. I have used my certificates to purchase good quality heifers to show and that will one day be a part of my Angus herd. I enjoy teaching others about raising beef projects. Four years ago my sister, two other club members and myself came up with the idea of a day to teach the young kids in our district about raising animal projects. This year I once again brought my heifer to Holland Elementary School for the Holland Agriculture Awareness Day. I spoke to Pre-K through 5th graders about raising cattle. It is always fun to bring them and let the little kids see them. My Angus heifer did great at all the shows and was the Grand Champion Beef Heifer at our county show. I placed fifth with my Polled Hereford Steer at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. This was the first time that I had shown at the Houston Livestock Show and was really proud of how well he placed. As a State Livestock Ambassador I am also able to help others in my county with their projects. I gave a presentation with my sister to the Women's Club about raising a beef project. I plan to have all of my retired heifers bred again and will sell some of their calves but I will keep an eye out for a future show heifer that is good enough to compete at all of the major shows next year.



Leadership is a project that I am proud to say that I continue to grow in each year. I have enjoyed leading several community projects this year. My

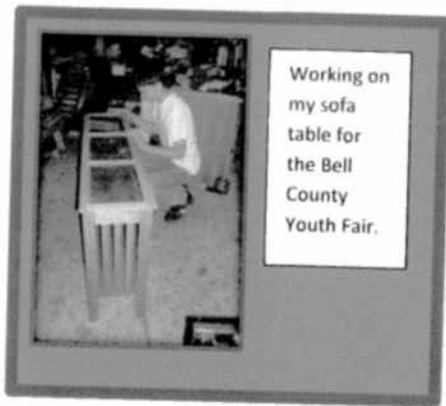
community project this year is one close to my heart. It is the second year for me to be the leader on this community service project. I have organized Christmas donations for several children that are part of the CASA project. These are children that have been taken out of their homes and are in foster care. Most of the children asked for only one or two very simple gifts, but we were able to bring them several great gifts for their Christmas morning. I look forward to more donations next year and hope to sponsor even more children. Knowing that we are able to help and bring happiness to other kids is what makes this project my favorite. I plan on continuing to collect aluminum tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. I know that many families benefit from being able to stay there. Being a

Bell County Ambassador and State 4-H Livestock

Ambassador I am able to help with many community service projects and also get to promote 4-H to the



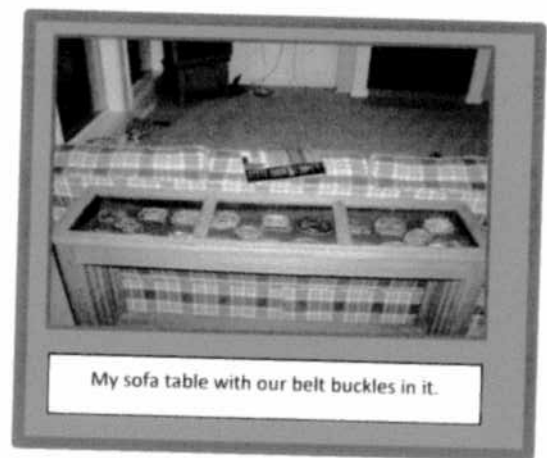
community. It always feels great to know that I can make a difference in my community. I will continue to donate my time and help to organize and lead community service projects next year as a club leader and ambassador.



My wood science projects are always fun to build.

This is usually a project that I plan with my grandfather. Every year I spend a week of my Christmas vacation with my grandparents. My grandfather and I draw up plans and design my

project for our county fair. We look for new and old wood depending on the project. We have torn down old barns to use the wood for several of my projects. I have learned how important it is to be exact on my measurements. My grandfather has taught me how to use nearly all of his woodworking equipment and tools. We have all of my furniture that I have built in our living room. I have built an end table, and a table to go behind our couch. Both tables showcase our belt buckles that my sisters and I have won with our steers and heifers. I also have helped make matching frames for pictures of our show cattle.



I have great plans ahead and have set many goals for next year. I hope to educate others about fishing. I am planning on taking a trip to the Aquarium in Corpus Christi to learn more about salt water fish. I also plan on touring a saltwater fish hatchery in the fall. Who knows maybe one day I may just find a great job doing something that my father and grandfather taught me to love.



My sportfishing booth at Bell County Open House.



Speaking to students at Ag. Awareness Day about raising a beef project.



A good day on the river.



District 8 Holiday Classic



Repairing reels.



A good catch for the day.

2011-2012
Senior Report Form

SECTION I – 4-H PROJECT EXPERIENCES

4-H Project Summary and Learning Experiences – What is your project? How did your project change or grow? What have you done and what have you learned? (Limited to 3 pages)

Project: Sportfishing

Description	2011-2012
Time Spent fishing (estimated in hours)	162
Number of fishing trips taken	27
Fish caught	220
Fish cleaned, cooked and eaten	185
Made fishing jigs	90
Custom built fishing rods	3
Repaired and made trotlines	5
Maintenance on fishing reels (replacing fishing line, etc)	4
Demonstrations	2
Exhibitions	2

What have you done and what have you learned?	2011-2012	Level
Attended and assisted with Angler Educational Workshop	1	C
Toured A.E. Woods Fish Hatchery	1	S
Toured Aquarena Springs in San Marcos, Texas	1	S
Researched Texas fishing regulations	2	S
Toured fishing displays/exhibitions(# tours)	2	S
Read Magazines (# items)	12	N
Research fishing gear on line	12	N
Research new technology on line	10	N
Promote Sportfishing project 4-H Open House	✓	C
Learn about careers in Fisheries/Aquatic Science:		
❖ Fisheries Websites	✓	I
❖ College Websites	✓	N

SECTION I – 4-H PROJECT EXPERIENCES - continued

Project: Beef

Description	2011-2012
Heifers bred	2
Calves born to heifers	2
Steers Purchased	1
Steers Sold	1
Shows entered	7
Vet/Feed expenses	\$1875.00
Profit Loss	<\$422.00>

What have you done and what have you learned?	Level
Learned and practiced daily care of market steers and heifers	L
Learned the importance and constant management of good feed and nutrition for my market steers and heifers.	L
Helped build and repair pens and extend existing fences	L
Assisted family veterinary when treatments were necessary.	L
Helped with clipping of heifers and market steers.	L
Participated in livestock shows	C,D,S
Presented at Holland 4-H Agriculture Awareness Day	L
Attended Quality Counts and Beef Clinics	L, D
Managed breeding of my heifers	L

Project: Leadership

Description	2011-2012
Office held in local 4-H club	✓
State Livestock Ambassador	✓
Bell County Ambassador	✓
Presentations given to Non- 4-H organizations	✓
4-H Promotional Presentations	✓
Served as Leader of Community Service Project	✓
Served in Leadership role at a 4-H event	✓

TEXAS 4-H RECORDBOOK SYSTEM

Project: Leadership

What have you done and what have you learned?	Level
Attended Ambassador meetings	C
Participated in Bell County Open House	C
Planned and participated in Holland Agriculture Awareness Day	L
Learned and presented power points to non- 4-H groups	L

Project: Wood Science

Description	2011-2012
Built end table	✓
Built wooden picture frames	✓
Repaired broken chair	✓

What have you done and what have you learned	Level
Researched plans online	N
Picked out lumber for projects	L
Read furniture magazines	N
Picked out hardware for furniture	L
Researched hardware and lumber online	N

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Senior Report Form

SECTION II – 4-H LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES

List what you did to assist others throughout this 4-H year. Also include general leadership such as Club Officer, 4-H County Council, or County Committees on your main project record. Include elected/appointed and volunteer leadership.

Activity Date	Leadership Activity	Leadership Role (Elected, Appointed, Volunteer)	Level (Club, County, District, State, National, International)	Responsibilities/Duties/Accomplishments	Number of People Reached/ Taught/ Served	Hours
June 2011	Statewide Photo Workshop	Volunteer	State	Group Leader	50	6
June 2011-present	Bell County Ambassador	Appointed	County	To assist with 4H events in our county and to promote 4H in our community and county.	200	60
August 2011	Club Officer Training	Volunteer	County	Group Leader	6	3
Aug.2011 - Present	Livestock Ambassador	Appointed	State	Help the 4H members in Bell County with their livestock projects. To promote the livestock industry in my	200	30
August 2011-May 2012	2 nd Vice President	Elected	Club	Help run the meetings when the President and 1 st President are absent. Helped plan activities, set up, and	92	20
October 2011	Bell County Open House	Volunteer-Promotional	County	Demonstrated tying fishing jigs and wrapping fishing rods. Promoted the Sportfishing project.	50	4
October 2011	Led Recreation games	Volunteer-promotional	Club	Led recreation game for the meeting.	60	30 minutes
October 2011	Goat/Lamb Validation	Volunteer-Promotional	County	Helped prepare the tags and checked the paper work.	200	7
Nov. 2011	Holland Ag. Awareness Day	Volunteer-Promotional	Club	Presented to Holland Elementary students about raising cattle joining 4H.	250	8
January 2012	Presented to Holland Women's Club	Volunteer-promotional	County	I gave a presentation with my sister to promote 4H and to explain what 4H is and some the activities that we	25	1.5
March	Houston Livestock Show Ambassador	Volunteer-promotional	State	Promoted State Livestock Ambassador Program	300	4.5

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

SECTION II – 4-H LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES (Continued)

Activity Date	Leadership Activity	Leadership Role (Elected, Appointed, Volunteer)	Level (Club, County, District, State, National, International)	Responsibilities/Duties/Accomplishments	Number of People Reached/Taught/Served	Hours
April 2012	Led Pledge of Allegiance, 4H Pledge and Motto	Volunteer	Club	Led the pledges for our club meeting.	45	5 min.
April 2012	Presided over club meeting	Elected	Club	Ran our club meeting since our 1 st VP and President were absent from meeting.	45	1
May 2012	4-H Club Jig tying demo.	Volunteer-Promotional	Club	Demonstrated how to make fishing jigs.	15	30 min.

**2011-2012
Senior Report Form**

SECTION III – 4-H COMMUNITY SERVICE

List community service or service learning projects which might include: clean ups, collections, repairs, construction, care packets, visitations, education, donations, and presentations.

Activity Date	Your Role (Yourself, Member of a Group, or Primary Leadership)	Service Activity	Importance and Impact	Hours
June 2011	M	Donated sodas to the Holland Youth Booster Corn Fest Soda Booth and helped sell sodas.	Helped raise money for our local Youth Booster program.	2
September 2011	M	Central Texas Fair Heifer Show	Helped check in heifers and helped in the ring. Money raised from the show goes to Bell County 4H.	6
October 2011	M	Hunter Spectacular	Helped set up booths. I worked game booths and cleaned up after it was over. Helped to raise money for Bell County 4H	4
October 2011	Y	Donated clothing to Goodwill	Provided clothing for others in need.	1
October 2011	M	Donated baked desserts to the Holland Youth Boosters fundraiser.	Helping the Youth Boosters to raise money to give back to the youth of Holland, Texas.	1
November 2011- May 2012	M	Collected aluminum tabs for the Ronald McDonald House	Countywide community service project to help raise money for the Ronald McDonald House.	1
November 2011	M	Donated food items for a Thanksgiving meal.	It is important to give to those that are less fortunate and to make sure that they too can have a happy holiday.	1
November 2011- December 2011	P	Christmas Toy Drive for Children's Advocacy Center for Central Texas	Coordinated collection of Christmas toys to give to children that have been taken out of their homes and are in foster care.	10
December 2011	M	3 rd Annual Bell County Cowboy Christmas Ball	Helped to seat guests.	4
February 2012	M	Bell County Youth Fair Judge Orientation	Escorted the judges to their judging area and assisted them with whatever they needed.	1

SECTION III – 4-H COMMUNITY SERVICE - continued

Activity Date	Your Role (Yourself, Member of a Group, or Primary Leadership)	Service Activity	Importance and Impact	Hours
April 2012	Y	Angler Educational Workshop	I volunteered and helped the youth learn many things about fishing. I mainly helped teach how to cast.	3
May 2012	M	4-H Clover Project-Tractor Supply	Helped collect donations for Bell County 4H	3
May	Y	Donated Fish	Gave fish to families in our community	2

2011-2012
Senior Report Form

SECTION IV – OTHER 4-H PROJECTS

List other project(s) not listed in Section I, include number of years and summarize participation. (Reminder: limited to 1/2 of a page).

Project: Photography 4 years in project
Over the last few years I have learned many new things about photography. I have volunteered as an Ambassador for two years at the State 4-H Photography workshop. At the workshop I learned many things about setting up shots and using scenery in my pictures. I enjoy taking pictures of my cattle and fishing trips with my dad and grandfather. I have entered the pictures of my Angus cattle in the Junior Angus Show

Project: Poultry 1 year in project
I raised broilers to show at Bell County Youth Fair. I placed 5 th with a pen of cockerls . While raising my broilers I worked on feed and time management. I found that the more attention and time that is spent with the broilers the better they did. All of the extra broilers at the end of show season that were culled or not shown were processed. All of the meat was either kept for our family or given away to others.

**2011-2012
Senior Report Form**

SECTION V – 4-H RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Activity Date	Level (Club, County, District, State, National, International)	Recognition	Importance to You
June 2011	County	1 st place Record book	Being able to have all of my activities put together and place 1 st at county was a great feeling.
August 2011- May 2011	Club	Perfect Attendance	I worked hard to attend each meeting to be a part of my club.
August 2011	County	Beef Pin	My beef pin shows that I have been recognized for all of my long hours and hard work.
February 2012	County	Grand Champion Heifer	This was so important to me. It was the 2 nd year for me to show my heifer and it was worth all the hard work.
March 2012	State	5 th place Hereford Steer	This was the first time for me to make the sale at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.
May 2012	Club	Elected as 3 rd Vice President of our club.	I am excited to get to represent and lead our club.
May 2012	County	Bell County Ambassador	I was chosen for the 3 rd year to be an Ambassador. I am excited to continue to be a part of our county ambassadors.

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SECTION VI – NON 4-H ACTIVITIES

List leadership, community service, awards and recognition from other activities such as school, church, and other community organizations. (Reminder: Limited to 1 page)

School

Description	Level	Importance and impact of activity
Commended Performance Social Studies on TAKS	State	I have achieved the highest recognition on the state assessment test helping raise my district's scores.
Commended Performance Science on TAKS	State	I have achieved the highest recognition on the state assessment test helping raise my district's scores.
Participated in City Wide Community Service Project	Local	Helped clean our city park. Maintaining the park brings more children and families to use the park.

Other

Description	Level	Importance and impact of activity
Texas Junior Angus Association Member and Director	State	Help with Junior Angus activities and promote the Angus industry.
American Angus Association	National	Promote the Angus industry.
Summer Basketball League Volunteer	Local	Helped coach 10 junior high boys on a summer basketball team.
Summer Basketball Camp	Local	Helped high school coaches with the camp for elementary through junior high age boys and girls.

2011-2012
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SECTION VII – COLLEGE/CAREER EXPLORATION

List activities that have helped you learn more about careers or the necessary education to enter this career. Examples of these activities include: interviews, tours, job shadowing, research, mentoring, work experience, skill development, course work, etc.

Activity Date	Activity Title	What did you learn or do?	Hours
June 2011	Shadowed a fishing guide	I learned about the equipment that is needed to be a fishing guide.	5
June 2011-August 2012	Worked on farm.	Took care of breeding swine. Cleaned pens, water and fed swine, and exercised swine.	125
July 2011	Short course on Beef Cattle at Texas A&M University	Learned to AI a cow, how to pick out good quality show animals, and how to feed correctly,	3
July 2011	Short course on Sheep at Texas A&M University	Learned how to draw semen for semen straws, and the types of parasites that affect the sheep industry.	2
July 2011	Short course on Swine at Texas A&M University	Learned how to pick out a quality show pig, and also learned how to grade and judge carcasses.	4.5
September 2011-May 2012	Researched fisheries and aquatic science jobs online.	Learned about several job opportunities that I am interested in.	8
November 2011	District 8 holiday Classic Show	Learned about the importance of good showmanship and quality care of the animal at livestock shows.	2
April 2012	Worked Angus Sale in Milano for Lastovica Angus Farm	Helped run cattle through the ring.	10
May 2012	Glass bottom tour of spring fed lake river.	Learned what fish species live in the San Marcos River.	30 minutes
May 2012	Tour of A. E. Wood fish Hatchery	Learned about raising and restocking fish	2
May 2012	Interviewed for Bell County Ambassador position.	I have worked on my communication skills to help improve my interviews.	1