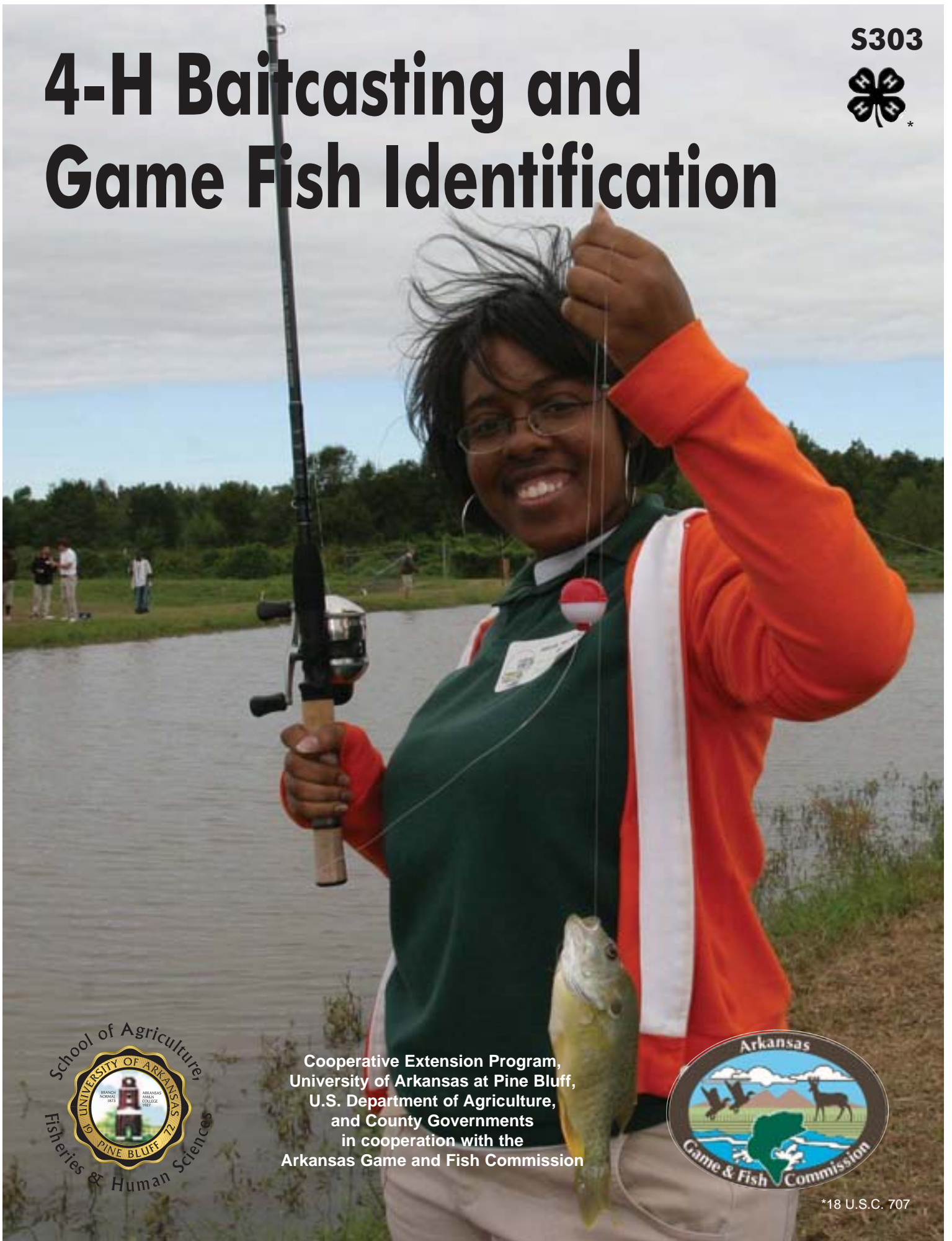


4-H Baitcasting and Game Fish Identification

S303



Cooperative Extension Program,
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff,
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
and County Governments
in cooperation with the
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission



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4-H Baitcasting and Game Fish Identification

Contents

Purpose	iv
Regulations	1
Station I and II	2
Fish ID Score Sheet	3
Fish Anatomy and Casting Score Sheet	4
Key	5

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Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to create an interest in fishing. This will be accomplished in two ways:

- By testing the participant's ability to correctly identify some Arkansas gamefish and parts of a fish's anatomy.
- By testing the participant's skill at casting with a rod and reel, thus encouraging improved accuracy (and enjoyment through improved skill).

Both juniors and seniors may use the following equipment:

- Fish identification: *Beginner's Fishing Guide*, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC).
- Fish anatomy and identification: *Arkansas Sport Fish Identification Pocket Guide*, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.
- A three-eighths ounce practice plug will be used for the skill test portion of the event.

All publications are available from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Aquatic Resources Education Program, 1-877-676-6963.

Regulations

Fish Identification Knowledge – Juniors and Seniors

County: Contestants will be presented with pictures for some Arkansas fish. They will attempt to identify the fish by matching the common name to the picture. Seniors will be presented with ten fish and juniors will be presented with five fish.

Regional and State: Contestants will be presented with pictures for some Arkansas fish or live fish in the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Aquarium, which may be present at the competition. They will attempt to identify the fish by matching the common name to the picture. Seniors will be presented with ten fish and juniors will be presented with five fish.

Fish identification pictures can be found in the free Arkansas Game and Fish Commission publication *Arkansas Sport Fish Identification Pocket Guide*. This guide can be obtained by calling the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission at 1-877-676-6963.

Five points will be awarded to each correctly identified fish, for a total of 50 points in Fish ID for seniors and 25 points for juniors.

Fish Anatomy Knowledge – Juniors and Seniors

Contestants will attempt to identify five parts of a fish worth 5 points each, for a total of 25 points. The five parts will be selected by the contest judge.

Fish anatomy pictures can be found on pages 4 and 5 in the free Arkansas Game and Fish Commission publication *Arkansas Sport Fish Identification Pocket Guide*. This guide can be obtained by calling the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission at 1-877-676-6963.

Skill Testing – Baitcasting – Juniors and Seniors

Each entrant is encouraged to furnish his/her own rod and reel with practice plug. The baitcasting contest should be conducted on level land.

Station I Contestants will stand and cast to a target 35 feet away. (See instructions for construction on page 2.) Each contestant will be allowed one practice cast followed by three casts that will be scored.

Station II Contestants will sit on a bucket, or other similar seat, approximately 24 inches high (simulating sitting in a boat) and cast to a target 35 feet away. Again, the contestant will be allowed one practice cast followed by three casts that will be scored.

Scoring for each cast will be from the point where the practice plug first makes contact with the ground.

Scoring will range from 50 points for a bull's eye in the center ring to 5 points for the outer ring. A maximum of 150 points is possible from each station, for a combined total of 300 points. Target scores are illustrated on page 2.

Station I and II

Baitcasting Target Design

Target Construction

Targets should be made out of standard 1/2-inch garden hose. Four pieces of hose are needed, and each should be fitted with a male and female adapter at each end, thus allowing each piece to connect to itself and form a circle. The lengths of hose required in order to make circles of 1', 2', 4' and 6' diameters are as follows:

1' diameter circle = 3'2" hose length

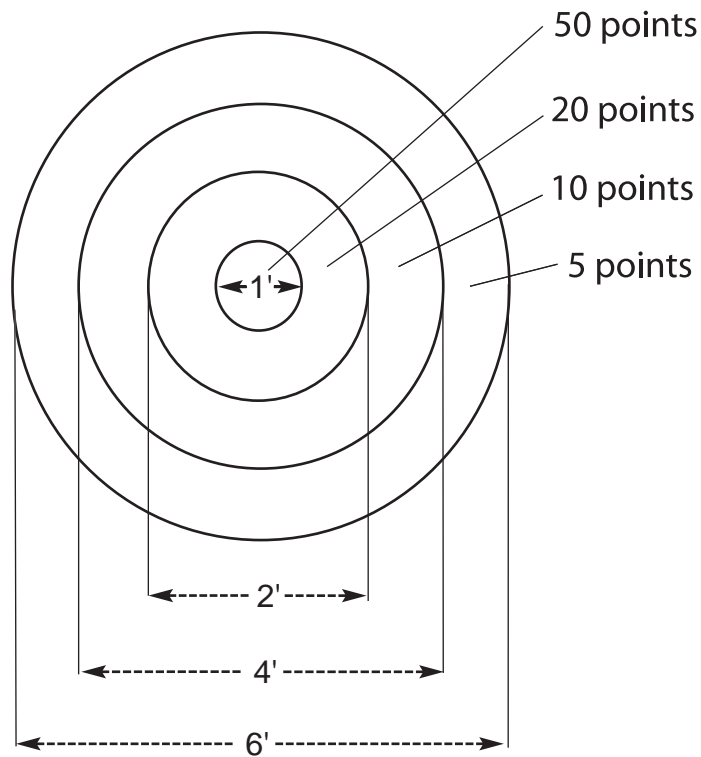
2' diameter circle = 6'4" hose length

4' diameter circle = 12'8" hose length

6' diameter circle = 18'10" hose length

Other hose material such as hydraulic or fuel line hose would be acceptable, as long as the material can be formed into circles of the correct diameter.

Target Design and Scoring



4-H Baitcasting Contest Score Sheet

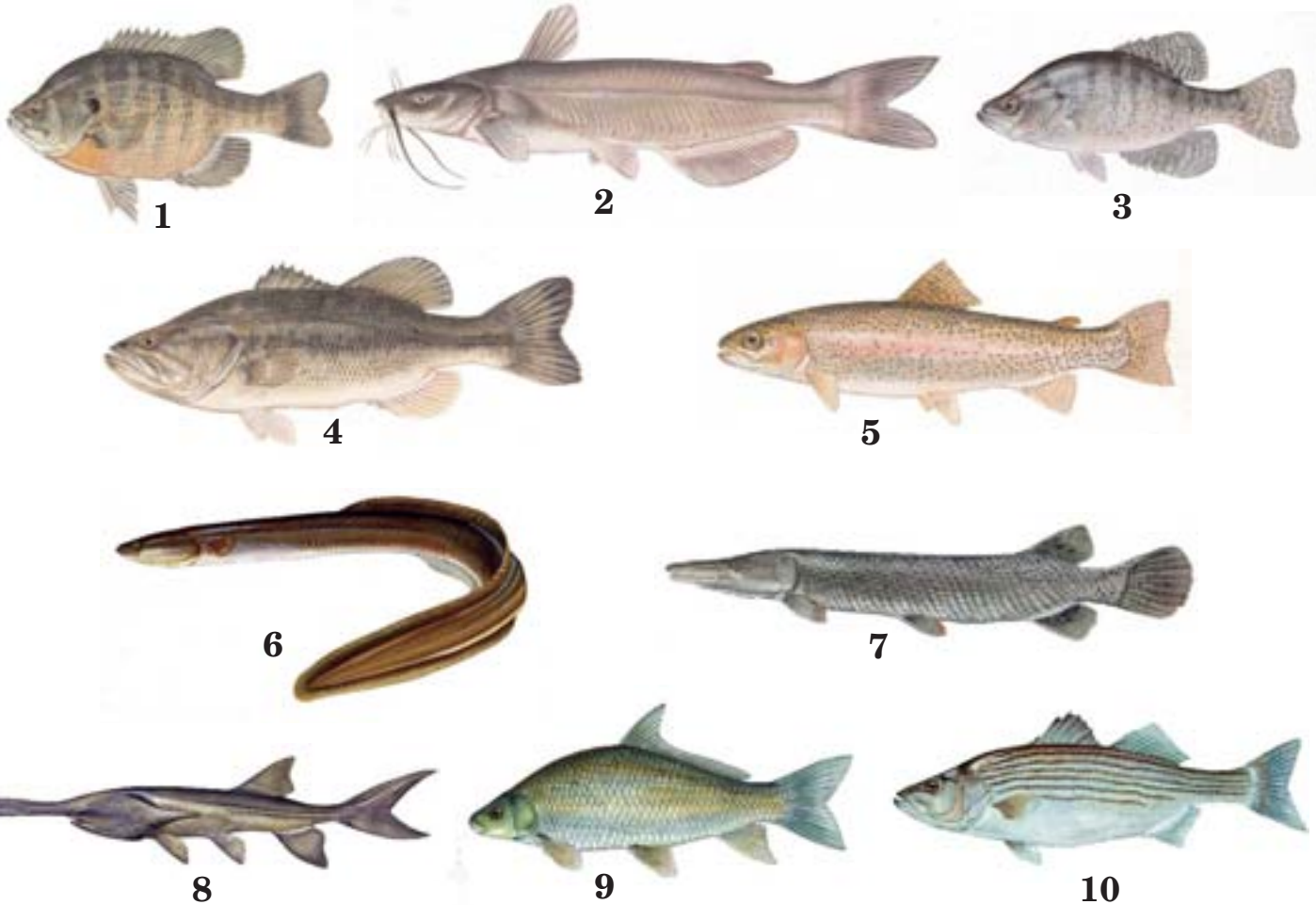
Gamefish Identification

(Juniors and Seniors)

5 points/each = 50 total points (Seniors) or 25 total points (Juniors)

Fish 1: _____
 Fish 2: _____
 Fish 3: _____
 Fish 4: _____
 Fish 5: _____

(6-10 Seniors Only)
 Fish 6: _____
 Fish 7: _____
 Fish 8: _____
 Fish 9: _____
 Fish 10: _____



Common Fish Names

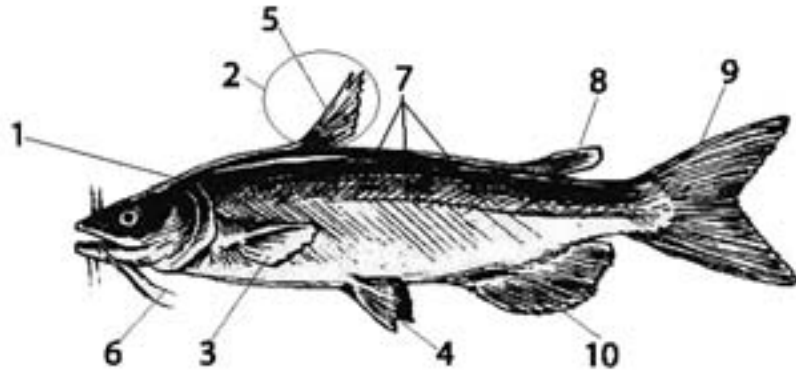
- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Largemouth Bass | Bream (or Bluegill) | Trout | Smallmouth Buffalo |
| Catfish | American Eel | Striped Bass | Crappie |
| Paddlefish | Alligator Gar | | |

All pictures courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Conservation Training Center – Publications and Training Materials, Creator Duane Raver.

Fish Anatomy

(Juniors and Seniors)

5 points/each = 25 total points



Your judge will pick out five numbers that point to a fish part on the fish above. Fill in the appropriate letter for the part next to those numbers.

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) _____ | 6) _____ | A. Operculum (gill cover) | F. Lateral line |
| 2) _____ | 7) _____ | B. Dorsal fin | G. Pelvic fin |
| 3) _____ | 8) _____ | C. Barbels | H. Dorsal spine |
| 4) _____ | 9) _____ | D. Pectoral fin | I. Adipose fin |
| 5) _____ | 10) _____ | E. Caudal fin | J. Anal fin |

Fish Identification Scores

Juniors and Seniors:

Fish Identification _____

Maximum points = 5 points/fish = 25 points (juniors) or 50 points (seniors)

Fish Anatomy Scores

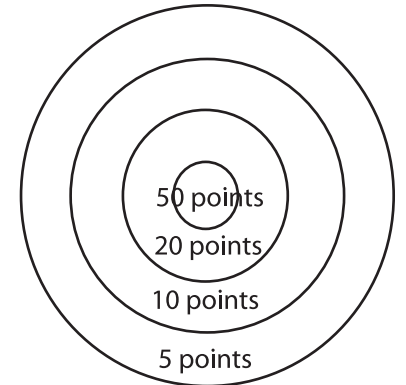
Juniors and Seniors:

Fish Anatomy _____

Maximum points = 5 points/answer = 25 points

Skill Station: *Standing* Maximum points = 50 points/cast = 150 points

First cast _____
 Second cast _____
 Third cast _____
 Total Points _____



Skill Station: *Sitting* Maximum points = 50 points/cast = 150 points

First cast _____
 Second cast _____
 Third cast _____
 Total Points _____

Grand Total Points _____

Total possible points: Juniors = 350 points

Seniors = 375 points (county)

Name _____ Date _____ Region NE NW SE SW

Address _____ County _____ Junior or Senior

Key

Gamefish Identification

- 1) Bream or Bluegill
- 2) Channel Catfish
- 3) Crappie
- 4) Largemouth Bass
- 5) Rainbow Trout (Trout)
- 6) American Eel
- 7) Alligator Gar
- 8) Paddlefish
- 9) Smallmouth Buffalo
- 10) Striped Bass

Fish Anatomy

- 1) A. Operculum
- 2) B. Dorsal Fin
- 3) D. Pectoral Fin
- 4) G. Pelvic Fin
- 5) H. Dorsal Spine
- 6) C. Barbels
- 7) F. Lateral Line
- 8) I. Adipose Fin
- 9) E. Caudal Fin
- 10) J. Anal Fin

WHAT IS 4-H WORK?

4-H work is that part of the program of the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Arkansas which serves youth. Young people between the ages of 5 and 19 organize themselves into a 4-H club with their own officers, adult leaders, and local programs. The primary purpose of 4-H work is to develop in boys and girls leadership, initiative, citizenship, and character, and to teach them certain subject matter.



THE 4-H CLUB PLEDGE

I pledge:
my Head to clearer thinking,
my Heart to greater loyalty,
my Hands to larger service,
my Health to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.

THE 4-H CLUB MOTTO

To Make the Best Better

THE 4-H CLUB EMBLEM

The 4-H emblem is a four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf.
The four "H's" stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

THE 4-H CLUB COLORS

GREEN: Nature's most common color is emblematic of springtime, life, and youth.

WHITE: Symbolizes purity and high ideals.

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