



# shooting sports manual

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## Introduction

Welcome to the Wyoming 4-H Shooting Sports project. In this project, you will learn the **safe** way to use firearms or archery equipment. You will learn to be a better marksman because you will learn **how** to shoot and you will have the opportunity to practice. But most of all, the Shooting Sports project is fun. Every time you shoot a better group or hit the bullseye, you will experience “the thrill of victory.”

For most people today, shooting is for recreation. It is a sport with something for everyone: girls, boys, men, women, youngsters, and older folks. You do not have to be big or strong or have special talent, but it does take patience and a lot of practice to become a good marksman. Shooting can be enjoyed any time of the year, outdoors or in a special indoor shooting range. You can enjoy this sport by yourself, with friends or family, or with other

4-H members as long as you observe basic safety rules.

Shooting Sports activities can be linked to other 4-H projects. For example, food can be linked either by preparing and serving wild game or by planning and preparing meals for a hunting trip. Hunting can be linked to pho-

tography if you do your shooting with a camera instead of a gun. This connection is an important component of all 4-H projects.

The Shooting Sports project includes six different areas:

- Pistol
- Rifle
- Archery
- Shotgun
- Muzzleloading
- Hunting

You may enroll in any area in which you can meet all the following guidelines:

1. Your project leader must have received 4-H Shooting Sports leader training and certification in that area.
2. Your parent(s) or guardian must give permission for you to enroll.
3. Your parent(s), guardian, or another responsible adult must be willing to go with you to project meetings if requested by the project leader.
4. If you plan to enroll in muzzleloading, your project leader or university extension

educator must determine that your size and/or strength is adequate so that you can properly seat the ball. (This is a safety requirement.)

After you are enrolled and your project meetings begin, you must follow guidelines provided by your project leader. This will ensure that all Shooting Sports meetings are safe.

In the Shooting Sports project, you set your own goals and then select activities to help you reach those goals. Suggested activities are listed in this manual. Some activities you do with your project leader and some by yourself. You can get books from your project leader, from the library, or you can buy them. The **Basic Hunter's Guide**, published by the National Rifle Association (NRA), is a very good resource for all areas of this project. Other suggestions can be found at the end of this project manual in the resource list. The resources listed are only suggestions; many other excellent books are available.

## Requirements

Completion requirements for the Shooting Sports project are very simple: You must prepare a Shooting Sports exhibit and must complete the record book.

The required exhibit is limited only by your imagination. It does not have to be a fair exhibit, but it should be shown to at least four people who are not members of your family. For example, if you choose to prepare a display on shooting fundamentals, you could do this in the form of a presentation during a 4-H club tour or at the presentation contest. Other exhibits could include items you make such as a possible bag, a shooting jacket, or a poster.

More exhibit suggestions are included in the activities list for each project area.

Exhibit categories for the 4-H Shooting Sports project are:

Junior	Any exhibit prepared by a 4-H member between the ages of 8 to 10.
Intermediate	Any exhibit prepared by a 4-H member between the ages of 11 to 13.
Senior	Any exhibit prepared by a 4-H member between the ages of 14 to 19.

Age guidelines follow regular 4-H age guidelines. Your 4-H age is determined by your age on January 1 of the current year.

If your exhibit includes an actual firearm, be sure to follow safety rules. Take appropriate measures so that the firearm cannot be fired. Have your project leader check your exhibit for you. Exhibits with live ammunition will not be accepted.

## Firearms safety

Safety is the first consideration of a Shooting Sports project. Many studies show that Shooting Sports are safer than sports such as football or swimming. A 4-H member (or anyone) can become a safe shooter by learning safety rules and practicing safe handling of all firearms and ammunition.

Here are 12 basic safety rules. Read and learn to understand all of them.

You may want to put rules on a poster for your shooting range. Safety rules can be incorporated into a fair exhibit or 4-H presentation.

Rules do not prevent accidents. You must learn, understand, and practice safety.

## Firearms safety rules

1. Always point a muzzle in a safe direction. Never point a muzzle at a person.
2. Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
4. Keep the firearm unloaded and the action open until you are ready to shoot.
5. Carry only one type of ammunition at a time, and be sure it is right for the firearm you are using.
6. Be sure of your target and what is beyond and between it. Never shoot at a hard surface (such as a rock) or at water.
7. Keep the barrel and action free of dirt, snow, and other obstructions.
8. Never climb a tree, jump a ditch, or cross a fence with a loaded firearm.
9. Know your firearm, how it works and what size ammunition it uses.
10. Do not mix alcohol or drugs with firearms and shooting.
11. Wear eye and hearing protection.
12. Store the ammunition and unloaded gun in a safe, locked place.

## Archery safety rules

1. Do not draw or aim at anything you do not plan to shoot.
2. Face downrange when you nock an arrow.
3. Do not nock an arrow until the range commander gives the command.
4. Stop immediately if **cease fire** is called.
5. Retrieve arrows only at the direction of the range commander.

6. Shoot only at the target, whether it is paper or wildlife.
7. **Never** shoot an arrow up in the air.
8. Always use safe equipment.
9. Be sure of your target and what is beyond and between it.
10. Use a safe backstop.
11. Archery tackle is not a toy to play with.

## Archery

Archery is the skill or sport of shooting using a bow and arrows. The learning goals are:

- safe handling of archery equipment through practice,
- basic archery skills,
- a working knowledge of archery tackle and the proper care and maintenance of that tackle, and
- an awareness of the array of both competitive and non-competitive archery games.

Use this list to help you set your goals.

Choose activities that will help you achieve at least the first three goals. You can use activities from the list below, change the listed activities, or create your own activities.

- Learn about archery safety from your project leader or from a book. Learn basic safety rules, rules for the archery range, and safety rules for hunting with your bow and arrows. Prepare a poster exhibit on safety rules or give a talk or presentation. Practice safety each time you handle archery equipment.
- Learn about a shooting field or range for archery. Help select a site and prepare it for use by your club. Be sure to include safety



features, targets, a backstop, and a place for equipment not being used.

- Learn the fundamentals of shooting a bow. These include how to string a bow, stand properly, hold a bow, nock an arrow, aim, draw, release, and follow through. Practice until you can shoot accurately. Give a presentation on these fundamentals or teach someone else how to shoot using them.
- Set a goal for accurate shooting. Practice until you reach that goal. Your goal may be to achieve accuracy at varying distances from the target, shoot a certain number of arrows in the bullseye, set a certain score to achieve with a certain number of shots, or shoot to better your last best score.
- Keep a shooter's diary. Include information about the fundamentals, safety, a record of your shooting scores, and things you learned.
- Learn about archery equipment. There are several different kinds of bows and arrows. Find out the uses for each, the advantages and disadvantages of each, and their costs. Find out what other archery equipment is available. Equipment could include an arm guard, finger tab, shooter's glove, quiver, kissers button, or sights. Select equipment appropriate for you. Prepare a display using drawings, photos, or actual pieces of equipment. Prepare a file or notebook about archery equipment.
- Find out about Junior Olympics in archery. Learn what you have to do to qualify.
- Shoot for qualifying scores for marksmanship honors with the American Archery Association or other organizations.
- Begin a modern or primitive arrowhead collection.
- Archery equipment is available in different sizes. Determine the appropriate draw weight for your shooting and what length of arrows you need.
- Learn how to correct problems that cause your shots to be off the target. Read books about archery to help you learn. Help other 4-H members correct their problems. Give a presentation about techniques you learn.
- Find out what "bow tuning" means. Apply this knowledge to your own equipment. Share your knowledge with other 4-H members.
- Make a tool kit for the care and repair of your equipment. Display your kit, properly identifying each piece.

- Research how to make archery equipment. Items to make include a target stand, a bow, arrows, a bow string, a storage rack, or a ground quiver. Display what you make.
- Learn how to properly care for and store your equipment. Learn to repair arrows, bows or string. Learn how to clean and store your equipment each time you use it. Give a presentation or prepare a display showing this information.
- Bow hunting and bow fishing are archery sports. Research laws about bow hunting. Have a game and fish representative give a talk at your club meeting. Learn what species you can hunt or fish and where animals are located in the state. Prepare a poster with pictures of these species and information about them. Go hunting or fishing with your archery equipment. Keep track of your hunting or fishing activities in your shooter's diary.
- Read books from the library about archery. Topics might include archery history, archery games, and archery competitions. Share this information with your club. Include highlights of your findings in your shooter's diary or notebook.
- Start your own archery library or resource file. Include books you buy or acquire as gifts and literature available from archery associations or manufacturers.
- Find out about archery competitions sponsored by local archery clubs, or by state or national associations. Send letters to the associations (listed at the end of the manual) and ask about competitions. Learn rules they use, when and where competitions take place, and how to qualify. Attend a competition as a spectator or a participant.

- Plan a competition for your club or community. Plan a fun shoot where archers shoot for scores or prizes at such items as balloons, playing cards, or other items. Other games could include archery golf, bingo, or roving.

## **Pistol and Rifle**

Although pistol and rifle shooting are two different units of the Wyoming 4-H Shooting Sports project, the units are combined in this section because many activities are similar.

Choose activities appropriate for the unit in which you enroll, with learning about these topics in mind:

- history and development of firearms;
- basic firearm safety;
- basic shooting range behavior and safety;
- fundamentals of shooting;
- different shooting positions and when and why each is used;
- parts of a rifle and/or pistol and how they operate;
- knowledge of ammunition, its components, and how it works;
- different kinds and sizes of pistols and/or rifles and the uses of each;
- care, maintenance, and storage of firearms;
- shooting sportsmanship and ethical behavior;
- awareness of competitive and non-competitive shooting activities available; and
- knowledge of careers available to shooters.

Set goals in the areas of safety, shooting, accuracy, and care and maintenance. Choose activities in other areas of interest or develop your own.



## Pistol and rifle activities

- Learn about firearm safety. (Basic safety rules are included with this project book.) Learn additional safety rules for the range and for hunting. Prepare a poster or give a presentation about gun safety. Practice safety every time you handle a gun. Keep a notebook, telling what safe-handling rules you learned and followed, including when and where you were as well as what you were doing.
- Learn the requirements for a target range for small or large bore rifle shooting. Determine different requirements needed for shooting air pistols or rifles. Learn the size and safety features necessary for a safe range. Help select a site and prepare it for use. Learn the range commands used at a shooting range. Make a poster or a sign listing commands. Make a display showing size and arrangement for a shooting range.
- Read a book about the history of firearms and ammunition (purchase a book or borrow one from friend or the library). Keep a notebook, a scrapbook, or a file. Start a collection of antique firearms or ammunition. Collect photos or make drawings of antiques. Prepare a display showing the development of modern-day firearms. Visit a museum and look at its collection of firearms.
- Learn the fundamentals of shooting a pistol or rifle including sight alignment, sight picture, breath control, trigger control, and follow through. Practice shooting using the correct fundamentals. Make a poster illustrating shooting fundamentals or teach them to someone.
- Learn the different positions for shooting a pistol or rifle. Learn when and why each one might be used and the advantages and disadvantages of each. Learn what special equipment is needed for each. Practice using each of the positions. Make a poster showing what they are. Teach the positions to someone else.
- Find out what equipment a shooter needs besides a firearm. Make a notebook or keep your information in a resource file. Give a presentation or make a display using photos, drawings, or equipment. Explain the advantages, disadvantages, and the cost of equipment. Include eye and hearing protection equipment.
- Learn the parts of a pistol or rifle and how the parts work together. Prepare a poster with photos or drawings or give a presentation showing what makes a gun fire.
- Learn about ammunition including gunpowder, sizes of ammunition and specific uses for each, and how ammunition fires. Prepare a display illustrating one of these ideas. Visit a reloader and see how reloading is done; learn to reload your own ammunition. Compare the cost of reloaded ammunition to the cost of purchased ammunition. Start a cartridge collection.
- Start a shooter's diary. Keep a record of important things you learn. Record your scores and where and when you shoot. List places you can obtain additional information. Include information about fieldtrips.

- Learn shooting terminology. Share what you learn with other members of your club by giving a presentation or making a display.
- Learn about different kinds of pistols including air pistols, small caliber pistols, and large caliber pistols. Keep this information in a notebook or in a resource file for future reference. Give a presentation or make an exhibit. Learn by reading a book, visiting a gun shop, or talking with someone who is an expert on pistols.
- Learn about different kinds of rifles including air rifles, small caliber rifles, and large caliber rifles. Learn the uses, advantages, disadvantages, and cost for each type of rifle. Visit a gun shop or the sporting goods department of a store and look at different rifles. Keep a notebook or resource file on the information you obtain. Make a display using drawings or photos showing the differences in rifles.
- Set a marksmanship goal and practice until you reach your goal. Use good shooting fundamentals and correct your positions. You might set a goal to shoot a group that can be covered with a certain size of coin, to shoot for a certain score, or to shoot to improve your best score.
- Learn how to adjust the sights on your gun for the most accurate shooting. Help someone else adjust sights, give a presentation, or prepare a display.
- Find out about shooting competitions. Use the resource list at end of the activities' section to locate associations that conduct matches. Find out what the rules are, how scores are determined, and how to qualify and enter. Practice under match conditions. Keep a record of your scores. Learn about the National Rifle Association qualification programs and shoot for different levels. Find out about the Presidential Sports Award and qualify for it. The Junior Olympics qualification program is another shooting competition.
- Learn how to clean, care for, and store your firearm. Read information supplied with your gun on how to clean equipment or read a manual. Clean and care for your firearm each time you use it. Keep track of this in your shooter's diary. Give a presentation or make a display showing how to clean a firearm.
- Learn how to store your firearm safely. Do this each time you have finished shooting. Teach someone else what to do.
- Take a field trip to further explore an aspect of your Shooting Sports project. Places you might want to visit include a gunsmith, a reloader, a firearms manufacturer, a gun collector or museum, a gun shop, a gun show, a shooting club, the library, the police or sheriff's office, or the game warden's office.
- Many laws govern the use of firearms and where you may take them, how you may transport them, where you may or may not shoot them, and what you can legally shoot. Find persons knowledgeable about laws, visit their offices, and have them visit your club. Take notes and add them to your shooter's diary. Follow laws whenever you use firearms.
- Good sportsmanship is an important part of Shooting Sports. Determine what behaviors show good sportsmanship and practice those behaviors. Keep a record of what you learn in your shooter's diary.

- Purchasing a firearm is an exciting experience. Before purchasing a firearm, research what caliber would be appropriate for your use and what length of stock you need. Before firing or purchasing a used firearm, have it checked by a competent gunsmith. What are other things you need to check for before you make a purchase? Find a book with information about purchasing used and new guns. Add this information to your file or notebook.
- Make or repair equipment or accessories for shooting. You might be able to do this in conjunction with another 4-H project (woodworking, clothing, etc.). Here are some ideas:
  - ◆ make a pellet trap,
  - ◆ sew a shooter's jacket,
  - ◆ sew a shooter's glove or mitten,
  - ◆ build a gun cabinet or rack,
  - ◆ build a gun stock,
  - ◆ re-blue a gun barrel,
  - ◆ recondition a used gun,
  - ◆ make a mousetrap gun,
  - ◆ make a shooter's mat,
  - ◆ make a gun case,
  - ◆ refinish an old gun stock,
  - ◆ learn to reload, or
  - ◆ build a set of silhouettes.
- Help plan and conduct a shooting event such as a competitive match to shoot for a score or prizes; a fun shoot using silhouettes, balloons, a running target, candy wafers, or crackers as targets; or a turkey shoot. Plan for individual or team competition. Obey all laws.
- Research gun control legislation. Give a talk to your club on this subject. Include viewpoints of shooters, non-shooters, and anti-shooters. Compile information into a scrapbook or notebook.
- Shooting camps and clinics are available. Write to organizations to request information. Attend a camp if you can.
- Many careers are available to shooters. Research this topic. Prepare a notebook or display on the subject. Include job qualifications and salary ranges. Also consider where you would have to live. The library should have information on this subject. Colleges, universities, and magazines relating to shooting are other sources for information. Examples of careers include gunsmithing, law enforcement, and working as a game warden.
- Physical fitness is helpful to shooters. Learn what kinds of exercises will help you become a better shooter. Design a fitness program for yourself or others. Participate in a fitness program and see if it makes a difference in your shooting scores. Prepare a display of the exercises you found to be helpful.
- Many shooting organizations exist. Find out if any organizations are active in your community. Visit a meeting to see what they are all about. Keep a list in your shooter's diary of organization names, when they meet, and what they do. Many of them have free literature. If so, gather and keep it in your resource file or make a display.



## Shotgun

Shooting a shotgun is different from shooting a pistol or rifle. A shotgun is usually fired at a moving target and shoots a number of small pellets rather than a bullet. Learning topics for the shotgun unit of Shooting Sports are listed below. Select the ones you are interested in:

- shotgun shooting safety;
- fundamentals of shooting a shotgun;
- fundamentals of clay target shooting including trap, skeet, and sporting clays;
- equipment needed for clay target sports;
- hunting with a shotgun; and
- reloading shotgun shells.

Set the goals in the areas of safety, shooting, accuracy, and care and maintenance. Choose activities in other areas of interest. You may also determine your own activities.

## Shotgun activities

- Learn the safety rules for shotgun shooting. Follow these safety rules every time you handle a shotgun. Share what you learn with others by giving a talk, a presentation, or preparing a display.
- Learn the fundamentals of shooting a shotgun from your project leader. Expand your knowledge further by reading a book on the subject. The fundamentals include the

proper stance, how to mount, point, lead, swing, and pull the trigger, and the follow through. After you learn the fundamentals, practice. Share this information with others (give a presentation or prepare a display).

- Learn about the parts of a shotgun. How is a shotgun different from a rifle? How does it work? Prepare a display using photographs or drawings.
- Research the different kinds of shotgun ammunition. What are the uses of the different kinds? What are the advantages, the disadvantages, and the costs of each? What are the different parts of a shotgun shell?
- Learn about the different kinds and gauges (sizes) of shotguns. Prepare a display using photographs or drawings. List the uses, the advantages, the disadvantages, and the costs of each type. What types of actions are used on shotguns? How does a shooter determine the correct stock length of a shotgun?
- Like all guns, shotguns need care. Learn how to clean a shotgun. Read the information that comes with a shotgun from the manufacturer or with the cleaning equipment. Read a book on cleaning a shotgun. Learn what other care is required and how to properly store a shotgun and ammunition. Obtain a cleaning kit for your use. Give a presentation on cleaning a shotgun following the safety rules. Clean your shotgun after each use and store it properly.
- Research the history of shotguns. Keep a notebook or make a display about their history. Gather a collection of photographs or drawings showing the development of the modern-day shotgun.
- Trap, skeet, and sporting clays are three kinds of recreational shotgun shooting. Small pellets are fired at a moving clay target referred to as a saucer, a clay bird, or a

clay pigeon. Find information about the differences between trap, skeet, and sporting clays, the history of each sport, what equipment is needed, the qualifications to participate, and the safety considerations. Attend a trap shoot, a skeet shoot, or a sporting clays event. Find out what other shotgun games exist.

- Set a goal for accurate shooting. Practice until you reach your goal.
- Keep a shooter's diary telling what you did, where you went, your score, and what you learned.
- Many shotgunners reload their own ammunition. Visit a person who does this and learn how to determine the proper load. Compare the cost of hand-loaded versus factory-loaded shotgun shells.
- Learn about the legal aspects of shotgun shooting. What kind of game are you allowed to shoot? How is a shotgun safely and legally transported? What are the age requirements for hunting with a shotgun? Have a law enforcement officer or game warden visit your 4-H club meeting.
- Learn about the organizations a shotgunner can belong to. Some of them conduct shooting clinics or camps. Find out about this and put it in a resource file. Attend a clinic or camp if you can.
- There are many shotgun competitions. Find out when and where they are held, how to qualify, and how to participate.
- Help plan and conduct a match or fun shoot. Find out what a quail walk is and include it as a fun shoot. Keep your fun shoot fun, safe, and legal.
- Go hunting with your shotgun. Find out about the species of game you are allowed

to hunt. Before hunting, secure the required licenses and check on all the regulations (season opening and closing dates, boundary lines of the area you are hunting, etc.). Earn a Hunter Safety certificate. (If you do go hunting, check the activities page in the hunting unit about the care, storage, and use of your game.)



## Muzzleloading

The modern-day cartridge rifle replaced the muzzleloader many years ago. Today, many people enjoy the challenge of shooting a muzzleloader. Shooting this type of firearm is much slower than shooting a cartridge rifle, but muzzleloaders are very accurate. You will learn about loading and firing a muzzleloader as well as the special safety rules and range commands.

Before you can enroll in the muzzleloading unit, you must have the permission of your project leader. Your leader will make sure you are big enough and strong enough to seat the ball. A ball that is not properly seated can cause damage to the barrel and/or injure the shooter.

The goals in this unit include learning:

- shooting safety and additional safety procedures involved in black powder shooting and handling;

- muzzleloading terminology;
- knowledge of the equipment and the supplies needed;
- the handling, transporting, and storage of black powder supplies;
- loading and firing procedures and principles; and
- cleaning procedures.

Set goals in the areas of safety, shooting, accuracy, and care and maintenance. Choose activities in other areas of interest. You may also determine your own activities.

## Muzzleloading activities

Many of the things you need to know about shooting are listed in the Pistol/Rifle activities' section. Look for activities about shooting fundamentals, field trips, and the laws.

- Learn the safety rules unique to muzzleloading as well as the safety rules applicable to all firearms shooting. Give a talk on or a presentation on the subject. Prepare a poster listing safety rules.
- Black powder requires special handling. Learn the safe way to store and transport the supplies for shooting muzzleloaders. Practice these safety procedures each time you handle your shooting supplies.
- Learn the fundamentals of shooting a muzzleloading rifle or pistol. After you become proficient, teach someone else. Be sure to follow all the safety rules.
- The firing mechanism of a muzzleloader is different from the mechanisms found in other firearms. Read a book that tells about the different kinds of mechanisms and how they work. Keep this information in a file or make a display showing how a muzzleloader fires.
- Find out what equipment and supplies are needed for muzzleloading. How do these supplies differ from the supplies needed for other firearms? Make a possible bag so you have your supplies and equipment with you when you need them.
- Learn about the range requirements for shooting a muzzleloader. What size does the range need to be? What kind of safety zone is needed? What kind of backstop? Help find a site and develop a range if your community does not have one.
- Set a marksmanship goal. Practice shooting your muzzleloader until you reach your goal. Keep a shooter's diary. Tell what you learned, where and when you shot, and what your scores were.
- Help plan and conduct a safe and legal shooting match for muzzleloaders. The match should be shooting for scores or a fun shoot.
- Learn the history of muzzleloading. Keep a notebook, scrapbook, or resource file of this information. Prepare a display of photographs or drawings showing the development of muzzleloading guns.
- Find out about organizations for muzzleloaders. Keep this information in a resource file. Find out about competitions for muzzleloaders. Some organizations plan activities similar to the rendezvous of fur trapper days. Try to attend one of them.
- Many of the items needed for muzzleloading are easily made. This includes a powder horn, the firearm itself, a possible bag, and a ramrod. Make a buckskin suit to wear to a black powder rendezvous. Collect items for decorating buckskin such as claws, beads, or feathers.



## Hunting

The hunting unit is a very broad project area. It can include small-game or large-game hunting, bird hunting, or predator hunting. You can choose to hunt with a pistol, a rifle, a shotgun, a muzzleloader, or a bow. Here are some things to learn on the subject of hunting:

- the role of hunting in wildlife conservation and management;
- the hunter's responsibility toward landowners, other people, and wildlife (including field safety);
- hunting and conservation rules and regulations;
- social and economic values of hunting;
- how, what, and when you may hunt; and
- what to do with game once you have bagged it.

Set goals in the areas of safety, shooting, accuracy, and care and maintenance. Choose activities in other areas of interest. You may determine your own activities.

### Hunting activities

- Attend a Wyoming Game and Fish Department Hunter Safety course and earn your certificate.

- Take a field trip to your local game warden's office or have a warden visit a club meeting. Ask the warden to review Wyoming hunting laws.
- Keep a hunter's diary. Record what you learn such as hunting laws, safety practices, when and where you hunted, and if you were successful or not.
- Tour a wildlife refuge. Learn what kind of wildlife is there and why. Find out what researchers are learning about that wildlife.
- Good sportsmanship and ethical behavior are important aspects of hunting. Define what good sportsmanship means. Discuss ethical behavior and hunting at a club meeting. Practice good sportsmanship and ethical behavior whenever you are shooting or hunting.
- Learn about the animals you plan to hunt. Learn where they live, exactly what they look like, the differences between the male and the female, what kind of cover they prefer, what they eat, and other habits they have. Keep a record of this information for future reference. You might want to make a wildlife project to help you learn this. Use pieces of wood or bars of soap to carve likenesses of wildlife animals. Make an exhibit using your carvings.
- Learn the anatomy of the game you plan to hunt. Determine the spot on the animal you plan to aim at to ensure a clean kill and provide an edible carcass. Make a display showing a photo or drawing of an animal. Show the best spots to aim for and also the worst ones. Be prepared to tell why they are the best or worst spots.
- Learn how to care for the game you bag. This includes the knowledge of field dressing, cooling, transporting, what to do with

the hide or feathers, how to care for the meat, and how to cook the meat. Visit a slaughterhouse. How is a meat carcass handled in a processing plant? Where are the vital organs located? This knowledge will assist you in dressing an animal. Find out what tools you need to care for your game and how to care for those tools.

- Visit a taxidermy shop. Find out how to properly prepare game for mounting. Put this information in your hunter's diary. Mount antlers and learn hide tanning. Display your finished project along with a written report about how you created it.
- Many times it will be necessary to follow the tracks of an animal you are hunting. Obtain a wildlife book and learn about tracks and signs animals leave. Learn how to tell the difference between the different species. Make a display showing techniques for tracking wildlife or identifying tracks.
- Research which kinds of hunting require you to stay in one place and wait for the game to come to you. Learn about the special techniques needed for bird hunting. Learn about hunting stands and blinds. Build one of your own hunting activities.
- Game-calling can attract animals for hunting, photography, or sightseeing. Obtain a game call, learn how to use it, and practice with it. Take it outdoors and see if you have success in calling game. Decoys are another method of attracting game birds. Learn about decoys and try using them. You can build your own decoys. If you do, plan to exhibit your work. There are other ways of attracting game such as using scents. Find out more about this subject.
- One aspect of safe hunting is wearing hunter orange. Learn the laws in regard to

wearing hunter orange. Wear hunter orange when you are hunting if it is required.

Another type of hunting clothing uses camouflage material. Learn when it is legal and desirable to wear this pattern. You can purchase or make clothing in either of these two color schemes. Give a presentation on the use of these colors. Make an article of clothing to wear hunting. You can exhibit this as part of your project.

- Learn about the survival equipment needed for hunting. Start your own collection of this equipment. Make a display showing these items using either the actual items or photographs or drawings. Give a presentation showing these articles and tell why they are important.
- Besides color, warmth of a hunter's clothing is very important. Learn how to dress for maximum warmth. Learn what hypothermia is and how to treat it. Give a presentation or prepare an exhibit on the topic.
- Learn how hunting or non-hunting helps in wildlife management. What other management techniques are currently being used? Your local game warden should have information on this topic. You should also be able to obtain reference books. The 4-H wildlife project could be used in conjunction with the hunting unit.
- Learn how to cut, preserve, store, and cook your game meat. Prepare a meal using wild game. Serve this meal to your family, friends, or your 4-H club.
- Take a first aid class so you have knowledge of what to do in the case of an accident, illness, or injury on a hunting trip. Make a first aid kit to take with you when you are hunting.

- When hunting, you could be caught out in bad weather and have to spend the night somewhere besides at your camp. Learn how to make an emergency survival shelter. Prepare a display.
- Learn how to get back to camp after you have been tracking an animal. Learn how to use a compass or GPS unit to help you locate where you are. Learn to read a map of the area where you will be hunting.
- Help plan a hunting trip and actually hunt for game. Give a report to your club when you return.
- Prepare a wildlife skillathon or a wildlife quiz bowl and have your club members participate.
- Make an exhibit of your favorite hunting territory. Show the different types of habitat.

## Shooting Sports resources

### Publications

For archery books check Barnes and Noble.

#### *Basic Hunter's Guide*

Sales Department, Box 37298 National Rifle Association  
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036 [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)

Other books available from the NRA:

- *Basic Pistol Marksmanship*
- *Basic Rifle Marksmanship*
- *Junior Rifle Handbook*
- *Basic Shotgun Shooting Manual*
- *The Muzzleloader Pistol Handbook*
- *The Muzzleloader Rifle Handbook*
- *The Muzzleloader Shotgun Handbook*

#### *Basic Techniques of Instinctive Field Shooting*

National Field Archery Association  
31401 Outer I-10  
Redlands, CA 92373  
Phone: (800) 811-2331

Daisy Manufacturing Company 114  
South 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Rogers, AR 72756  
Phone: (800) 643-3458  
Museum Phone: (479) 986-6873

- *Air Pistol Shooting Guide*
- *Daisy Shooting Education B 10-Lesson Curriculum*

Hunter Education  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
1500 Bishop Blvd  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
<http://gf.state.wy.us>  
"Stop Poaching" (800) 442-4331

### Archery/Firearms Associations

Amateur Trapshooting Association  
601 West National Road  
Vandalia, OH 45377  
Phone: (937) 898-4638  
[www.shootata.com](http://www.shootata.com)

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. One  
Waterfowl Way Memphis,  
TN 38120  
Phone: (800) 45Ducks  
(901) 758-3825  
[www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org)

National Archery Association of the U.S.A.  
One Olympic Plaza  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909 (719)  
578-4576

National Audubon Society 950  
Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10022



National Shooting Sports Foundation Flintlock  
Ridge Office Center  
11 Mile High Road Newtown,  
CT 06470  
Phone: (203) 426-1320

National Skeet Shooting Association 5931  
Roft Road  
San Antonio, TX 78253 Phone  
(800) 877-5338

National Trappers Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 632018d  
Nacogdoches, TX 75963\_  
[www.nationaltrappers.com](http://www.nationaltrappers.com)

National Wildlife Federation  
11100 Wildlife Center  
Reston, VA 20190-5362  
Phone (800) 822-9919  
(703) 438-6000  
[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)

Pope and Young Club  
P.O. Box 548  
Chatfield, MN 55923  
(507) 867-4144\_  
[www.pope-young.org](http://www.pope-young.org)

## ***Periodicals***

*Field and Stream*  
383 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

*Guns and Ammo*  
3490 Sunset Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90069

*Gunweek*  
911 Vandermark Road  
Sidney, OH 45365

*Hunter Safety News*  
511 Eastlake Avenue East Box  
6 - 1900  
Seattle, WA 98109

*National Wildlife*  
National Wildlife Federation  
1412 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

*Outdoor Life*  
380 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

*Outdoor News Bulletin*  
Wildlife Management Institute  
1000 Vermont Avenue, N.W. 709  
Wire Building  
Washington, D.C. 20005

*Sports Afield*  
250 West 55<sup>th</sup> Street New  
York, NY 10019

*Western Bowhunter*  
P.O. Box 511  
Squaw Valley, CA 93646

*Wyoming Wildlife*  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department 5400  
Bishop Boulevard  
Cheyenne, WY 82002





