



MERRIMACK 4-H ACTION EXHIBIT

WHAT IS IT?

An action exhibit is an interactive presentation that involves the audience in the presentation process. Like a demonstration, in an action exhibit the 4-H members demonstrate a skill, show how to make or repair something, or show how and why something works. Real objects are used. Unlike a demonstration, as the action exhibit presentation unfolds the audience asks questions and interacts with the presenter; the audience may even try the skill themselves. Because the whole process is shown, action exhibits may last up to 50 minutes each.

WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Any 4-H Member between the ages of 8 – 18 as of January 1st of the current year.

ACTION EXHIBIT FACTS:

- Action Exhibits have one to three participants.
- The exhibit is organized so that each person has a given time to work.
- Practice your activity ahead of time and make sure you can complete it in approximately 3-5 minutes.
- Try to incorporate actions that will engage judges and other interested people passing by. You will have 50 minutes to engage with the audience, so bring enough supplies to perform your activity multiple times. If a product is made, it needs to be made in the allotted time from step one to the finished product. Samples may be used to show different steps.
- The participants must provide all materials and equipment needed.
- View the [Action Exhibit Scoresheet](#) before the event to get a feel for what the judges will be looking for.

HOW TO PLAN AN ACTION EXHIBIT:

1. Choose a topic: What have you done or learned that you want to show to others?
2. Choose your action: Do you want to do an Action Exhibit by yourself or work with others in planning and doing an Action Exhibit?
3. Choose your goal: Do you want to teach others something? Do you want to show others how to do something? Do you want to promote something or compare different processes?
4. Choose a title: Make it short and catchy. Have a one-idea theme. Tell the most important point and be original.
5. Choose your support materials: What materials, equipment, and ingredients will you need to make your exhibit active?
6. Practice! Practice your Action Exhibit by doing all the necessary steps in the process.
7. Get People Interested: Decide on ways you might involve the audience.

QUALIFYING FOR EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION:

Each county may send their top three exhibits per age group; Intermediates (age 11-13), and Seniors (age 14 and older), however, the qualifying exhibit must have scored a minimum of 30 points (75%). Teams can be comprised of up to 3 members and will compete in the division of their oldest member. Participants must also be at least 12 years of age to be eligible for [Eastern States Exposition](#).