

4-H Wildlife Challenge (2023)

The 4-H Wildlife Challenge covers material found within five 4-H Natural Resources projects; Wildlife & Fisheries Project, Hunting & Wildlife project, Entomology Project, Forestry Project, and Sportfishing Project. Contestants will have the opportunity to explore all five of these projects while preparing for the 4-H Wildlife Challenge.

Contestants will compete as individuals. Individual contestants will compete within Intermediate or Senior age divisions. The contest consists of two activities as described below. Each activity will be completed individually by each contestant. Each activity may cover any of the specified information within the 4-H Natural Resources project area resources posted. Contestants will need to take a clipboard and several sharpened pencils to use during the contest. The contest will be conducted outdoors. Contestants should be appropriately dressed for the weather (extremely hot and humid) and field conditions (tall grass, brush, wet ground, off the sidewalk, etc.). Contestants should take and carry a refillable water bottle to use during the contest. A small backpack is acceptable to carry only these necessary items. No electronic devices of any kind will be allowed to be handled at any time during the contest.

Contest Activities –

Identification: Contestants will identify animals and trees from pictures or actual specimens such as leaves, fruit/nuts, skulls, skins, wings, specimen mounts, tracks, calls, etc. Contestants will identify wildlife habitat concepts, wildlife habitat components, and wildlife management practices from photos or in field examples. Contestants will identify equipment and equipment components that may be found within any of the project resources (i.e. – fishing equipment, shooting/hunting equipment, insect collecting equipment, wildlife habitat management equipment, forestry equipment, etc.).

Knowledge and Skills Assessment: Contestants will answer multiple choice/yes or no/true or false questions and perform skills found within the project area resources. The skills could include but are not limited to those needed for fishing, hunting, insect collection and display, firearm handling, forest evaluation, and wildlife habitat evaluation.

Resources –

Contest material will be drawn from the specific resources listed on the [4-H Wildlife & Fisheries Project](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/wildlife-fisheries/) webpage, <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/wildlife-fisheries/>. This list will be posted no later than December. After opening the webpage, scroll to the 'Contests' title to find the 'Resources' list. Specimen used for the *Identification* activity may not necessarily be pictured within the resources. For the *Identification* activity, additional resources should be used to look up and study photos/pictures, descriptions, specimen calls, etc. When going through the list of Resources, search for the resource title if the url listed is not working. These urls sometimes change without notice after the resources have been posted. Contact Larry Hysmith, lhysmith@tamu.edu, with any questions.

