

# Family Consumer Science Judging Guide

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Learning to do by doing is the 4-H way to acquire decision-making skills and to make the best better. Although children have judging experiences long before they become involved in 4-H, their 4-H work further enhances their abilities.

## Objectives of judging

Judging helps 4-H members develop their abilities to observe thoroughly, encourages them to develop reasoning skills, aids in sound and systematic decision making, encourages members to articulate thoughts and helps members define, appreciate and set high standards.

## Organizing events

First, review the University of Missouri Extension publication LG 730, *Judging: A 4-H Teaching Technique*. To conduct a judging event, follow this outline of activities:

- Prepare classes
- Establish class placements and reasons for placement
- Secure equipment
- Register participants
- Distribute materials
- Discuss MU publication Y1006, *4-H Judging Card*, and inform members what they will judge
- Announce time limits
- Remind members to wait to discuss decisions or reasons
- Conduct judging
- Listen to reasons and tabulate scores
- Have judge give correct placing and reasons
- Announce results

## Ideas for judging classes

### Project: child development

**Objectives:** learn to respect, understand and care for young children and develop an understanding of the changing needs of children as they develop

**Situation:** choose story books for preschoolers

**Class:** selection of story books for preschoolers

**Need:** four story books varying in plot, length, language, literary form, pictures and size

**Criteria:** simple stories, short sentences, action and imagination and length short enough to be read in under 10 minutes

**Source:** bookstores, libraries, nursery schools or day cares

**Other suggested situations:**

Level	Project #	Judging classes
Beginner	411	Toys for preschoolers Games to encourage make-believe play
Intermediate	412	Toys to increase motor skills development Suitable clothing to encourage self-help in toddlers
Advanced	413	Resourceful baby sitter's kit Plans for baby sitter's clinic

### Project: clothing and textiles

**Objectives:** have members recognize themselves as individuals, develop an interest in and practice the careful selection of clothing and accessories, develop creative approaches to purchasing and selecting fabrics and develop skills in clothing construction

**Situation:** help Sue select a pattern line that will accent her height

**Class:** pattern design lines

**Need:** four paper dolls wearing garments of vertical, horizontal and diagonal lines and curves

**Criteria:** unbroken vertical lines slenderize and lengthen a diagonal line. If lines are more lengthwise than crosswise, they slenderize and add height

**Source:** cut examples out of pattern books; select four paper dolls and use fabric with pattern design

**Other suggested situations:**

Level	Project #	Judging classes
Beginner	521	Sewing box
	522	Fabric selection
	523	Pattern selection

	524	Pattern layout
Intermediate	525	Influence of color on skin, hair and eyes
	526	Buying
Advanced	527	Construction of seam finishes for pattern and fabric
		Quality of different fabric samples
	528	Essays for careers in clothing
		Wardrobe shopping plan

### Project: consumer education

**Objectives:** become aware of credit resources and use of money, learn to wisely use family and personal resources and understand the value and use of consumer guides

**Situation:** Jim's parents have suggested he purchase a word processor for his graduation present. Help him decide which to purchase by evaluating the guarantees and warranties

**Class:** guarantees and warranties

**Need:** four examples of guarantees and warranties

**Criteria:** state length, conditions, terms, parts included in the product and who will furnish parts and labor for repairs

**Source:** examples of guarantees and warranties from stores, examples from magazines or poster board displaying criteria

#### Other suggested situations:

Level	Project #	Judging classes
Beginner	431	Spending records Budget evaluation
Intermediate	432	Check writing Safe money carrying (purse)
Advanced	433	Summer job earnings budget Personal account books

### Project: food and nutrition

**Objectives:** understand the importance of including foods from each of the basic food groups in the diet to achieve and maintain optimum health, understand the scientific principles of nutrition and acquire and demonstrate skills in planning, purchasing and preparing meals and snacks.

**Situation:** help Juan plan a nutritious breakfast

**Class:** nutritious breakfast

**Need:** four different breakfast menus

**Criteria:** is nutritious, contains three or more food groups and appeals to taste and includes variety of color and texture

**Source:** pictures from magazines or food models

#### Other suggested situations:

Level	Project #	Judging classes
Beginner	551	Healthy food selection Measuring equipment
	552	Food label contents (nutrients and sugar)
Intermediate	553	Food safety for packed picnic lunch Fast food options (nutrient sources and caloric level) Menu for outdoor meals Safety for outdoor cookery
Advanced	557	International foods meal planning
	558	Cost comparison of meals from other cultures

### Project: home environment

**Objectives:** learn and apply principles of design and function to make the home attractive, comfortable and convenient; understand appreciation and creativity, as well as expense, are important factors in good home furnishings; and apply techniques of efficient energy use as it relates to housing, furnishing and home equipment

**Situation:** help Kathy plan to make a wall hanging for her bedroom

**Class:** planning a wall hanging

**Need:** four pictures of wall hangings or real craft objects with a written description of Kathy's bedroom

**Criteria:** suitability of fabric weave, color and texture and amount of space to display wall hanging

**Source:** magazines, interior design agencies and department stores

#### Other suggested situations:

Level	Project #	Judging Classes
Beginner	571	Wallpaper selection
Intermediate	572	Place mat selection
Advanced	573	Informal, formal and radial balance Wall groupings of furnishings
	574	Design software Design education and careers