

Club vs. County **Tips to take your book to the next level**

Record Books: How do you move on to the next level? What's the difference between gold at club and gold at county? Just because you get gold at the club level doesn't mean you automatically will receive gold at county. Each level of evaluation has a different score sheet and each level is harder than the last. Here are some tips to take your book to the next level in each category and to help you achieve your GOALS!

Section 1: Preliminary Information

- ★ Include a table of contents that shows each section's title including page numbers
- ★ Include dividers to make finding sections easier for evaluators

Section 2: Personal Development Report (PDR)

- ★ Make sure each category is filled out including location and what you learned
- ★ Show that you have attended a variety of experiences along the way. Attend various 4-H events – Club, County, Region, & higher! They want to see well rounded 4-H'ers that do more in 4-H than one thing.
- ★ Serve in age appropriate leadership roles in your club, county or higher. A 9-10 year old should at minimum serve on a club committee (decorations, bbq, pine boughs), 11-13 should be considering higher levels of involvement (club officer, junior leader, & committeees), Those 14+ should be considering ALL levels of leadership (Officer, Teen Leader, Committee chair, & County Positions)
- ★ Show that you have developed your communication – they want to see a variety of things of communication. Reports (verbal and non verbal at club meetings and club newsletters), Presentations (project meetings, club & county events), Online communication (Orb, moderate Instagram), Written communication (letters, articles to newspaper)
- ★ Want to see things you have done OUTSIDE of 4-H (*limited to 2*) don't forget to add reports at school, science fair presentations, or presentations in front of other audiences!

Section 3: 4-H Story

- ★ Include things you have done in your projects they want to see what you have learned
- ★ Share what leadership you have done – what was fun, hard, what did you learn?
- ★ Share examples of working with others in citizenship and/or community service projects
- ★ Share how you have grown both inside and outside 4-H. They want you to share your passions!

Section 4: Annual Project Reports

- ★ Take your project meeting descriptions to the next level! Do more than the minimum...example of the minimum is...Today we had a swine meeting, our leader went through how to fill out fair forms and talked about showmanship. Do more...share what you learned or maybe if you helped someone else how you helped them!
- ★ Show a variety of skills that you have learned! They want to see what SPARKS your interests in 4-H
- ★ Share if you have helped teach someone else in the project. Even a 9 year old can teach another member! It can be as simple as at the fair I helped another 4-H'er find a better whip because theirs was broken. As members get older they want to see higher levels of "sharing knowledge."

Section 5: Collection of Work

- ★ Show your passion and your sparks inside and outside 4-H!
- ★ Include captions of what each item is.....you caption can include why you are EXCITED to share it.
- ★ Refer to the manual for limits on how many items you can share.

Section 6: Leadership Development

- ★ Make sure you have the correct year's forms! If you use ORB, DO NOT use the forms online!
- ★ Set Goals! Show that you have a plan at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year share if you reached them. If you didn't that's OK! Tell the evaluators what you would have done different.

Section 7: Resume

- ★ Use a professional and creative layout for your resume
- ★ Create a development statement that describes what you stand for and who you aspire to be! Share your goals for yourself!