



4-H WHEP Contest Handbook CLOVERBUD ACTIVITY

Wildlife Habitat Education Program
ARKANSAS 4-H Contest Handbook
Cloverbud Activity

Portions edited, compiled and written by
Rebecca McPeake
Arkansas WHEP Coordinator
Extension Wildlife Specialist
Cooperative Extension Service
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

First printing reviewed by:
The Arkansas Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) Advisory Committee

The Arkansas 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program advisory committee wishes to thank the following sponsors for their support of the Arkansas program:

Arkansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Arkansas Chapter of The National Wild Turkey Federation
Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism
Arkansas Forest Resources Center
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Entergy
Plum Creek
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture
U.S. Forest Service

We also thank these national sponsors:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
International Paper

Created – February 2002
Revised – January 2009

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
General Rules and Regulations	2
Activity: Wildlife Species Identification	4
Scorecards.....	8

Introduction

The National and Arkansas 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) is designed to teach youth about the fundamentals of wildlife management. Although Juniors and Seniors participate in competitive events, their primary function is education. Natural resource management is learned through participation in the contest and the associated field trips, practice sessions and demonstrations. Additional benefits come from the development of leadership capabilities and meeting youth and wildlife professionals from across the state and nation.

The Arkansas 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program conducts a contest and practice session each year. Contests are held at various locations throughout the state. Awards are given to Junior and Senior competitors in individual and team events. Cloverbuds who have a team participating from their county are encouraged to attend and participate in the wildlife identification activity. Their participation is intended to gain their interest in 4-H WHEP and prepare them to participate as Juniors.

The Arkansas 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program is designed to teach youth about the fundamentals of wildlife science and management. Upon completing the program, 4-H youth will be able to:

- Identify common wildlife by picture, track, skull, fur, behavior, habitat or other unique characteristic.
- Identify common wildlife foods of wildlife species.
- Understand and apply wildlife concepts when discussing wildlife management.
- Interpret aerial photographs and judge its quality as wildlife habitat.
- Prescribe wildlife management practices.
- Develop a wildlife management plan.

In addition, the contest encourages and promotes a better understanding of wildlife for 4-H members, volunteer leaders, extension agents, and cooperating natural resource professionals. Preparation for the contest (1) acquaints 4-H members with multiple benefits provided by wildlife habitat management, such as forest products, water quality, forage and outdoor recreation; (2) helps 4-H members understand the techniques of enhancing wildlife habitat; (3) develops the ability of 4-H members to work together toward a common goal; (4) provides wildlife habitat training for future landowners, administrators and planners who are not professional land managers; and (5) provides career education for future wildlife biologists and managers.

General Rules and Regulations

I. Contestants and Eligibility

- A. The 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program is NOT intended to be a Cloverbud event. Only counties which have Junior or Senior contestants present at the state contest may also register Cloverbuds.
- B. Cloverbuds must be official entrants who are 4-H members in their county during the current year. They must be bona fide 4-H Club members who are actively enrolled in a 4-H project or activity. 4-H membership must be through one of the Cooperative Extension Service's 75 county 4-H programs in Arkansas. A child becomes a 4-H club member when he/she completes an individual enrollment form, CES-617, which must be on file in the county extension office.
- C. Age requirements:
- Cloverbuds are children who are at least age 5 until the age they become eligible to become a Junior 4-H'er.
 - Juniors are youth who in the contest year are age 9 as of January 1 until December 31 of the year they celebrate their 14th birthday.

II. Registration

- A. County entries must be submitted to the state 4-H office on an official entry form (FY4-H-636) by the specified due date (typically the first day of the month before the contest). Entries received after the deadline will be charged a late fee.
1. Counties should collect in advance and deposit all monies from individuals required for registering for the event. A bill will be issued to the county after the event.
 2. An original form must be submitted to the state 4-H office. Faxed registrations (fax: 501-671-2028) will assist with planning and organization, but the original form will serve as the official entry and be used for calculating registration fees.
 3. One check per county will be due upon receipt payable to the "Arkansas 4-H Foundation."
 4. The refund policy is as follows: 100 percent refund for 15 or more working days before the contest, 50 percent refund for 7 to 14 working days before the contest, and no refund for cancellation from 0 to 6 working days before the contest, except for personal or family illness, or death in the immediate family.
- B. Every person who attends a 4-H WHEP state practice session or contest must be listed on the official entry form prior to the event. This includes 4-H'ers, coaches, parents, siblings, and county extension agents. No "walk-up" registrations are accepted.
- C. A signed code of conduct form must be on file in the county extension office prior to participation and will be used as the official document for dealing with infractions by 4-H members. If a 4-H member is found in violation of the code of conduct and receives discipline issued by a review board, his/her parents will be notified, and the 4-H member

may be sent home immediately at the parents' expense and may be suspended from participating in future 4-H activities.

- D. Official entry forms are available to 4-H youth and leaders through county extension offices. A county agent must sign the registration form to be valid.
- E. Cloverbuds need to be accompanied by an adult at all times while at the state contest.

Wildlife Identification Activity

Objectives

Cloverbuds will be able to identify wildlife species present in Arkansas based on visual, auditory and behavioral cues, and descriptions. The ability to identify these wildlife species and understanding their life histories will provide a basis for competing as Juniors and Seniors in this contest.

Overview

Each Cloverbud can answer 20 questions about wildlife found in the announced contest regions (see the Table). One of these regions will always be the urban region. The other region will be announced prior to the contest.

This activity will focus on the contestant's ability to identify wildlife species found in the announced region. This includes identification from pictures, artifacts, replicas or other representations as found in a natural outdoor condition. Wildlife identification can also include questions about life history and behavior that lead to identification. This information can be found in wildlife guides and references from libraries, bookstores and the Internet.

All wildlife to be identified in this activity will be taken from the official species list (Table 1). Wildlife species listed under the urban region and from one other announced region will be eligible for this event. Minimally, contestants should be able to:

- Identify birds by plumage, nests, eggs, tracks and birdsongs.
- Identify mammals by fur, skulls, vocalizations, tracks or other sign, such as a beaver's chewed log or a buck's rubbed tree.
- Identify the male, female, juvenile and adult of a species.
- Know the unique life histories and behaviors of these wildlife.

Rules for the Activity

- A. Cloverbuds need to be accompanied by an adult at all times while at the state contest, including when participating in the Wildlife Identification Activity.
- B. Typically this activity is conducted while Junior and/or Senior contestants are eating lunch. (Note that at all other times, only Junior and Senior contestants and designated officials shall be within the perimeter of an activity. All adults, except contest officials, will be separated from the contestants at all times while the contest is in progress.)
- B. Cloverbuds can work independently or receive assistance from an adult or others. This is not a competitive event.
- C. Cloverbuds will receive a participation ribbon during the first award ceremony, the same ceremony which recognizes Junior award winners.

On Contest Day

- A. Cloverbuds must provide their own pen or pencil and clipboard.

- B. Cloverbuds are encouraged to talk and ask questions. We want them to learn and have an enjoyable experience.
- C. Scorecards need to be turned into a station monitor with their name and county. This will serve as a record of participation. Their scorecards will not be scored.

Wildlife Identification Resources

A list of "Wildlife Species and Their Habitat Needs" follows this section.

The following list of Web sites and book references represents a small number of available sources. In addition, experts from local resource agencies can help with wildlife identification, life histories and behaviors.

Web sites:

Animal Diversity Web, <http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu>
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, www.agfc.com
Birds of Arkansas, <http://www.birdsofarkansas.org/>
Cornell Lab of Ornithology, <http://cornellornithology.links2go.com/more/www.birdsofna.org>
E-nature, www.enature.com
Herps of Arkansas, <http://www.herpsofarkansas.com/>
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, North American Mammals:
<http://www.mnh.si.edu/mna/main.cfm>. (Develop personalized field guide.)

Books:

The Amphibians and Reptiles of Arkansas by Stanley E. Trauth, Henry W. Robison and Michael V. Plummer. University of Arkansas Press. Color photos and descriptions. Large book, not for the field. 421 pages.

Arkansas Butterflies and Moths by Lori A. Spencer. The Ozark Society Foundation. Color photos and descriptions. 314 pages.

Arkansas Mammals: Their Natural History, Classification, and Distribution by John A. Sealander and Gary A. Heidt. The University of Arkansas Press. Color photos and detailed descriptions of mammals and their life histories. Pen & ink sketches of skulls but not tracks or scat. Large book, not for the field. 308 pages.

Bird Tracks and Sign by Mark Elbroch with Elenor Marks. Color photos and sketches of tracks, droppings, pellets, nests, signs of feeding, feathers and more. Stackpole Books. 456 pages.

Mammal Tracks and Sign by Mark Elbroch. Color photos and sketches of tracks, scat, burrows, signs of feeding, and more. National Outdoor Book Award. Stackpole Books. 779 pages.

The Sibley Guide to Birds of Eastern North America by David Allen Sibley. The Audubon Society. Alfred A. Knopf Publishers. Color illustrations and descriptions. 543 pages.

Birds' Eggs by Michael Walters. Eyewitness Handbooks. DK Publishing, New York. 256 pages.

Table. Wildlife species in each region.

Species	Region				
	Eastern Deciduous Forest	Grasslands – Tallgrass/ Mixed Prairie	Southeast Mixed and Outer Coastal Plain Forest	Urban	Wetlands
American alligator					X
American beaver					X
American kestrel		X	X		
American robin				X	
Big brown bat				X	
Black bear	X		X		X
Bluegill	X	X	X		X
Blue-winged teal		X			
Bobcat	X				
Box turtle	X	X			
Brown thrasher	X		X		
Bullfrog					X
Butterflies		X		X	
Canada goose (breeding habitat)					X
Common or lesser nighthawk				X	
Coyote		X	X		
Dickcissel		X			
Eastern bluebird	X		X	X	
Eastern cottontail	X	X	X	X	
Eastern fox squirrel				X	
Eastern gray squirrel	X		X		
Eastern hognose snake		X			
Eastern towhee	X				
Elk	X				
European starling				X	
Frogs				X	
Grasshopper sparrow		X			
Great horned owl	X		X		
Hairy woodpecker			X		
House finch				X	
House sparrow				X	
House wren				X	
Hummingbird				X	
Largemouth bass	X	X	X		X
Mallard (winter habitat)			X		X
Mink					X
Mourning dove	X	X	X		
Muskrat					X
Northern bobwhite	X	X	X		
Northern flicker				X	

Species	Region				
	Eastern Deciduous Forest	Grasslands – Tallgrass/ Mixed Prairie	Southeast Mixed and Outer Coastal Plain Forest	Urban	Wetlands
Northern harrier		X			X
Ovenbird	X				
Pine vole		X			
Prothonotary warbler			X		
Raccoon			X	X	X
Red-eyed vireo			X		
Redhead					X
Red-tailed hawk		X			
Red-winged blackbird					X
River otter					X
Rock dove				X	
Ruffed grouse	X				
Song sparrow				X	
Spotted skunk		X			
White-tailed deer	X	X	X		
Wild turkey	X	X	X		
Wood duck	X		X		X
Total	19	19	20	17	16

Contestant Name: _____

County: _____

Activity I: Wildlife Identification Scorecard
Regions: Eastern Deciduous Forest & Urban
CLOVERBUD

Directions: Write the letter of the wildlife species in the blank.

1. _____

13. _____

2. _____

14. _____

3. _____

15. _____

4. _____

16. _____

5. _____

17. _____

6. _____

18. _____

7. _____

19. _____

8. _____

20. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

- A. American Robin
- B. Big Brown Bat
- C. Black Bear
- D. Bluegill
- E. Bobcat
- F. Box Turtle
- G. Brown Thrasher
- H. Butterflies
- I. Common / Lesser Nighthawk
- J. Eastern Bluebird
- K. Eastern Cottontail
- L. Eastern Fox Squirrel
- M. Eastern Gray Squirrel
- N. Eastern Towhee
- O. Elk
- P. European Starling
- Q. Frogs
- R. Great Horned Owl
- S. House Finch
- T. House Sparrow
- U. House Wren
- V. Hummingbird
- W. Largemouth Bass
- X. Mourning Dove
- Y. Northern Bobwhite
- Z. Northern Flicker
- AA. Ovenbird
- BB. Raccoon
- CC. Rock Dove (Pigeon)
- DD. Ruffed Grouse
- EE. Song Sparrow
- FF. White-tailed Deer
- GG. Wild Turkey
- HH. Wood Duck

Contestant Name: _____

County: _____

Activity I: Wildlife Identification Scorecard
Regions: Grasslands – Tallgrass/Mixed Prairie & Urban
CLOVERBUD

Directions: Write the letter of the wildlife species in the blank.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

20. _____

- A. American Kestrel
- B. American Robin
- C. Big Brown Bat
- D. Bluegill
- E. Blue-winged Teal
- F. Box Turtle
- G. Butterflies
- H. Common / Lesser Nighthawk
- I. Coyote
- J. Dickcissel
- K. Eastern Bluebird
- L. Eastern Cottontail
- M. Eastern Fox Squirrel
- N. Eastern Hognose Snake
- O. European Starling
- P. Frogs
- Q. Grasshopper Sparrow
- R. House Finch
- S. House Sparrow
- T. House Wren
- U. Hummingbird
- V. Largemouth Bass
- W. Mourning Dove
- X. Northern Bobwhite
- Y. Northern Flicker
- Z. Northern Harrier
- AA. Prairie Vole
- BB. Raccoon
- CC. Red-tailed Hawk
- DD. Rock Dove
- EE. Song Sparrow
- FF. Spotted Skunk
- GG. White-tailed Deer
- HH. Wild Turkey

Contestant Name: _____

County: _____

Activity I: Wildlife Identification Scorecard
Regions: Southern Mixed/Outer Coastal Plain Forest & Urban
CLOVERBUD

Directions: Write the letter of the wildlife species in the blank.

1. _____

13. _____

2. _____

14. _____

3. _____

15. _____

4. _____

16. _____

5. _____

17. _____

6. _____

18. _____

7. _____

19. _____

8. _____

20. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

- A. American Kestrel
- B. American Robin
- C. Big Brown Bat
- D. Black Bear
- E. Bluegill
- F. Brown Thrasher
- G. Butterflies
- H. Common / Lesser Nighthawk
- I. Coyote
- J. Eastern Bluebird
- K. Eastern Cottontail
- L. Eastern Fox Squirrel
- M. Eastern Gray Squirrel
- N. European Starling
- O. Frogs
- P. Great Horned Owl
- Q. Hairy Woodpecker
- R. House Finch
- S. House Sparrow
- T. House Wren
- U. Hummingbird
- V. Largemouth Bass
- W. Mallard
- X. Mourning Dove
- Y. Northern Bobwhite
- Z. Northern Flicker
- AA. Prothonotary Warbler
- BB. Raccoon
- CC. Red-eyed Vireo
- DD. Rock Dove
- EE. Song Sparrow
- FF. White-tailed Deer
- GG. Wild Turkey
- HH. Wood Duck

Contestant Name: _____

County: _____

Activity I: Wildlife Identification Scorecard
Regions: Wetlands & Urban
CLOVERBUD

Directions: Write the letter of the wildlife species in the blank.

1. _____

13. _____

2. _____

14. _____

3. _____

15. _____

4. _____

16. _____

5. _____

17. _____

6. _____

18. _____

7. _____

19. _____

8. _____

20. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

- A. American Alligator
- B. American Beaver
- C. American Robin
- D. Big Brown Bat
- E. Black Bear
- F. Bluegill
- G. Bullfrog
- H. Butterflies
- I. Canada Goose
- J. Common / Lesser Nighthawk
- K. Eastern Bluebird
- L. Eastern Cottontail
- M. Eastern Fox Squirrel
- N. European Starling
- O. Frogs
- P. House Finch
- Q. House Sparrow
- R. House Wren
- S. Hummingbird
- T. Largemouth Bass
- U. Mallard
- V. Mink
- W. Muskrat
- X. Northern Flicker
- Y. Northern Harrier
- Z. Raccoon
- AA. Redhead
- BB. Red-winged Blackbird
- CC. River Otter
- DD. Rock Dove
- EE. Song Sparrow
- FF. Wood Duck