

BEGINNER'S GUIDE, PART 3

TO TEXAS 4-H RECORD BOOKS



2023 - 2024

STORYTELLING

The personal story portion of the Recordbook should focus on information from the current year; however, it may also include information from prior years. Title the portfolio as follows:

“My 4-H (Record Book Category) Story and Photo Portfolio.”
For example, “My 4-H Horse Story and Photo Portfolio.”
A subtitle may be added, but is not required.

Note: Use the same recordbook category on your title as you do on the check sheet and personal information page.



The personal story should include:

1. Information about yourself, your family, and your community
2. When and why you joined 4-H
3. Project Goals (*start with the main project you selected for the year*)
4. How has 4-H helped you become a better leader and citizen?
5. What you have learned through your community service and leadership activities in 4-H?
6. How has being a 4-H member helped you set goals (*include the goals*) and develop new interests?
7. Has 4-H influenced your future plans or career goals?
 - o If so, how?



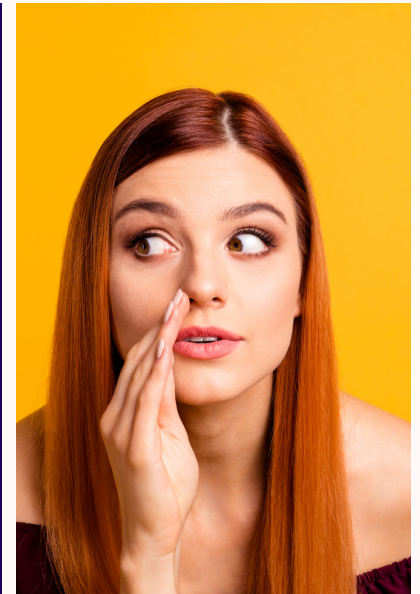
WRITE IT DOWN!

PHOTOS CAN TELL A STORY

The photos used are very important and should reflect growth, development and involvement in the member's 4-H career. Use photos that show the member doing things, learning and teaching others, and especially having FUN in their 4-H projects. ***Use photos that show the main project, other projects, leadership, and community service.***

Photos depicting family activities, livestock auctions, U.I.L., sports events, other school events (non-4-H related photos) are not to be included. This is your 4-H Recordbook, not a family scrapbook.

Captions help tell the story and describe what is in the photo but are not required. Story and photos may be combined or photos can be inserted behind the story. Color and/or black and white photos, clear sharp copies of photos (scanned and/or color copied), and newspaper photo clippings may be included. Newspaper articles are not allowed.



Combining Your Story and Photos

The combined story and photo portfolio should be completed within the page limits listed in the Texas 4-H Recordbook Summary for each age division.

- Junior Division - Combined portfolio cannot exceed a total of **8** pages.
 - *Story (Min 2 pages/Max 8 pages) / Photos (Min 2 pages)*
- Intermediate Division - Combined portfolio cannot exceed a total of **10** pages.
 - *Story (Min 4 pages/Max 10 pages) / Photos (Min 3 pages)*
- Senior Division - Combined portfolio cannot exceed a total of **10** pages.
 - *Story (Min 6 pages/Max 10 pages) / Photos (Min 3 pages)*

- Text is to be double-spaced type, using a minimum of a 10-point or equivalent size font.
- Margin settings should be 1 inch on the top, right side, and bottom. The left margin should be set at 1.5 inches, if putting the story in the 4-H Recordbook Cover. If submitting ONLINE use 1 inch margin on all sides.
- Use fonts that are easy to read. Suggestions include: Arial, Calibri, Times New Roman, or Tw Cen MT (not required)

