What a cool thing but to go and take pictures all day! Well, that is what the 4-H photography project teaches you! Well, that and a lot more! Photography is a great way to communicate what is going on in your world, and at the same time learn some very important skills such as learning how to take a great photo, how to display photos, how you can do community service through photography, and how to purchase a camera that is right for you!

How do you get started? Look over the list of photography skills you would like to learn more about and then get with a leader, or your parent and start learning!

Photography Skills YOU Can Learn
Review the list below and based on what you want to learn in the 4-H photography project, click it, and see if your leader or parent can help start your photography project!

- Learn how to purchase a camera that is right for me.
- Learn how a camera works.
- Learn how to handle and care for a camera.
- Learn about the various effects a camera can do.
- Learn how to snap that perfect photograph.
- Learn how to save and format your photos for storage or display.
- Learn more about the 4-H Photography Contest, or other contest.
- Enter a photography contest.
- Complete a recordbook in the photography category.
- Give an educational presentation on photography.

Photography Activities You Can Participate In!
- Photography Contest
- Educational Presentation
- Record Books
- Camps/Workshops

Photography! Is more than fun - it’s a career!
Did you know that there are a lot of people that make a great living being photographers. Some of them part-time and some full-time! See what you can learn about the career of a photographer! Ask a photographer you may know, search on-line, or read a book/magazine on photography to answer these questions about the career!

1. Job Title: ____________________________
2. Job Description: ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
3. Education/Training Required: ____________________________

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Here's an Idea!  
Let's make a Camera!

What you are going to need:
• empty Pringles® chip can
• marker
• ruler
• X-Acto knife or utility knife (ask a grown-up to help you cut)
• thumbtack or pushpin
• masking tape
• aluminum foil
• scissors (if you want)
• bright sunny day

You got your stuff, now let's make it!

1. Take the plastic lid off the Pringles® can and wipe out the inside. (Save the lid!)
2. Draw a line with the marker all the way around the can, about 2 inches up from the bottom. Have a grown-up cut along that line so the tube is in two pieces.
3. The shorter bottom piece has a metal end. With the thumbtack, make a hole in the center of the metal.
4. We’re going to use the plastic lid as a screen. If your lid is clear, you may need to apply a piece of wax paper, white tissue paper, or vellum to the lid to act as a translucent screen. Put the plastic lid onto the shorter piece. Put the longer piece back on top. Tape all the pieces together.
5. To keep light out of the tube, use a piece of aluminum foil that’s about 1 foot long. Tape one end of the foil to the tube. Wrap the foil all the way around the tube twice, then tape the loose edge of the foil closed. If you have extra foil at the top, just tuck it neatly inside the tube.
6. Go outside on a sunny day. Close one eye and hold the tube up to your other eye. You want the inside of the tube to be as dark as possible—so cup your hands around the opening of the tube if you need to. Look around your yard through the tube. The lid makes a screen that shows you upside-down color pictures!
7. Hold your hand below the tube and move it very slowly upward. Your hand is moving up, but you’ll see its shadow move down the screen!

Pinhole Camera resource from: http://www.exploratorium.edu/science_explorer/pringles_pinhole.html

For more opportunities in your county, or for more ideas, contact your County 4-H Office.

Find a Photography Word

CAMERA  COMPOSITION  DIGITAL
EXPOSURE  FLASH  FOCUS
LENS  LIGHT  SPEED
VIEWFINDER

Photography Service Projects

• Take pictures of 4-H projects, events, and activities for use in 4-H member record books, newspaper articles, exhibits, promotion, and recognition.
• Provide photographic services to individuals and groups for special occasions.
• Initiate a column with the newspaper editor and use photos taken by 4-Hers with appropriate captions and/or story.
• Give method demonstrations and/or illustrated talks on different aspects of photography to young and old.
• Coordinate picture-taking in the county with county and city officials, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, school officials, officers of organizations, etc.
• Go to a nursing home and take pictures of residents for their family members as gifts.

For more projects, visit the community service page on the Texas 4-H website at texas4-h.tamu.edu

Other Cool Stuff

You can learn a lot of cool stuff through the photography project and using a camera. From telling a story, capturing memories, or promoting an effort through photos. While this activity sheet has just touched on what you can do in the photography project, you can explore more! Visit the following locations or people and see what else you can learn:

School & public libraries  Photographers
4-H Project Groups  Texas 4-H website
Photography Contest Sites  Camera Manuals