

Creative Writing

EXHIBIT GUIDELINES

Beginning.....Exhibit a notebook containing original short poems and briefly written selections. Include a short story with a picture as a theme.

Intermediate and Advanced.....Exhibit a notebook containing short poems and short stories, etc., or an article written about a specific subject.....

Exhibit a notebook containing speeches, scripts, etc. (original works of exhibitor). . . .

Outstanding Exhibit Awards

- Notebooks should be cumulative, so leave previous years work in each notebook to reflect progress.
- They may be handwritten (legibly) or typed.
- Exhibit will be judged on creativity; originality and the ability to hold the interest of the reader.
- Exhibited writing may be fiction, non fiction, journals, prose, poetry (including free verse, limericks or haikus)and/or speeches.

BEGINNING OBJECTIVES:

- Learn to create a basis for critical evaluation of reading materials.
- Develop an interest in learning good techniques of communicating.
- Learn how to exercise originality of thought.
- Develop a better vocabulary and feeling for words.
- Improve mechanics of your writing.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & SUGGESTIONS:

- Plan and continually evaluate the project with leader.
- Analyze news items and other writings for content and form.
- Write and tell a short story of 500 words or less.
- Write short poems of 8 lines or more on any topic.
- Select poems for oral reading which are especially meaningful.
- Play games and exercises which demand quick and inventive responses.

EXAMPLE:

- Write a paragraph about two seemingly unrelated words, such as cat and kite.
- Write an original story about a picture or painting.
- Write brief, interesting news items concerning activities of your club, school, and community.
- Exhibit writings.

INTERMEDIATE OBJECTIVES:

- Learn expressive use of words.
- Learn correct use of parts of speech.
- Learn to communicate with others interestingly and effectively.
- Learn to express thoughts and line of thought in rhyme.
- Learn proper ways of preparing manuscripts.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & SUGGESTIONS:

- Plan and continually evaluate the project with leader.
- Write an article describing a person without using an adjective.
- Compose letters that illustrate the following:
 1. A special greeting
 2. Appreciation
 3. Inquiry
 4. Sympathy
 5. Request for information
- Write poetry and short stories of increased length.
- Write a newspaper item for use in local papers.
- Write an essay of 500 words or more on a selected topic after practicing shorter essays.
- Invite or contact a writer to learn from him necessary knowledge and ideas for better expression.
- Continue practice in oral reading.
- Exhibit best writing or manuscript.

ADVANCED OBJECTIVES:

- Relate spoken word to written word.
- Expand vocabulary
- Learn how manuscripts are marketed and what makes them marketable. (Can be done through references).
- Expand and broaden your knowledge and interpretation of current writings.
- Learn to work with younger members who are interested in writing.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & SUGGESTIONS:

- Plan and continually evaluate the project with leader.
- Write a speech three or more minutes in length on an appropriate topic.
- Write a radio or TV script for an interview.
- Prepare lines which could be used for greeting cards.
- Use speaker or writer in club meeting to describe careers in writing.
- Serve as "library page" - volunteer or paid.
- Discuss in small groups and analyze the words of writers and poets not considered in formal classes school.
- Study and made suggestions for good stories and books for children.

- Listen to recordings of famous readers like Charles Laughton, and others.
- Read to a shut-in, or to small children.
- Help members to play word games, to develop outlines, to write stories, and to compose written work.
- Demonstrate techniques or writing and reading.
- Help arrange tours and exhibit.
- Exhibit best works.

Creative Writing and Computers

Three new 4-H Creative Writing sections were added in 2002 to recognize the new connections writing has in today's world. They are Computer Communications, Everyday Communication and Creative Writing Careers. As with the original Creative Writing sections, submission of a school assignment is acceptable in the new sections. However, 4-H members are expected to exhibit works that have no references to school instructor, grade level, or class period. For 4-H Fair Exhibit Day, school assignments used as Creative Writing entries should be recopied. There may be some questions about the use of illustrations or photographs in the Creative Writing Careers section. The use of pictures within an ad campaign, travel brochure or press release should strengthen the written text, not replace it.

The goal of this section is to recognize the use of creative writing while you are on the internet. Your exhibit should show how you write on the spur of the moment through instant messaging or e-mails.

Your exhibit will be a log of your internet correspondence.

Here is an example of Computer Communication:

The KzooKid: Hey Mike, I missed the hockey game last night... what happened?

Mike4321: The Wings lost to Carolina. It was tied at the end of the third period and the Wings lost in overtime.

The KzooKid: Ouch! What was the score?

Mike4321: The Detroit Red Wings barely had time to react. Fifty-eight seconds into overtime in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup finals, Ron Francis put the puck in the goal to give the Carolina Hurricanes the win for their first victory in 13 attempts at Joe Louis Arena. It was an unlikely finish to the first game of a series that the Red Wings supposedly had already won before even hitting the ice -- but it is a finish that shows just how determined the upstart Hurricanes are as they push to make franchise history.

Mike4321: You can read more about it here:

<http://sports.yahoo.com/nhl/news/ap/20020605/ap-hurricanes-redwings-stanleycup.html>

The KzooKid: Okay... thanks.

The KzooKid: Did you watch the game at home or did you get together with friends?

Mike4321: Lisa and I watched it at home. Everyone in the neighborhood was watching. What

were you doing that you didn't see the game?

The KzooKid: What was the score? I haven't had a chance to turn on the news... thanks for the link.

Mike4321: What was that?

The KzooKid: We were out shopping for graduation gifts for Alex and Kirsten... I saw the score on the TV over at Meijers when there was 19 minutes remaining in the 2nd period... it was 1-0 Detroit then.

The KzooKid: The final score!

Mike4321: 3-2 Carolina

Important note: before you publish your internet conversations make sure the other person you chatted with knows you are going to use it on 4-H Fair Exhibit Day.

Everyday Communication

The goal of this section is to recognize the use of creative writing in day-to-day situations. Your exhibit should show the importance of clear, written communication. An exhibit in this section will include one example of all of the following:

1. A real phone message that includes
 - a. date
 - b. time
 - c. name of the person calling
 - d. message
 - e. phone number to call back (to protect privacy please use 555-5555 as the phone number.)
2. Written instructions giving the directions from your home to another place
3. A real note that explains where you can be reached in case someone needs to contact you.
4. A short thank you note
5. An informal letter to a friend or relative
 - If any of the above are not on a standard 8 1/2 by 11 inch piece of paper, please tape or staple on a regular sheet of paper so it can be in your notebook.

Creative Writing Careers

The goal of this section is to recognize the use of creative writing in real situations. Your writing should exhibit your interest and involvement in the world around you.

Here is a partial list of acceptable uses of creative writing in this section:

- School research paper
- Work memo on new policy
- Cover letter for work resume
- Newspaper press release
- Travel brochure
- Essay for college entrance application
- Advertising campaign
- New!!! Movie Review, Song Lyrics

Please note: artwork can be included with exhibits such as research papers, press releases, travel brochures and advertising campaigns.