

4-H PHOTO FUN CLUB



4-H PHOTO FUN CLUB MEMBERS' MANUAL

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4-H Photo Fun Club

Leader — Dick Arnold
Junior Leader — Marcia Conrad
Club Members — Elbert Coleman
Tom Kuehnel
Brian Lester
Mary Maurer
Maria Smith
John Sommerer

Produced for 4-H through the cooperation of Eastman Kodak Company, the Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State Extension Services of the Land Grant Universities, and the National 4-H Service Committee.

THE 4-H PHOTO FUN CLUB

Hi! Welcome to the 4-H Photo Fun Club. During the next several weeks, you and thousands of other kids in your community will be members of this exciting club. Through six television programs—30 minutes each—and this manual, you will learn a lot about photography.

You will learn how to use your camera, how to take good pictures of your friends, pets, and 4-H projects, and just about anything you can think of. You will tell stories with pictures and become better acquainted with 4-H. You also may find some ideas that will be helpful to you in school and useful in neighborhood and community drives and activities.

Join in the Fun—

- Watch all six of the meetings (programs) on television at home or with a group of your friends.
- Use this manual before, during, and after each meeting so that you can get as much as possible from your 4-H Photo Fun Club membership.
 1. First read through the whole manual.
 2. Just before each TV meeting, read the information about that meeting.
 3. Watch each TV meeting and look for things that will help you take better pictures. If there is a word you don't understand, write it in the margin of your manual, and after the program look it up in the glossary (page 11).
 4. After the meeting, review what you saw, starting with the items listed in this manual. Complete the assigned project before the next TV meeting and do as many of the other suggested projects as you have time to do.
- Before the first meeting, get your equipment and supplies together and make sure your camera is in good working order. You will need—
 1. Any still camera (not a movie camera). You or your parents probably have one you can use.
 2. Three or four cartridges or rolls of film for prints (color or black-and-white). Be sure you have the correct size of film for your camera.
 3. Flashcubes, flashbulbs, or magicubes to fit your camera if you want to take pictures indoors. If your camera uses a flash holder, you will need one of these, too.
 4. A photo album or some other way of keeping pictures. You may want to wait until after the second meeting to decide what you need and how you will mount your pictures.
 5. A few 3- x 5-inch file cards or slips of paper for planning picture stories, and envelopes to store negatives.
- If you have any questions about photography, talk with a person in your community or neighborhood who may be able to give you the right answers. Try—
 1. Your parents
 2. People who work in photo stores
 3. Your teacher or the school camera-club adviser
 4. A 4-H leader in the community or the county extension 4-H agent
 5. A member of a camera club in your area
 6. The school or public librarian
 7. A professional photographer
 8. A photographer for the local newspaper
- Do the assigned project after each meeting, plus other suggested activities. You may want to do these with a group of friends.
- Review the "Checklist for Good Pictures" each time before taking pictures (see last page).

MEETING NO. 1

Before this Meeting

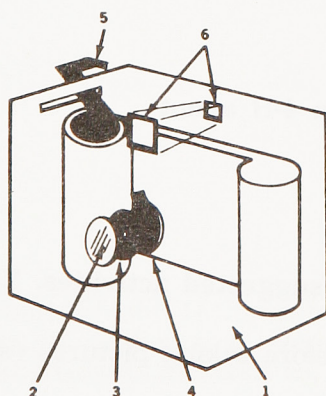
- Locate a photofinisher who will process your film in four or five days or less.
- Read your camera instruction book.
- Check your camera to make sure it works properly.
- Get your film and flashcubes, flashbulbs, or magicubes if you need them.
- Read the rest of the items included in this meeting.

During the Meeting

- Watch the TV program and meet leader Dick Arnold and the other members of the 4-H Photo Fun Club—Maria, Elbert, Tom, Brian, Mary, and John. Find out more about the things that you will be doing in the club. Marcia, the junior leader, shows five things needed to take a picture. See the different parts of the camera and how to load a camera with film. Notice the different types of cameras the club members have.

After the Meeting

- Review the things you saw, and remember—
 1. To make a photograph you need light, a subject, a camera, film, and processing.
 2. Almost all cameras have these basic parts: a lighttight box to keep light from the film (except when you want to make a picture) and to hold the other parts; an opening to let in the picture-taking light; a lens to collect the light reflected from the subject and focus it on the film; a shutter to control the length of time the light enters; a film advance to move the film ahead for the next picture; and a viewfinder to help you aim your camera.
 3. Take proper care of your camera. Use a soft, lintless cloth to keep the camera lens clean. Store your camera and film in a dry, cool place.
 4. When buying film, tell the salesperson whether you want film for color prints, or black-and-white prints. Also tell him what size of film you need.
 5. *Do the assigned project*—Take two or three pictures of each of the following: people, animals, landscapes, and buildings. Take two of each if your camera makes 8 pictures per roll; take three of each if your camera makes 12 pictures per roll. Take these pictures as soon as possible after the first meeting so that they can be processed and ready to view at the next meeting. Remember to look at the "Checklist for Good Pictures" on the last page of this manual before taking any pictures.
 6. Practice holding and aiming your camera.
 7. Fill in the camera sketch and word scramble.



| | |
|---|-------|
| 1 | _____ |
| 2 | _____ |
| 3 | _____ |
| 4 | _____ |
| 5 | _____ |
| 6 | _____ |

WORD SCRAMBLE

See if you can unscramble the six photographic terms and find out the meaning to our definition.

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| N O L S | _____ |
| S H L F O | _____ |
| G O N E I V E T | _____ |
| R E S S P O O N I G | _____ |
| O F L I | _____ |
| T I N O P | _____ |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

: a picture-taking device.

MEETING NO. 2

Before this Meeting

- Make sure you have the pictures you made after the first meeting.
- Get your film and flashcubes, flashbulbs, or magicubes for the Meeting No. 2 assignment if you need them.
- Read the rest of the items included in this meeting.

During the Meeting

- Pay close attention to the good and bad pictures taken by the photo-club members on television. How did your photos turn out compared with theirs? Did you make some of the same mistakes? Watch the demonstration John has set up to help members practice proper camera-holding techniques. Mary demonstrates a simple photo filing system for both prints and negatives. You should start your own negative and picture file. Marcia, the junior leader, illustrates how to mount photos.

After the Meeting

- Review the things you saw, and remember—
 1. Always hold your camera very steady when you are taking a picture.
 2. Use flashcubes, flashbulbs, or magicubes for your indoor pictures.
 3. File your individual negatives in numbered envelopes. The envelope for each negative should contain information on subject matter, location, date, and a caption or title. Carefully place your prints in a binder or album. Number your prints to match the numbers you put on your negative envelopes.
 4. *Do the assigned project*—Take two or three more pictures of each of the following: people, animals, landscapes, and buildings. Take two of each if your camera makes 8 pictures per roll; take three of each if your camera makes 12 pictures per roll. Try to make them even better than your first pictures. You may want to use new subjects or vary the pose or camera angle. Have these pictures processed and ready to view at Meeting No. 3.
 5. Start planning a topic or subject you'd like to use for a picture story. Your story should take one cartridge or roll of film.
 6. Set up a "mirror demonstration" as John did, and practice holding the camera steady with your friends and family.

MEETING NO. 3

Before this Meeting

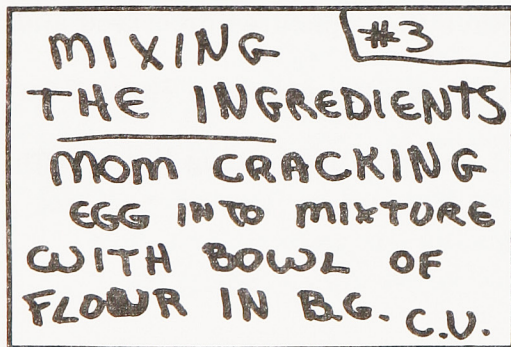
- Make sure you have the pictures you made after Meeting No. 2 for study during this meeting.
- Have ready a few 3- x 5-inch file cards or slips of paper for planning picture stories.
- Read the rest of the items included in this meeting.

During the Meeting

- Compare the photos you took for the assignment after Meeting No. 2 with those taken by photo-club members on television. Are your pictures better than those you took for the first meeting assignment? Are there still some things you are doing wrong? Mr. Arnold illustrates good picture composition. Marcia shows you a picture story she made, including the use of planning cards to obtain the logical sequence for her story. Watch carefully because you will be doing a picture story, too! Elbert and Marcia demonstrate the picture-taking checklist on the last page.

After the Meeting

- Review the things you saw, and remember —
 1. Carefully choose the best camera angle for each picture you take. Before taking a picture, look at your subject through the viewfinder from a low, level, and high angle (if possible). Also, move around your subject (if possible) and view it from different positions. Then choose the camera angle that you like best.
 2. Carefully choose the camera-to-subject distance for each picture. Move in close when taking pictures of friends, pets, and flowers.
 3. Use planning cards to plan picture stories.



A planning card looks like this. Note that it has a simple sketch or description of the subject and includes information to help make the picture.

4. *Do the assigned project*—Use planning cards to plan a picture story. If your camera gets 12 pictures from a cartridge or roll of film, plan a story with 12 pictures or less. If your camera gets 8 pictures from a roll of film, plan a story with 8 pictures or less. You may want to start taking pictures for your story now.
5. Study the pictures you took after the first two meetings. Look at the composition. Do the pictures “say” what you want them to? What makes some better than others?
6. Practice the steps in the “Checklist for Good Pictures” as Elbert and Maria did (see last page).

MEETING NO. 4

Before this Meeting

- Have your planning cards and photographs (if you have taken any) for your picture story ready for the meeting.
- Read the rest of the items included in this meeting.

During the Meeting

- Watch closely as Brian shows some photos Mr. Arnold has taken over the years, pointing out some of the errors and talking about possible corrections. Have you made some of the same mistakes with photos you have taken? Mary and John display and discuss their picture stories, including the planning cards they used to assemble the stories. Mr. Smith, the local 4-H agent, visits the club meeting to talk about an upcoming "Community Conservation Week." He asks the club members if they would like to prepare some photo posters about conservation for store windows at the local shopping center.

After the Meeting

- Review the things you saw, and remember—
 1. Easy tips for good pictures:
 - Load and unload your camera carefully.
 - Hold your camera steady.
 - Be sure nothing blocks the lens.
 - Remember how close your camera instruction manual says you can get to your subject.
 - Focus properly if you're using an adjustable camera.
 - Keep the lens clean.
 - Carefully center your subject in the viewfinder.
 2. For good composition:
 - Move in close to your subject, especially when making pictures of people and pets. With most cameras, you can stand as close as 4 or 5 feet from your subject. Check your camera manual.
 - Keep the background simple. Sky, grass, trees, or water makes a good background.
 3. *Do the assigned project*—Continue planning and photographing your picture story.
 4. Here's something else you should do. Choose five or six photos from magazines, newspapers, or a family album that you think could be improved. How would you improve them? Choose some you think are good. Why are they good?

MEETING NO. 5

Before this Meeting

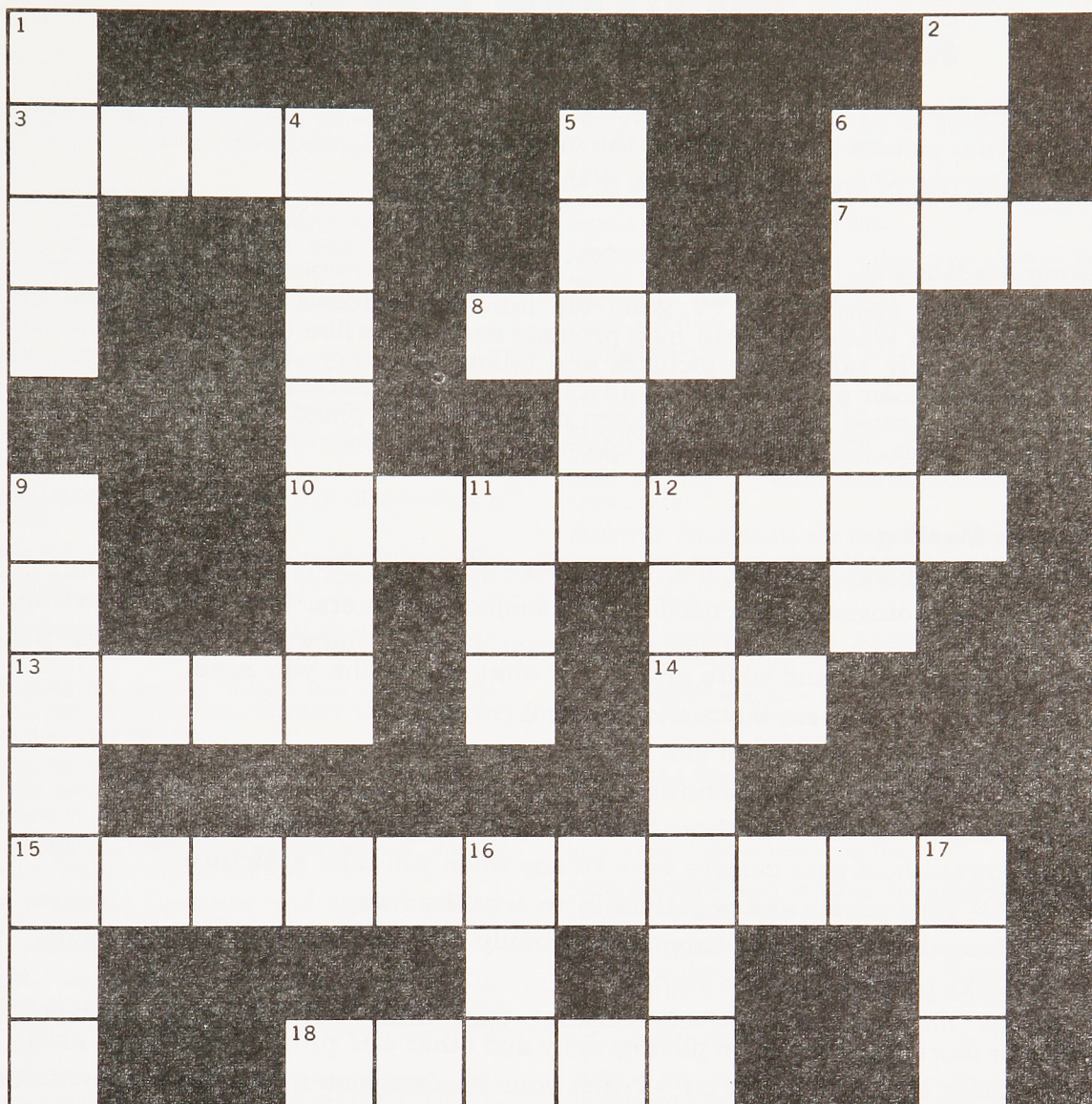
- Have your planning cards and photographs for your picture story ready for the meeting.
- Read the rest of the items included in this meeting.

During the Meeting

- A camera-club member will attend the meeting to talk about adjustable cameras. If you are using an adjustable camera, or would some day like to have one, you can get some good tips from Mr. Pallo's discussion. You will also see where the television photo-club members went on their picture-taking field trip. You will see the park Marcia's 4-H Club has developed, plus a tree farm. Brian and Tom also show their picture stories, which are a little different from those Mary and John did last week.

After the Meeting

- Review the things you saw, and remember—
 1. For good pictures:
Hold your camera steady.
Carefully compose your picture so that it says what you want it to say.
Keep the background simple and uncluttered.
 2. The amount of light that reaches the film in your camera is controlled by the size of the lens opening (indicated by an *f*-number) and the length of time the shutter is open.
 3. Use planning cards to plan your picture stories.
 4. *Do the assigned project*—Complete your picture story. Make sure your story photographs will be ready for the next meeting.
 5. If you would like, photograph some things you think present problems around your home or community. Ask your friends to help you. If possible, get "before" and "after" shots. Can you think of a way to use these pictures?
 6. You may also have fun working the photography crossword puzzle. The puzzle parts are all words and definitions you have learned during the 4-H Photo Fun Club meetings.



Across

2. ____ numbers
3. Focuses light on the film
6. Abbreviation for "close-up"
7. Black ____ white prints
8. One of the TV Photo Club members
10. Amount of light striking the film
13. Minimum camera distance is usually four ____
14. ____ exposed film (the film before you make a photograph)
15. Arrangement
18. Exposure ____

Down

1. Out of focus
2. 4-H Photo ____ Club
4. What you are photographing
5. "Short" for photograph
6. A picture-taking device
9. ____ (two words) means clear, sharp pictures
11. ____ hole camera
12. Controls how long light reaches film
16. For good photos, have your camera ____ properly
17. Abbreviation for negative

MEETING NO. 6

Before this Meeting

- Have your picture story ready for the meeting.
- Read the rest of the items included in this meeting.

During the Meeting

- Look at the posters the TV gang did for store windows to promote Community Conservation Week! You can help promote campaigns like this in your community, too, by simply taking the pictures and telling the story. Elbert and Marcia show and discuss their picture stories and all the members participate in a review of the series. Mr. Arnold urges you to keep on having 4-H photo fun by contacting your local 4-H office. Why not take him up on it?

After the Meeting

- Review the things you saw, and remember —
 1. For a photograph, you need light, a subject, a camera, film, and processing.
 2. When buying film, tell the salesperson whether you want film for color prints, color slides, or black-and-white prints, *and* what size of film you need.
 3. Read your camera instruction manual carefully.
 4. Store your camera and film in a cool, dry place.
 5. Use flash for indoor pictures.
 6. Outdoors, make sure there is enough light for picture-taking.
 7. Always hold your camera very steady when you take a picture.
 8. File your photos and negatives in an organized way.
 9. Keep the background simple by carefully choosing the best camera angle.
 10. Make plenty of picture stories.
 11. *Do the assigned project*—Contact your local 4-H leader or extension 4-H office for more information on photography and other 4-H programs in your area.
 12. *Other things you can do*—Teach your brother, sister, or a friend how to have fun taking pictures.

GLOSSARY

OF PHOTOGRAPHIC TERMS

ADJUSTABLE CAMERA a camera on which you can adjust distance settings, lens openings, and shutter speeds.

AUTOMATIC CAMERA a camera with a built-in exposure meter that automatically adjusts the lens opening, the shutter speed, or both, to let in the right amount of light for a good picture.

BACKGROUND the part of the scene that appears behind the main subject.

BACKLIGHTING light shining on the subject from the direction opposite the camera and toward the camera lens (see frontlighting and sidelighting).

CAMERA ANGLES positions of the camera in relation to the subject (viewpoints).

COMPOSITION the arrangement of all the things in a picture.

DEPTH OF FIELD the distance range between the nearest and farthest objects that appear in acceptably sharp focus in a photograph.

ENLARGEMENT a print that is larger than the negative it was made from.

EXPOSURE the amount of light that strikes photographic film or paper; controlled by the lens opening and shutter speed.

EXPOSURE METER an instrument with a light-sensitive cell used to figure the right exposure. The same as a light meter.

EXPOSURE SETTING the lens opening and shutter speed selected to expose the film.

FILM SPEED the sensitivity of a film to light; indicated by a number. The higher the number, the more sensitive, or "faster," the film.

FLASH a short, bright burst of light from a flashbulb or an electronic flash unit, usually used indoors where there isn't ordinarily enough light for picture-taking.

f-NUMBERS numbers used to indicate the size of the lens opening. Typical *f*-numbers are *f*/4, *f*/5.6, *f*/8, *f*/11, and *f*/16. The larger the *f*-number, the smaller the lens opening. These numbers help you get the right exposure.

FOCUS adjustment of the camera-to-subject distance on a lens. Some cameras need no focus adjustment. When something is "in focus," it appears clear and sharp.

FOREGROUND the part of the scene in front of the main subject.

FRONTLIGHTING light shining on the subject from the direction of the camera.

LENS one or more pieces of special glass or similar material that collects and focuses rays of light to form a sharp image on the film.

NEGATIVE processed film with a reversed-tone image of the original scene (it is dark where the original scene was light and light where the original scene was dark). Negatives are used to make prints.

OVEREXPOSURE the result of too much light reaching the film, making a dark negative or a washed-out print or slide.

PLANNING CARDS file cards (3 x 5-inch or 4 x 6-inch) available from stationery stores. They are used to plan a picture story; sometimes called "story cards."

POSITIVE the opposite of a negative; a photographic image that is dark where the subject was dark and light where the subject was light—for example, a finished print or slide.

PRINT a positive picture, usually on paper, and usually produced from a negative.

PROCESSING a system of treating exposed film or photographic paper with chemicals to produce finished slides, movies, or prints.

SCENE the overall area or location included in a picture.

SHUTTER a device in your camera that controls how long a time light reaches the film.

SIDELIGHTING light striking the subject from the side, as you face the subject.

SIMPLE CAMERA a camera that has few or no adjustments that you have to make. Usually, simple cameras have only one size of lens opening, have one or two shutter speeds, and don't require any settings for proper focus.

SLIDE a picture that you look at through a viewer or show on a screen with a slide projector.

SUBJECT whatever you are photographing. You can take a picture of almost anything.

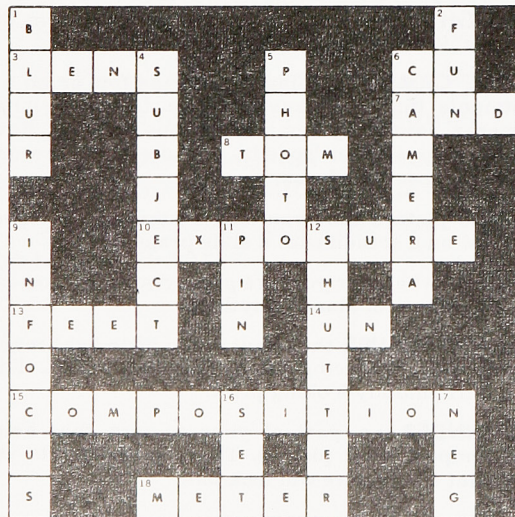
UNDEREXPOSURE the result of too little light reaching the film, producing a light negative, a dark slide, or a dark, muddy-looking print.

VIEWFINDER the part of your camera that helps you compose your picture. The viewfinder lets you see what the picture will look like.

CHECKLIST FOR GOOD PICTURES

It's a good idea to read this checklist before using your camera. If you do each of the things listed here, you should be happy with your pictures.

- Carefully load your camera according to the instructions in your camera manual.
- Use flash for indoor pictures.
- Indoors and outdoors, keep within the camera-to-subject distance recommended in your camera manual.
- Plan what you want each picture to "say."
- While looking through the viewfinder, compose the picture so that it says just what you want it to say.
- Keep the background simple.
- Hold your camera *firmly* with both hands.
- Gently *squeeze* the shutter release.
- Advance the film to the next exposure. (If you have a camera that prevents double exposures, wait to advance the film until you're ready to take the next picture.)
- After the last picture, wind the film all the way through the camera. Be sure to have your film processed as soon as possible.



N E L S
S H L F A
G A N E I V E T
R E S S P O C N I G
M F L I
T I N R P

LENS
FLASH
NEGATIVE
PROCESSING
FILM
PRINT

C A M E R A

: a picture-taking device.