

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND THE UNITED STATES
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J. W. BURCH, Director, Agricultural Extension Service
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LEADER'S GUIDE*

HOME FURNISHINGS I

ACCESSORIES FOR THE BEDROOM

(To be used with 4-H Club Circular 66)

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This Leader's Guide has been prepared to assist the leader in planning the first-year 4-H project in Home Furnishing for the year. It is hoped that this guide will assist the leader in planning a detailed program for each meeting so that the girls may gain the maximum experience from their club work.

Home furnishing literature has been planned on a progressive basis to meet the individual differences in age and experience of club members. For this reason your project group may consist of Home Furnishing I and II members. This means that subject matter meetings have been planned for general information for entire groups and specific information for specific groups.

If your project group is large, it is possible that an assistant will be needed to work with one division. Older club members who have had or are carrying the second-year Home Furnishing might serve as an assistant leader leading younger girls in Home Furnishing I club work.

In planning your individual project program you may use the suggested meetings and apply them to your club. You are encouraged to use any supplementary material which is available to you through high school texts or extension publications. The meetings are planned on a yearly basis since community clubs will be organized or reorganized during September or October. Subject matter plans are made, therefore, to begin in October or November. After the girls have decided upon the articles to be made the project plans will be adapted to fit the girls' needs.

*Prepared by Helen L. Church, State Club Agent, in collaboration with Madonna Fitzgerald, Home Management Specialist.

OBJECTIVES

This project work is planned for the girl who is a beginner and who wishes to improve her room on a long time plan. The objectives are to give the girl:

- (a). An interest in her own room.
- (b). An opportunity to make simple, practical articles which will increase the comfort and beauty of her room.
- (c). An opportunity of planning the improvement and care of a room through the choice of color, design and furnishings.

These objectives may be met by making a plan for the work to be done in a certain room, including the choice of articles to be made and the daily care of the room, and in the selection and construction of at least four articles which will make her room more comfortable and attractive. Each girl should choose the articles that will be most practical for her individual needs.

The accessories suggested are. A pair of pillow cases, a comfort protector, a dresser scarf or set, a washable cushion, curtains, a foot stool, two pictures (silhouettes or other type), a bedspread, colorful chair seat and back, and a simple wall hanging.

PROJECT ORGANIZATION

The project leaders and assistants with a committee of club members will want to plan the progress of the project for their club. These plans could be placed in a project program book of some kind. Their plans will include place of meetings, individual demonstration by members, discussion, subjects, tours, and work to be done at meetings. The following should be done at the first meetings:

1. Since the project group is a part of the community 4-H club a junior chairman will be selected.
2. A committee will need to be named to plan the project program with the leader for the year.
3. Specific goals will be set up in each group to satisfy the group and meet the objectives of the project.
4. Literature will be distributed and reports explained.

SUGGESTED MEETINGS

1st Meeting:

How to plan work for the year.

Points to remember.

1. Each girl should make a plan of the bedroom floor.
2. Show placing of furniture on plan.
3. Analyze colors in room which will be a basis for accessory colors.
4. Each girl will make a list of the accessories which could be used in the room.
5. Decide upon at least 4 articles to be completed by the end of the club year.

Things to do at meetings.

1. Have girls draw floor plans.
2. Ask each girl to bring description of articles in bedroom.
3. List articles needed and to be made.
4. Select a member of the project for junior chairman.

2nd Meeting:

How to select colors for room.

Points to remember.

1. Color of walls and floor are large areas of color and will need to be considered first in color selection.
2. What colors are already in the room.
3. Consider the location of the room and the window exposure.
4. Remember that it is usually better taste to use bright colors in small amounts or areas.
5. Colors selected for a room may be dependent upon the girl's personality.

Things to do at meetings and at home.

1. Through use of magazine pictures try to criticize colors shown remembering that colors in advertising are many times poor because they have to attract the eye.
2. Girls may want to make a tour of bedrooms to see each individual room before the accessories are to be made.
3. If you find girls interested in color allow them to make the color wheel by using the 3 primary colors with water colors.

Demonstrations.

An illustrated talk would be preferable to a demonstration on selecting colors for a bedroom with south exposure, north, east and west.

References.

Color and design found in women's magazines or any art books in high school libraries.

3rd Meeting:

How to make a comfort protector.

Points to remember.

1. Use inexpensive material such as muslin bleached or unbleached.
2. If material is new, possibly laundering should be done before making to pre-shrink the material.
3. If there is sewing to be done by the girl a plain hem should be used—color and decoration can be obtained through use of: Embroidery or applique of simple design. Very little decoration in soft colors will be best on most protectors, especially if the comfort is highly colored.
4. Only experienced girls will want to try to use bias tape.
5. Colors used in decoration will be dependent upon colors in comfort.
6. Be sure that any decorations used will launder easily without fading.

Things to do at meetings.

1. Have girls cut out the protector, using straight lines by pulling threads.
2. Girls may stitch article at home.
3. Have girls bring design they wish to use to next meeting.
4. Draw and stamp.

Demonstrations.

1. How to cut out a comfort protector (individual).
2. How to apply embroidery design to protector.

4th Meeting:

How to select and make pillow cases for bedroom.

Points to remember.

1. Pillow cases should fit the pillows.
2. Tubing is preferable material, since only one seam is needed.
3. There are standard sizes of tubing.
4. Quality of tubing is dependent upon thread count.
5. Two inch hems.
6. Simple and preferably white trimming should be used.
7. Hemstitched hems are nice and always easily laundered.

Things to do at meeting.

1. Have girls select and bring material for pillow cases.
2. Decide upon type of design to be used. This might involve teaching girls method of hemstitching.

References.

Information on this may be found in Missouri Extension Circular 373, "If You Would Learn to Sew."

5th Meeting:

How to make cushion covers.

Points to remember.

1. Pillow should have a definite place in the room.
2. Scraps from scrap bag may make quilted design.
3. Try making cushions of varied shape, depending on places of use.

Things to do at meeting.

1. Have girls bring pillow for which their cover is to be made—also scraps or new material for a pillow.
2. Have girls plan pillow design and start making—the work to be finished at home.

Demonstrations.

1. How to make a chair cushion cover (team).
2. How to apply applique to a cover (individual).
3. How to fasten cover over cushion (individual).

6th Meeting:

How to make dresser sets.

Points to remember.

1. Keep in mind shape and kind of a dresser.
2. Best design will conform to shape of dresser top.
3. Color should be neutral—white or ecru is preferable.
4. Design should conform to size of scarf.
5. Linen, prints, muslin and other soft materials are suitable.
6. Be sure that scarf will launder easily—white embroidery is preferable.
7. Hems may be hemstitched, rolled or hand hemmed.

Things to do at meetings.

1. Keep in mind dresser before cutting out article.
2. Have girl plan the shape of any embroidery or applique to be used.
3. Girls to complete articles at home.
4. Have articles judged at next meeting.

Demonstrations.

1. How to cut out dresser scarf.
2. How to apply design to dresser scarf.
3. How to arrange articles on a dresser to keep it attractive.

7th Meeting:

How to select and make a simple chair cover.

Points to remember.

1. If a room does not have a suitable chair, a discarded chair may be made most attractive.
2. Keep colors and design of room in mind when selecting material.
3. Material should be practical in color, very small in design, if any, and easily laundered.
4. General shape and size of chair will determine the type of cover to be used.
5. Make paper pattern for chair first, allowing 1½ inches for seams.

Things to do at meetings and at home.

1. Demonstrate as leader how to make the paper pattern for the chair cover.
2. Cut out of material and make at least one complete cover at meeting.
3. Girls fit paper pattern on chair at home if they cannot bring chair to meeting.
4. Be sure that girls who cannot sew accurately use something other than bias for trimming.

Demonstrations.

1. How to make a pattern for a chair cushion (individual).
2. How to make a chair cover (team demonstration).

8th Meeting:

How to select and make pictures suitable for a bedroom.

Points to remember.

1. Pictures in bedroom should have subject which is pleasing and restful.
2. Pictures need to conform to wall space and color harmony of the room.
3. Pictures may show individuality and personality of person occupying the room.
4. The frame of the picture should be simple in design so that it will not detract from the picture.
5. Wall hangings are used as a decorative note in a room.
6. Silhouette pictures may be made according to directions in manual.
7. Other prints which have been collected from magazine covers and other places may be framed with glass and tape using a plain white drawing paper for a mat.
8. Hanging of pictures is most important.

Things to do at meetings.

1. Ask girls to bring their favorite picture from home and give reasons for liking it.

2. Analyze, if possible, several good pictures using mimeograph material No. 80.
3. Have girls make pictures either with paint or frame prints.

9th Meeting:

How to arrange and care for the bedroom.

Points to remember.

1. Furniture should be arranged so that it is convenient for you to dress.
2. Dresser should be near closet and yet where light shines on you as you dress before the mirror.
3. The room may have too much furniture in it. Furniture not used can be discarded or adapted to another room.
4. A bedroom should be kept neat, clean and well ventilated.
5. The correct method of bedmaking makes bedmaking a simple task.
6. Clean sheets and pillow cases once per week at which time the mattress will need turning and other bed clothing aired.
7. A bedroom needs to convey restfulness and can only do this when it is in order.

Things to do at meetings and at home.

1. Have each girl demonstrate after leader has demonstrated the correct method of bedmaking.
2. Use a bedroom and move furniture and rugs into different places in room and discuss the best arrangement.
3. Ask each girl to report on any change she has made in her room at the next meeting.

Demonstration.

1. How to make a bed (team demonstration).

10th Meeting:

How to select and make bedroom curtains? What types of materials are suitable for girls' bedroom curtains?

1. Thin material which allows light to come through is most satisfactory.
2. Voiles, marquissette, curtain swiss and scrimms are common materials used.

What colors will be selected?

Points to remember.

1. Since a window is in sunlight any colored curtain is apt to fade unless it is color fast.
2. Cream, tan, ecru and white are most commonly used.

How long and full should curtains be made?

Points to remember.

1. Allow twice the width for fullness in soft materials and heavier materials one and one-half.
2. The proportion of the window is important in the length of curtain.
3. Usual length of glass curtain is to the sill but if window is too short they may come to the apron.
4. Hems at top and bottom should be 3 inches deep.
5. Allow 4 inches for shrinkage.

6. Inside edges of curtains should have 1 to 1½ inch hems. Outside edges from ½ to ¾ inch.

What type of trimmings may be used for curtains?

1. Ruffles are sometimes made.
2. Braids, fringes, etc. may be chosen of color which you desire to emphasize in your room.
3. Rick rack braid in bands may be applied in strips horizontally if windows are long, and vertically to lengthen windows.
4. Block printing designs on unbleached muslin may make nice designs for curtains used as drapes.

Things to do at meeting and at home.

1. Girls may figure correct measurements and cut curtains to be made at home.
2. If sewing machine has ruffler attachment girls may want to learn to use a ruffler.
3. If block printing is to be done design will need to be made on linoleum and color and color mixing tried.
4. After curtains are finished have girls score according to score card in manual.

Demonstrations.

1. How to measure window for the amount of curtain material needed.
2. How to hang curtains for various effects.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

At the completion of the project work the members may want to visit the girls' rooms and see the improvements which have been made. The community 4-H club will want to have some type of an achievement program in their community. The home furnishing project will be represented by demonstrations, exhibits, etc., as planned by the community club.

EXHIBITS

Home furnishing club members will want to exhibit articles at County and State Fairs and other community places. The State Fair catalog is available to your home demonstration agent. You will find in it the classes of articles which will go from the county to the State Fair. All articles should be labeled according to the following label.

Department Lot ----- Class ----- Mary Jones Lincoln County
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RECORDS AND REPORTS

Each club member has a project record blank in the back of her circular. At the beginning of the project work the report blank should be studied and should be a guide in setting up individual and club goals. Members will want to keep records carefully during the progress of the club, as the completion of the work is based upon the record.

When the work is completed the project leader approves the report by signing her initials after the name of each member in the Secretary's Record Book. If the report is not satisfactory the leader should hand back the report with suggestions for improvement. It is most important that boys and girls keep their reports of each year's work as an accumulated record may be needed to show the member's accomplishments over a period of time.

SCRAP BOOK

A scrap book may be made by each Home Furnishing club member. This book may be a general scrap book to include anything of interest to the girl. It might include clippings of news stories, any pictures of her club work, or activities. This will be a personal book with the interest of the girl included and is not a requirement.

For detailed instruction on how to make a scrap book, ask your county extension office for a copy of Mimeographed Circular 320, "The Scrap Book".