

# Hunting for Life:

## *An Introduction to the Hunting Discipline*

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Hunting is a tradition that has been passed down from our ancestors and has since become a multimillion-dollar industry. Where primitive man had to forage and harvest game in order to survive, modern times have transformed hunting into a recreational sport that turns wildlife into tasty table fare.

There are many types of hunting. Regardless of age, race, sex, or socioeconomic status, everyone hunts. Whether it is for white-tailed deer in the fall or the best deal on a new jacket at the mall, we still have the compulsion to hunt, capture, and possess. The instinct to hunt remains as strong as ever. Rocks, clubs, and spears have been replaced with projectiles driven by gunpowder. The invention of gunpowder changed the world, but the fundamentals of hunting remain the same. Consider the shotgun: its pellets are simply a modification of the stones our ancestors threw at prey in order to stop them long enough to harvest them.

The Hunting Discipline within the 4-H Shooting Sports program goes above and beyond teaching how to hunt. The program introduces youth to the exciting world associated with hunting as well—planning a camping trip, selecting the correct camouflage based on surroundings and game pursued, reading a compass, and learning basic survival skills. Some additional topics in the Hunting Discipline are listed on the back of this page, but this list is not exhaustive.

Want to have this discipline added to your local 4-H Shooting Sports offerings? Ask an adult volunteer to contact your local 4-H agent to sign up for the Hunting Discipline. You'll enjoy the great outdoors as you never have before!



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## Introduction to Hunting

- History of Hunting
- Why We Hunt
- Hunting Ethics
- Hunting Laws and Regulations
- Hunter and Landowner Relations
- Wildlife Management and the Hunter
- Careers in Hunting, Shooting Sports, and Wildlife Management

## Types of Hunting

- Rifle
- Shotgun
- Handgun
- Muzzleloader
- Bow
- Hunting with a Camera

## Outdoor and Hunting Equipment

- Orienteering
- Choosing Optics
- Hunting Clothing
- Cutting Tools

## Getting Ready for the Hunt

- Proper Planning
- The Hunting Camp
- Firearm Safety
- Survival

## Hunting Skills and Techniques

- Recovering Game
- Field Care and Processing
- Stands and Blinds
- Stalking Game Animals
- Hunting with Dogs

## Popular Game Species

- Rabbits and Hares
- Squirrels
- White-tailed Deer
- Ring-necked Pheasants
- Waterfowl
- Wild Turkeys

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