

## 540 – NOT JUST KNOTS

### General 4-H Project

- ✿ For project COMPLETION and GRADE, Member MUST participate in either:
    1. **County 4-H Project Judging Day** – Ross County Fairgrounds  
Member is eligible for County Awards (Judges' Choice, Outstanding, Honorable Mention) and State Fair Selection (if applicable)
    2. **Early 4-H Project Judging** – Ross County Service Center  
Members unable to attend County Project Judging Day should plan to attend Early Judging. Member is eligible for County Rosettes (Outstanding, Honorable Mention).  
*\* Exception for State Fair selection at Early Judging - If there is only one member judged in a project, then the judge has the option to select a state fair representative.*
  - ✿ Complete "Thank You" note activity (see copy of instruction sheet included in your project book)
  - ✿ To receive Fair Premiums, your project must be displayed at the Ross County Fair in a Jr. Fair Building booth.
  - ✿ **For Project Judging Dates & Times & Details:**  
ASK your Club Advisor  
READ the *May Family HOTLINE* sent to every 4-H family  
LOOK on the 4-H App or website <http://ross.osu.edu>
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**Skill Level:** All age and skill levels

#### Completion:

1. Complete all Activities 1 – 16
2. Complete Activity 17: "Capstone Project" – see next page for Capstone Project ideas
3. All "Talking It Over" questions
4. At least 2 project learning experiences
5. At least 2 leadership/citizenship activities
6. Prepare exhibit of 14 types of knots, bends, and hitches
7. Be able to identify and demonstrate tying various knots

#### Judging:

1. Bring to 4-H Project Judging Day - -
  - a. Completed Project Book
  - b. Capstone Project
  - c. Knot Exhibit (see #6 above)
2. Interview on types of rope, use and knots.

#### County Fair Exhibit:

Display Capstone Project and/or your Knot Exhibit in a fair booth.

#### State Fair Competition:

1. State Fair participants will be selected during county-level competition on 4-H Project Judging Day.
2. Event: STEM Day  
Bring: Completed project book, \*display, and interview  
*\*Display should be less than 48" wide, 24" deep, and 36" tall of a completed activity from the book*



## #540 NOT JUST KNOTS

### Project Description

Learn to make fourteen different simple knots, bends, and hitches. Remember what they say— practice, practice, practice! Then show what you have learned with a capstone project of your choosing.

### Ideas for Capstone Projects

In addition to the capstone project guidelines in Activity 17 of *Not Just Knots*, the ideas below are intended to help you decide how best to show and apply what you have learned about knots this year.

Don't forget! Your capstone project needs a plan with (A) a project description, (B) materials list, (C) steps to completion, and (D) timeline. See Activity 17 in the project book for more information.

- Use the **half hitch**, a simple and versatile knot, to create a grip anywhere you need a more secure hold on something. Examples include a lawn mower steering wheel, tool handles, farm equipment, gates, and hiking staffs.
- Directions for a **rope halter** from the American Quarter Horse Association are below. Use them to make a halter for your horse or adapt them as necessary to make a halter for a different livestock or companion animal.
- Teach someone or a group how to make any knot by providing step-by-step instructions on a temporary knot board (instructions below).
- Learn more about **macrame** and use it to make a wall hanging, plant hanger, belt, earrings, or some other decoration or accessory.
- The **overhand knot** is the simplest and smallest of all knot forms. It can be used in combination with other basic knots to make more knots with different names and functions. Learn all about the overhand knot and its many uses, and then create a knotboard showing and identifying some of the knot combinations.
- **Whipping** is used to keep cordage ends from unwrapping or fraying, and there are many ways to do it. Explore a few of them and create a knotboard that demonstrates the steps for at least one method.
- Learn about **West Country Whipping**, a practical and easy way to finish the end of a piece of cordage, and use it to finish a few different kinds of cordage. Make a knot board showcasing your work.
- A carrick bend mat and Turk's head knot are made the same way. Learn to make both at the same time with these instructions: [Carrick Bend Mat and Turk's Head Knot](#)
- Design and create a bracelet based on the **Turk's head knot**.
- A **figure eight knot** is an excellent stop knot because it is easy to tie and is bulkier than an overhand knot. Adding a slip knot through the center of the knot produces the "figure eight slip knot." Using figure eight knots and figure eight slip knots with other basic knots makes even more knots with different names and functions. Make a knot board showing and identifying some of these knot combinations.
- The **bowline knot** has many variations. Learn about some of them and create a knotboard that features the basic knot and a few related ones.



- Make a clock that uses a different knot for each hour: [Knot Clock Capstone Project](#)
- Make a dog leash with these instructions: [Braided Dog Leash Capstone Project](#)
- Make a video that explains some aspect of knot tying, features your work, or showcases a location that has to do with knots. If possible, make it available to others on YouTube.
- Make a temporary knot board to show your work or to teach someone how to make a certain knot: [Temporary Knot Board](#)

Need more ideas? You will find many more in knot, macrame, and craft books and on many websites. Don't forget to check [morethanknots.com](http://morethanknots.com), the website of our author.

To suggest a capstone project or even write your own, please contact [Jane Wright](#). More information about writing your own is included in [Writing a Capstone Project for Not Just Knots](#).

## Other Resources

### [How to Make a Knot Board](#)

[http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h\\_science/Knots/How%20to%20Make%20a%20Knot%20Board%20FINAL.pdf](http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h_science/Knots/How%20to%20Make%20a%20Knot%20Board%20FINAL.pdf)

### [How to Make a Temporary Knot Board](#)

[http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h\\_science/Knots/Temporary%20Knot%20Board%20Final.pdf](http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h_science/Knots/Temporary%20Knot%20Board%20Final.pdf)

### [How to Make a Rope Halter](#) from the American Quarter Horse Association

[http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h\\_science/Knots/How%20to%20Make%20a%20Rope%20Halter%20AQHA.pdf](http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h_science/Knots/How%20to%20Make%20a%20Rope%20Halter%20AQHA.pdf)

### [How to Preserve Knots](#)

[http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h\\_science/Knots/Preserve%20Knots%20Final.pdf](http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h_science/Knots/Preserve%20Knots%20Final.pdf)

### [How to Tie a Slip Knot](#) from eXtension (recommended video)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_wDMPx15ZJw&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_wDMPx15ZJw&feature=youtu.be)

### [Suggested Books About Knots](#)

[http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h\\_science/Knots/Suggested%20Books%20About%20Knots.pdf](http://www.ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/4h_science/Knots/Suggested%20Books%20About%20Knots.pdf)

*Many thanks to project book authors and 4-H volunteers Glenn Dickey and John Dickey, and to Glenn Dickey for permission to feature content from the website [morethanknots.com](http://morethanknots.com).*

