Companion Animals Make GREAT 4-H Projects!

Ohio 4-H Volunteer and Teen Conferences
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What are Companion Animals?

- Animals that have a special relationship and association with humans
- Are partially or totally dependent on people
- Live in close proximity of people
- Bond with people
  - A step further than do exotic pets
- Interact with their owners
- Mutual or reciprocal action or influence between animal and owner

Campbell, K.L., Corbin, J.E., Campbell, J.R. (2005). *Companion animals: Their*
4-H Animal Sciences Website
http://4hansci.osu.edu/companion

Dogs, Companion Animals and Rabbits.

Welcome to the Ohio 4-H Dog, Companion Animal and Rabbits program area. You will find information on events, resources and acknowledgements for dogs, companion animals and rabbits.

Find us on Facebook

- 2012 4-H Agility Rules are now posted on the Resources page (as of 02.1.12).
- NEW! 2012 State 4-H Dog Bowl Rules and Entry form are now posted on the Resources page and also can be found at the Events page.
- 2012 Ohio 4-H Dog Program Information and Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules and Information are now posted on the Resources page.
- Click here for the 2012 State 4-H Dog, Companion, and Small Animal Calendar of Events (updated 01.27.12)
- Click here for the 2012 Ohio State Fair Dog Show Classes (posted 01.04.11)
- Click here for the 2012 Ohio State Fair Scholarship Information and Application - July 1 deadline

2012 Ohio 4-H Teen Dog Experience is June 21-24 at Houston’s Country Dream. This camp is for 4-H dog project members ages 13-18. Information can be found at http://www.ohio4hteendogexperience.com/

FOR EDUCATORS

2012 Dates of Events will be posted at Calendar of Events as they are confirmed.

Check out the Resources page for up-to-date Dog, Companion Animal, and Rabbit Resources
Companion Animal Projects

- Cats
  - Purrr-fect Pals, No. 216
  - Climbing Up, No. 217
  - Cat Connections, No. 218
- Cavies, No. 215
- Pet Rabbits, No. 227
- Pocket Pets, No. 220
  - Hamsters, Gerbils, Mice, Rats
- Reptiles & Amphibians, No. 365.13
- Pigeons, No. 365.22
- Self-Determined, No. 365
- 4-H PetPALS
Purr-fect Pals – Cat 1

- Beginning level project
- 4-H’ers grades 3-5
- 4-H’ers in first 3 years of cat project
  - Regardless of age/grade
- Complete within 3 years
- Complete 7 activities each year
  - Includes extra activities – Feline Adventures
Climbing Up – Cat 2

- Intermediate level project
- 4-H’ers who have completed Cat 1
  - Regardless of age/grade
- 4-H’ers in grades 6-8
- Complete within 3 years
- Complete 7 activities each year
  - Includes extra activities – Feline Adventures
Leaping Forward – Cat 3

- Advanced level project
- 4-H’ers who have completed Cat 2
  - Regardless of age/grade
- 4-H’ers in grades 9-12
- Take for 3 or more years
- Complete 7 activities each year
  - Includes extra activities – Feline Adventures

Answers to many of activities at:

http://www.ohio4h.org/staff/documents/CatAnswerKey.pdf
Rabbit Resource Handbook

- Purchase one time for 4-H rabbit career
  - Can buy 1 per family
  - Watch for updates every 5 years
- Good source of general rabbit information
- ARBA website to keep updated on breeds, info
  - [http://www.arba.net](http://www.arba.net)
  - Standards of Perfection 2011-2015
Pet Rabbit

- For the companion rabbit
- Rabbits not kept for breeding or commercial use
- Cannot take same rabbit as a breeding project (4-H 225)
- Must complete new project & record book each year
Gerbils, hamsters, mice, and rats
Buy one and keep for entire 4-H Pocket Pet career
Great reference!
Pocket Pets Record Book

- Required to complete this Project and Record Book every year
- Each year in project 4-H’ers encouraged to “dig deeper” and learn about all 4 pocket pets
- Can take repeatedly throughout entire 4-H career
Chinchillas, Ferrets, Hedgehogs

- Taken as Self-Determined Projects, No. 365
- Still should be judged during Small/Companion Animal Judging
- Will be judged as Self-Determined Projects at Ohio State Fair Companion Animal Day
New 4-H Cavy Project

- Cavy Resource Handbook
- Purchase once for entire project
- Can repeat this project yearly throughout 4-H career
- Judged as part of Small or Companion Animal judging
- Topics include general care, history, anatomy, selection, housing and equipment, records, nutrition, health, reproduction, show preparation, marketing, careers
Cavy Project and Record Book

- Required to complete this Project and Record Book every year
- Each year in project 4-H’ers encouraged to “dig deeper” and learn about guinea pigs
- Can take repeatedly throughout entire 4-H career
Reptiles and Amphibians

- Idea Starter, 4-H 365.13
- Snakes, lizards, turtles
- Choose your pet
  - Make sure it is legal
- Proper Habitat
- Identifying Reptiles & Amphibians
- Leadership Activities
- Facts & Superstitions
- Related Resources
If pigeons are pets can take as small/companion animal project

Can show at small or companion animal judging

Depending on county rules can show during poultry show
4-H PetPALS

- Intergenerational program
- Utilizes the human-animal bond
- Volunteers teach youth
- Youth socialize and train pets for AAA visits
- Youth learn skills to interact with seniors
- Enhances intergenerational relations
- Youth give to the community
- Must have Master 4-H PetPALS Volunteer Leader as advisor
- Class at State Fair
Companion Animal State 4-H Achievement Award

- Dogs
- Cats
- Guinea Pigs
- Pet Rabbits
- Pocket Pets
- Reptiles & Amphibians
- Self-Determined Pet Projects
- 4-H PetPALS
Calendar

- Ohio 4-H Dog Expo
  - April 21, Molly Caren Ag Center (Farm Science Review)

- Ohio State Fair Rabbit & Poultry Entry Deadline
  - Monday, June 20 (postmark)

- Camp 4-H Paws, Claws, Feathers, and Friends
  - June 25 – June 29
  - Day Camp at Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center
  - For youth entering grades 6, 7, & 8

- Ohio State Fair Scholarships Application Deadline
  - July 1
  - 1 - $500 dog; 1 - $500 rabbit; and 1 - $1000 poultry
Calendar

- Ohio State Fair Companion Animals Day Judging Entry Deadline
  - Monday, July 11 (postmark)

- Ohio State Fair Dog Show Entry Deadline
  - Monday, July 11 (postmark)

- Ohio State Fair Dog Show Poster Contest Entry Deadline
  - July 11 (postmark) - Posters & entry forms sent to Lucinda Miller
Calendar

- Ohio State Fair Agility Entry Deadline
  - Wednesday, July 11 (receive entries)

- Ohio State Fair Companion Animals Day Judging
  - Friday, July 27, Youth Center

- Ohio State Fair Agility Trials
  - Saturday, July 28, Denny Hales Arena

- Ohio State Fair Dog Show
  - July 30, 31, August 1 – 2, Buckeye Sports Center
Calendar

- Ohio State Fair Dog Show Skillathons
  - July 30– 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.
  - July 31– 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Ohio State Fair Poultry Skillathon
  - August 1 – 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Ohio State Fair Rabbit Skillathon
  - August 3 – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Calendar

- Junior Fair Poultry Shows
  - August 1 – 5
  - Contact Betty Wingerter at wingerter.1@osu.edu

- Junior Fair Rabbit Shows
  - August 1 – 5
  - Rabbit Poster Contest Topic – ”Caring for My Rabbit”
    - Need not show rabbits at State Fair to enter
    - Posters sent to Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center by July 11
    - Contact Bridget Weigly at weigly.1@osu.edu
  - OSF contact - Travis West at west.222@osu.edu
Questions?

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