“Lions, Tigers, and Bears, oh my!” do not make good pets, but many other animals do. The 4-H Pets and Small Animal projects helps youth explore the wide variety of pets available. Youth will also learn about the types of pets that fit best into their family.

- Identify breeds and animal species and their characteristics.
- Learn about the selection, care, needs of pets and basic principles of pet behavior.
- Demonstrate care and management in feeding, handling, grooming, and fit-

The activities above are ideas to inspire further project development. This is not a complete list.

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<th>Starting Out</th>
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- Gather information and determine the best pet for the member’s family.
- Learn about proper care, grooming, and feeding.
- Create a plan to prevent your pet from getting lost or finding it if it gets lost.
- Purchase and use the appropriate grooming equipment and techniques.
- Shop comparatively for...
Expand Your Experiences!

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Research the nutritional needs of your animal(s) and compare to nutritional needs of humans and other animals.
- Create a poster on the anatomy of your animal, and/or the difference between hot

Healthy Living
- Discuss the necessity of washing your hands before and after handling your pet.
- Discuss your pet’s life expectancy, what to look for when they get older.
- Create a display or skit on safety rules concerning pets.

Citizenship
- Use your animal as therapy for sick and disadvantaged individuals.
- Show/raise your animal(s) as a cultural exchange with other nations.
- Volunteer at an ASPCA Adoption Day at local pet stores.

Leadership
- Become a role model for others by taking the position of junior/teen leader in your project.
- Help younger members learn about taking care of animals.

Connections & Events
- Presentation Days – Share what you’ve learned through a pet animal related presentation.
- Field Days – During these events, 4-H members may participate in a variety of contests related to their project area.
- County & State Fair - Enter your animal(s) or Poster about your animal(s) and

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<th>Curriculum</th>
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<td></td>
<td>The Veterinarian's Way of Selecting a Proper Pet (4H 560A)</td>
<td>4-H Record Books give members an opportunity to record events and reflect on their experiences. For each project, members document their experiences, learning and development.</td>
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<td>Pet Pals Level 1 (4H 563A)</td>
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<td>Pet Leader Guide (4H 563 LDR)</td>
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<td>Check out the ANR site for free downloadable curriculum -</td>
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<td>//anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu.</td>
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University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

Resources
- Iowa 4-H Pets
- Service Animal
- Animal Assisted Therapy
  //en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal-assisted_therapy.
- Healthy pets
  www.cdc.gov/healthypets
  //vetmed.illinois.edu/pet-columns
  www.avma.org/firstaid/procedures.asp
- For Cat Fanciers
  //kids.cfa.org/
- Cats and Wildlife: a Conservation Dilemma
  //wildlife.wisc.edu/extension/catfly3.htm
- American Red Cross Pet First Aid/CPR
  www.redcross.org/pets
- California State Fair
  www.bigfun.org