4-H Alpaca and Llama Project

The 4-H alpaca or llama project helps youth understand the care, breeding, and showing of alpacas and llamas throughout history. In this project youth will:

- Learn to differentiate between llamas and alpacas
- Learn about breeding techniques and health tips for the alpaca and the llama.
- Explore different ways to show an alpaca and llama.
- Learn and practice animal ownership care and responsibilities.
- Investigate marketing for fiber, breeding or meat products, and how to

### Starting Out
**Beginner**

- Learn the difference between the difference between an alpaca and a llama.
- Gather information to determine which animal best fits your lifestyle.
- Identify the names and parts of the alpaca and llama.
- Develop a care management plan for your alpaca or llama.

### Learning More
**Intermediate**

- Prepare and participate in an alpaca or llama show.
- Make a decision if you will have breeding animals.
- Compare food labels and make an informed decision on the content and price of the food.
- Learn proper grooming techniques.

### Exploring Depth
**Advanced**

- Understand about breeding and genetics of alpaca/llamas.
- Learn about alpaca/llama care during pregnancy.
- Create a budget for care, breeding and shows for your alpaca/llama.
- Talk to surrounding areas interested in alpaca/llama breeding and care management.

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

Healthy Living
- Discuss the necessity and practice of washing your hands before and after handling your alpaca/llama.
- Discuss your alpacas/llamas life expectancy, what to look for when they get old.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Explore the need for bio-security measures when handling animals.
- Create a list of recommendations for competitive shows for alpacas/llamas.

Citizenship
- Use the confidence obtained through showing and presentations in all aspects of life.
- Bring your alpacas/llamas to the fair to teach others about this wonderful and unique species.

Leadership
- Teach people the importance of caring for animals.
- Become a role model for others by taking the position of a Jr. or Teen Leader.
- Mentor younger members to learn how to show their animal.

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<tr>
<th>Connections &amp; Events</th>
<th>Curriculum</th>
<th>4-H Record Book</th>
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<td><strong>Presentation Days</strong> – Share your knowledge through an alpaca/llama presentation. Create an Educational Display or a Power Point Presentation.</td>
<td><strong>New Hampshire 4-H Alpaca and Llama Project</strong> <a href="http://extension.unh.edu/4-H-Animal-and-Ag-Science/4-H-AlpacaLlama-Page">http://extension.unh.edu/4-H-Animal-and-Ag-Science/4-H-AlpacaLlama-Page</a></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><strong>Field Days</strong> – These events allow 4-H members to learn more in depth knowledge about all types of animal projects prior to committing to them. Sometimes they show you the potential cost and a responsibilities.</td>
<td><strong>Llama Showmanship Rules and Guidelines</strong> <a href="http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/docs/Lama-Showmanship-Curriculum.pdf">www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/docs/Lama-Showmanship-Curriculum.pdf</a></td>
<td>4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.</td>
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Resources
- Alpaca Care [http://www.alpaca.com/alpacacareanddiet.cfm](http://www.alpaca.com/alpacacareanddiet.cfm)
- Llama Care [http://www.philollamas.com/basics.htm](http://www.philollamas.com/basics.htm)
- Alpaca Fiber [http://www.alpaca.com/alpacafiber.cfm](http://www.alpaca.com/alpacafiber.cfm)

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

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