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

### Starting Out (Beginner)
- Gather information and determine the best dog for your family.
- Learn about proper care, grooming, and feeding of your dog.
- Create a plan to prevent your dog from getting lost and/or finding it if it gets lost.
- Purchase and use the appropriate grooming equipment and techniques.

### Learning More (Intermediate)
- Prepare for participation in a dog show.
- Make a decision about breeding your dog.
- Compare labels on dog foods to make an informed decision on content & price.
- Keep a diary of your dog’s health and eating habits.
- Research kennel facilities in your area and decide if one is right for your dog.

### Exploring Depth (Advanced)
- Create a trainer’s diary to assist you when you work with your dog.
- Interview someone who uses a service dog.
- Create a dog ownership budget.
- Volunteer at an ASPCA Adoption Day at your local pet store.
- Talk to an Animal Control Officer about animal cruelty and neglect.

Happiness is a warm puppy. ~Charles M. Schulz.

The dog project helps youth explore what kind of dog fits into their family’s lifestyle and how to be an excellent trainer and caretaker of their dog.

- Learn major dog breeds and identify their characteristics.
- Study responsibilities of dog ownership.
- Demonstrate dog care and management in feeding, handling, record-keeping, grooming and fitting.
- Learn dog health regulations, first aid, and simple treatments for ailments.

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**4-H THRIVE**

**Help Youth:**

### Light Their Spark

A spark is something youth are passionate about; it really fires them up and gives them joy and energy. Help youth find:

### Flex Their Brain

The brain grows stronger when we try new things and master new skills. Encourage youth effort and persistence to:

### Reach Their Goals

Help youth use the GPS system to achieve their goals.

- **Goal Selection:** Choose one meaningful, realistic and demanding goal.
- **Pursue Strategies:** Create a step-by-step plan to make daily choices that support your goal.
- **Shift Gears:** Change strategies if you’re having difficulties reaching your goal.

### Reflect

Ask project members how they can use their passion for this project to be more confident, competent and caring. Discuss ways they can use their skills to make a contribution in the community, improve their...
Expand Your Experiences!

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Create a map highlighting the origin of different dog breeds. How has this impacted their size, fur, and body shape?
- Explore the need for bio-security measures when handling animals. Create a list of

Healthy Living
- Discuss the necessity of washing your hands before and after handling/grooming your dog.
- Discuss your dog’s life expectancy, what to look for when they get older, and how

Citizenship
- Volunteer at a dog kennel or shelter.
- Take a Pet First Aid/CPR course through the American Red Cross.
- Raise a guide dog.

Leadership
- Teach others the importance of caring for animals.
- Become a role model for others by taking the position of junior/teen leader.

Connections & Events

Presentation Days – Share what you’ve learned with others through a presentation.

Field Days – At these events, 4-H members may participate in a variety of contests related to their project area.

County & State Fair - Enter your dog(s) and show the judge what you have learned in showmanship! Contact

Curriculum
- Wiggles and Wags, Level 1
- Canine Connection, Level 2
- Pointing the Way, Level 3
- LDR Dog Leader Guide http://www.4-hmall.org/Product/4-hcurriculum-dog/08170.aspx

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.

4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.

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Resources
- Iowa 4-H Dogs www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/dogs.htm
- American Kennel Club www.akc.org
- Service Animal //en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Service_animal
- Animal Assisted Therapy //en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animal-assisted_therapy
- Learn About Man’s Best Friend www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/4-h-dog/
- American Red Cross: Pet First Aid/CPR www.redcross.org/pets
- California State Fair www.bigfun.org
- Check out the ANR site for free downloadable curriculum