



# 4-H POULTRY PROJECT



Historically, humans and poultry have interacted in many ways beyond owning chickens as farm animals. From domesticated fowl being used for meat and egg production to fancy breeds being shown in competition, ducks, chickens, turkeys, and other poultry are a huge part of many cultures around the world. In 4-H, youth in the Poultry Project can learn:

- Caring for and raising chickens responsibly and humanely.
- Best management practices used on farms and industry.
- Value of poultry meat and eggs in human nutrition and how to grade eggs.

<b>Starting Out</b> <i>Beginner</i>	<b>Learning More</b> <i>Intermediate</i>	<b>Exploring Depth</b> <i>Advanced</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify different avian species.</li> <li>• Learn how to properly house birds.</li> <li>• Understand basic avian anatomy.</li> <li>• Learn the feed requirements of different poultry.</li> <li>• Demonstrate basic handling techniques.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name and describe breeds of poultry.</li> <li>• Understand the Standards for breeds of poultry.</li> <li>• Learn the basic of avian disease prevention and care.</li> <li>• Participate in poultry showmanship.</li> <li>• Identify breed characteristics for egg production, meat production, and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn how to properly incubate eggs.</li> <li>• Describe grades and sizes of eggs.</li> <li>• Understand use of photoperiods and lighting in production of chickens.</li> <li>• Participate in Poultry Bowls and Champion Exhibitor contests.</li> <li>• Present on topics pertaining to poultry.</li> <li>• Improve knowledge of</li> </ul>

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

## 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 how this project excites them.

### 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. Seek

### 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

- Design an experiment on the affect of light and photoperiods on egg laying hens.
- Explore anatomical differences in various species of poultry and how they relate

## Healthy Living

- Research nutritional value of poultry meat and eggs in relation to human health needs.
- Create a list of safety and biosecurity recommendations for competitive poultry

## Citizenship

- Develop and share a presentation in your community on poultry diseases and prevention.
- Study the history of poultry production in other cultures.

## Leadership

- Teach others the importance of caring for an animal.
- Become a role model for others by taking the position of junior/teen leader.
- Mentor younger members to learn how to raise and show poultry.

## Resources

- American Poultry Association [www.amerpoultryassn.com](http://www.amerpoultryassn.com)
- California Department of Food and Agriculture [www.cdfa.ca.gov](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov)
- California 4-H Animal Science [www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/Animal](http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/SET/Animal)
- Oklahoma State University, Department of Animal Science [www.ansi.okstate.edu/outreach-extension/poultry/poultry-resources](http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/outreach-extension/poultry/poultry-resources)
- U.S. Poultry and Egg Association [www.poultryegg.org](http://www.poultryegg.org)

Connections & Events	Curriculum	4-H Record Book
<p><b>Presentation Days</b> – Share what you’ve learned with others through a poultry-related presentation.</p> <p><b>National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference</b> <a href="http://national4hpoultryandegg.psu.edu">national4hpoultryandegg.psu.edu</a></p> <p><b>California 4-H Animal Science Advisory Committee</b> <a href="http://www.ca4h.org/">www.ca4h.org/</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National 4-H Poultry Curriculum <a href="http://www.4-hmall.org/Category/4-hcurriculum-poultry.aspx">www.4-hmall.org/Category/4-hcurriculum-poultry.aspx</a></li> <li>• Poultry Knowledge Bowl Sample Questions <a href="http://www.ca4h.org/files/63606.pdf">www.ca4h.org/files/63606.pdf</a></li> </ul>	<p>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.</p> <p>4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.</p>



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