Animal husbandry is all about caring for animals. Most definitions specify farm or production animals but the term can also be applied to companion animals. Animal husbandry is a multifaceted topic including ethical considerations, food safety, sustainability, and mores. The goal of this project is to show participants all of the different considerations that go into food production.

- Recognize the amount of responsibility and time necessary to care for production animals.
- Realize that as a producer of food, you have a big impact on consumer health.

### Starting Out
**Beginner**
- Learn about major concerns in animal welfare.
- Write out a weekly schedule of chores and sign off on them every day.
- Make a plan in case of emergencies or trips out of town, and who will take care of your animals when you are unable to.

### Learning More
**Intermediate**
- Design and implement a biosecurity plan for the health of your animals.
- Know how to read a drug label, including withdrawal times, and why following the label is important.
- Research environmental concerns with your particular animal, and how you can reduce their impact.

### Exploring Depth
**Advanced**
- Design and implement a food safety plan with special focus on possible sources of contamination.
- Write a head health plan, including vaccines and routine health treatments.
- Research humane and low stress handling practices, and why they are important.
- Learn about the role of biotechnology in

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

Science, Engineering, and Technology

- Do a presentation on a controversial biotechnology advancement, and its implications for food safety and animal welfare.
- Research a topic in animal welfare and find out how it affects food quality.

Citizenship

- Visit a local animal shelter to learn about animal welfare in your community.
- Visit your local USDA branch and learn about food safety testing.

Healthy Living

- Teach others about the importance of biosecurity with animals.
- Create a presentation about the use of hormones and antibiotics in livestock, and who these affect food.

Leadership

- Become a role model for others by taking the position of a Jr. or Teen Leader.
- Recruit others to join the Animal Husbandry project.

Resources

- Food and Agriculture Organization: [http://www.fao.org/wairdocs/ilri/x5473b/x5473b05.htm](http://www.fao.org/wairdocs/ilri/x5473b/x5473b05.htm)
- Oregon State University: [http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/sfn/f08livestock](http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/sfn/f08livestock)

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