In the Dairy Goat project, members learn about the production of milk, cheeses, and other products. The project involves raising animals and learning about showmanship, and judging.

- Members experience all aspects of raising a dairy goat from general care to kidding and milking
- Youth will gain knowledge of milk processing and dairy products
- Acquire skills in management and care of dairy goats through ownership and project support.
- Learn processing, consumption, nutrition and use of dairy products.

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

### Starting Out
**Beginner**
- Know your dairy breeds
- Identify parts of the animal
- Learn about diseases and immunization
- Research how and what to feed your dairy goat
- Learn to evaluate your animal
- Study showmanship techniques and grooming

### Learning More
**Intermediate**
- Research necessary and recommended feed supplements
- Be able to identify a sick animal, and learn both treatment and prevention
- Learn about breeding and kidding
- Learn body condition scoring
- Design a plan for safe milking procedures.

### Exploring Depth
**Advanced**
- Learn judging skills and how to use ADGA scorecards
- Explore career opportunities
- Learn herd management for both farm and backyard goats
- Design a breeding program
- Learn how to properly administer injections

**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 help them reach higher levels of success.

**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 help from others. What are youth going to do?

**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 character or establish connections.
Expand Your Experiences!

Healthy Living
- Create a biosecurity plan for taking your animal to competitions and shows.
- Learn about food safety and how it relates to milk handling procedures.
- Study the quality and health benefits of goat milk.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Evaluate milking machines, both hand held and electric.
- Study about concerns in animal welfare and how to make ethical decisions for your animals.

Citizenship
- Educate the community about dairy goats and their importance in global agriculture.
- Participate in outreach activities with your goat.

Leadership
- Become a junior or teen leader in your project group.
- Recruit others into the dairy goat project.
- Start your own herd and sell animals to youth and community members.

Resources
- American Dairy Goat Association
  www.adga.org
- Dairy Goat Journal
  www.dairygoatjournal.com
- Goat Wisdom
  www.goatwisdom.com
- FiasCo Farm- goat care, health & husbandry
  www.fiascofarm.com

The UC 4-H Youth Development Program does not endorse, warrant, or otherwise take responsibility for the contents of unofficial sites.

Connections & Events

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<tr>
<th>Presentation Days</th>
<th>Field Days</th>
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<tr>
<td>Share what you’ve learned with others through a presentation.</td>
<td>At these events, 4-H members may participate in a variety of contests related to their project area.</td>
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<td>Contact your county 4-H office to determine additional opportunities available, such as a field day.</td>
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Curriculum
- Available from 4-hmall.org
  http://www.4-hmall.org/Product/4-hcurriculum-dairy-goat/08352.aspx
- Getting Your Goat Level 1
- Stepping Out Level 2
- Showing the Way Level 3

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.

To access the 4-H Record Book online, visit
http://ucanr.edu/orb/

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources