In 4-H market and breeding swine projects members can learn about selecting and raising large livestock project animal. Youth learn about record keeping, nutrition, health, project management and judging.

- Members learn about the proper care of swine including nutrition, housing, ventilation, medicine, grooming, and ethics.
- Members gain consumer vs. producer awareness
- 4-H members learn time management
- Members learn how to respect others during competitive events

### Starting Out
**Beginner**
- Learn how to identify swine breeds
- Practice safety and sanitation
- Learn show ring preparation and ethics
- Learn how to select a show pig
- Members learn how to write auction buyer letters
- Learn swine terminology

### Learning More
**Intermediate**
- Explore Pork Quality Assurance (PQA)
- Learn how to chart rate of gain
- Discover the proper way to cook pork
- Practice packing a show box
- Learn how to read labels on swine feed
- Understand the many uses of swine by-products

### Exploring Depth
**Advanced**
- Learn how to give oral and written reasons on swine conformation
- Explore careers in animal science and the pork industry
- Design a breeding system
- Learn how to judge swine breeding projects
- Demonstrate how to process a new litter of piglets

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

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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 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

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**Flex Your Brain**

**Learn how to identify swine breeds**

**Practice safety and sanitation**

**Learn show ring preparation and ethics**

**Learn how to select a show pig**

**Members learn how to write auction buyer letters**

**Learn swine terminology**

**Explore Pork Quality Assurance (PQA)**

**Learn how to chart rate of gain**

**Discover the proper way to cook pork**

**Practice packing a show box**

**Learn how to read labels on swine feed**

**Understand the many uses of swine by-products**

**Learn how to give oral and written reasons on swine conformation**

**Explore careers in animal science and the pork industry**

**Design a breeding system**

**Learn how to judge swine breeding projects**

**Demonstrate how to process a new litter of piglets**

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**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
- Become a member of a meat judging team
- Develop and create a science display on swine
- Research the nutritional needs of swine compared to other large livestock
- Create an educational video of your swine project to share with others

Healthy Living
- Create a display on how to properly cook pork
- Discuss proper attire when working with large livestock
- Compare the nutrition facts of pork to other food products

Citizenship
- Prepare educational displays for the fair
- Explore ethical standards when handling swine
- Encourage your project group to have an international pork potluck, to learn

Leadership
- Recruit younger members into the swine project
- Become involved as a junior or teen leader
- Write articles for your club and county newsletters about supporting 4-H livestock auctions

Resources
- California Pork Producers Association
  [www.calpork.com](http://www.calpork.com)
- National Swine Registry
  [www.nationalswine.com](http://www.nationalswine.com)
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
  [www.cdfa.ca.gov](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov)
- Texas 4-H Swine
- Utah 4-H Swine Selection

Connections & Events | Curriculum | 4-H Record Book
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Presentation Days – Share what you’ve learned with others through a presentation.
4-H Food Fairs– Enter an item with pork as the special ingredient
Local Fairs - Participate in showmanship and market classes
Visit a farrowing operation and assist with ear notching, needle teeth removal, tail docking and castration.

- National 4-H Swine Curriculum
  [https://4-h.org/parents/curriculum/swine/](http://https://4-h.org/parents/curriculum/swine/)

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.

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

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