



4-H Pets Record Guide

Check Project Taken:

Pet Pals

Scurrying Ahead

Scaling the Heights

Your Animal's Photo Here!

Year 20__ __

Name _____ Club _____

County _____ Address _____

Age _____ Years in 4-H _____ Date project completed _____

Introduction

The 4-H Pet Pals project begins when you start your 4-H project year in October. Some sections of the record book require you to establish some goals to meet. It is important to do that at the start of the project year. If you need help understanding the material, contact your 4-H leader or county Extension agent.

This project is for those who want to learn how to care for their tropical fish, gerbil, hamster, guinea pig, or small reptile; keep their pet(s) healthy and contented; know the costs involved in raising; promote responsible pet ownership; in addition to practice important life skills such as decision-making, communicating with others, leading self and others, planning and organizing, and accepting responsibility.

If you are interested in a “**pet rabbit**,” you should enroll in What’s Hopping (Rabbit 1), Making Tracks (Rabbit 2), or All Ears (Rabbit 3) and use the **Pets Record Guide**. If your interests are in “**market rabbits**,” you should take one of those three projects and use the **Market Rabbit Record Guide**.

This record guide is designed to be used with the Pet project. It is suggested that each project be used for three years before moving to the next level. After your first year in the Pet project, you will need to reorder only the Pets Record Guide until you move to the next level.

Project Guidelines

- ✓ Complete at least seven main chapter activities or More Challenges activities in the Pets Achievement Program each year.
- ✓ Finish each level within three years.
- ✓ Complete 21 activities before advancing to the next level.
- ✓ If you choose to do More Challenges activities, record in a notebook or portfolio the what, when, where, and how you accomplished each selected activity. Include your notebook or portfolio with your project book for grading.
- ✓ Practice and develop life skills as you learn more about pets.
- ✓ Participate in at least three learning experiences outlined in the Planning Guide each year.

The Pets Project Record Guide is partially funded by the West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association. For all your pet’s health care needs, please contact your local veterinarian or the West Virginia Veterinary Medical Association.



Revised in 2007 by the 4-H pet curriculum development committee:
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Developed and written in 2001 by the 4-H pet curriculum development committee with cooperation from:
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Information About My Pet

Kind of pet _____

Name of pet _____

Sex of pet: Male _____ Female _____

My pet's age is _____ Year of birth _____ Month _____ Day _____

Unknown; estimated age _____

I assumed ownership of my pet on _____
(date)

My pet was (check all that apply) _____ Already the family pet

_____ Gift

_____ Purchased

Value when purchased _____

Where purchased _____
(name of store, breeder, animal shelter, or pound)

_____ Other (explain)

Date I started my project _____

Date I completed my project _____

Description of my pet (include size, weight, color, and other identifying characteristics of your pet)

Average time I spend with my pet each day (observing, playing, exercising, caring, etc.)



Pet Care

What kind of home or cage does your pet live in? _____

What kind of bedding do you use? _____

How often do you clean your pet's cage or litterbox? _____

What kind of food do you feed your pet? _____

How often do you clean your pet's food and water containers? _____

How often do you play with your pet? _____

How often do you exercise your pet? _____

How often do you take your pet to the veterinarian? _____

What is your pet's favorite food? _____

What is your pet's favorite place? _____

What is your pet's favorite toy? _____

What is your pet's favorite thing to do? _____

What tricks can your pet do? _____

What commands does your pet obey? _____

What do you do to keep your pet healthy? _____

Has your pet ever

 Been sick? _____

 Been hurt? _____

 Been lost? _____

 Been neutered or spayed? _____

 Been declawed? _____

 Had babies? _____

Do you have other pets? (Include their names and species) _____

What do you do to take care of them? _____



Pet Life Cycle

Are your pet's young hatched or born? (Tell which one) _____

How many young are born or hatched at one time? _____

What do newborn or newly hatched young look like? _____

What do the parent animals do to care for their young? _____

When are the young old enough to leave their parents? _____

At what age do they become able to breed? _____

For animals that give birth, how long does gestation (pregnancy) last? _____

For animals that lay eggs, how long are eggs incubated before they hatch? _____

How long does an animal usually live? _____

Did your pet have a litter? _____ How many? _____

What did you do with the litter? _____



Show Record

Record the results of all shows and showmanship events your pet enters during the year.

Name and Place of Show/Fair	Date	Class	Placing	Premiums/ Ribbons
<i>Example:</i> County Fair Pet Show Morgantown, W. Va.	7/12/07	Breed Class Syrian Hamster Teddy Bear	Second	\$5 / Red Ribbon
Total Value of Premiums Won				

Record of Demonstrations, Talks, and Activities During the 4-H Year

Record your participation in events such as judging contests, project workshops, visits to farm operations, demonstrations, etc.

Date	Location	Activity	Comments



Financial Summary

Income

Price received for any animal(s) sold _____

Show / fair premiums won (*Page 6*) _____

Other (*Explain; example: care for your neighbor's pet while they were away.*)

Total Income _____

Expenses

Cost of your project animal(s) (*Page 1*) _____

Total feed cost (*Page 4*) _____

Total health care costs (*Page 5*) _____

Total other expenses (*Page 5*) _____

Total Expenses _____

Total Income _____

Total Expenses _____

(Total income minus total expenses)
 (Circle One) **Profit or Loss** _____ (amount)

The exercise reflects only the financial commitments you have made in caring for and loving your pet.





Your Project Story *(Continued)*



4-H Project Evaluation

Now that you have finished this project, it is time for you to think about what you have learned. We also would like to know what you have learned and if the project needs to be improved. Your comments will help the people write the projects. Please write answers to the following questions. Then give this form to your 4-H leader or mail it to:

**Project Evaluation
State 4-H Office
Knapp Hall, PO Box 6031
Morgantown, WV 26506-6031**

Title of Project _____

Girl Boy (circle one) Age _____ Grade in School _____ Years in 4-H _____

1. Was this your first project in this subject? _____

2. Why did you pick this project? _____

3. What was your favorite part of this project? _____

4. By doing this project, what did you learn that you didn't know before? _____

5. Did you do the activities in the project book? Why or why not? _____

6. What activities did you like doing? _____

7. How would you change this project to make it better? _____

8. Would you tell others to take this project? Why or why not? _____

9. What other 4-H projects have you taken? _____

10. If you have something else to say, write it on the back.



Pets Project Score Sheet

- ★ If you are taking this project without an animal, check with your Extension agent for approval. It is suggested that the Self-Determined project be used with the National 4-H Curriculum pet project book as a resource. Consult with your Extension agent to plan your project work.

Pets Project Book

- ✓ Complete seven activities (from the main required activities and the extra More Challenges activities) in the Pet Achievement Program of the National 4-H Curriculum Project Book (*Each activity is worth 5 points ~ Total 35 possible points*)

- ✓ Complete Planning Guide in National 4-H Curriculum Project Book on pages 3 and 4 (*Worth 5 points*)

Pets Record Guide

(Worth 20 points)

Exhibit/Production Score *(Total 20 possible points)* ★

- ✓ This may be the actual exhibition of your pet or other designated project or service determined with your Extension agent.

Activity Record

(Worth 20 points)

Total

Comments:



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