**Are You Into It?**

In the 4-H swine project you can learn about breeds, health care, production, management, showmanship, marketing and careers.

- Learn the basic principles of animal science by owning, caring for, and keeping records on one or more head of livestock
- Gain knowledge of sound breeding, feeding, and management practices
- Learn nutritive value of swine products and promote their use

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**Here’s what you can do all year!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Out</th>
<th>Learning More</th>
<th>Expanding Horizons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic / Level 1</td>
<td>Intermediate / Level 2</td>
<td>Advanced / Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn breed names and descriptions</td>
<td>Learn differences in preparing pork cuts by cooking and tasting</td>
<td>“Adopt” a younger person and help him or her explore the swine project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify swine body parts</td>
<td>Explore normal pig characteristics</td>
<td>Plan and conduct a swine showmanship clinic for younger members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to judge swine</td>
<td>Discover agriculture careers</td>
<td>Arrange questions and hold a swine quiz bowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan a facility to keep swine safe and healthy</td>
<td>Outline a pig health care plan</td>
<td>Plan swine breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn how to feed and water your pig</td>
<td>Understand swine management practices</td>
<td>Research state or national swine organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify how a normal pig looks and acts</td>
<td>Analyze and make decisions on how to solve swine issues</td>
<td>Learn about swine genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name and describe pork meat cuts</td>
<td>Formulate a swine ration</td>
<td>Interview agencies about environmental issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discover pork by-products</td>
<td>Plan and conduct a pork promotional activity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conduct a pork cooking and tasting experiment</td>
<td>Help others learn each of the baby pig management practices</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare to show your swine at the fair</td>
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**Step It Up!**

Pass it on! Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started.

**Communication**

- Design a poster on parts of the animal
- Participate in a judging contest giving oral reasons
- Give a tail docking demonstration

**Citizenship**

- Volunteer your baby pig for ag-in-the-classroom at school
- Participate in a “food-for-life” project donating to food pantries
- Volunteer to help at the county livestock judging event at the swine station

**Leadership**

- Lead other 4-H members in participating in local pork producer events
- Teach others how to safely handle swine at a FSQA session
- Lead a swine showmanship and grooming session prior to your county fair

Learn more at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/swine](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/swine) or contact your county ISU Extension Office.
Take Swine further!

Here are other opportunities to explore Swine:

- Visit a local feed mill and see how feed ingredients are mixed, weighed and blended to make a complete ration
- Compare feed tags from different companies
- Visit a local meat locker or local grocery meat case to observe preparation and packaging
- Learn how to evaluate meat cuts, quality grade, yield grade and how these affect taste and cost
- Ride with a local veterinarian to learn about animal health
- Attend a swine show to listen to a judge give oral reasons and witness the differences in judging hogs
- Participate in a judging team
- Tour a hog operation
- Research swine by-products
- Attend Animal Science Round-Up as part of the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and take the swine track, participate in the community service project, bringing ideas back to your community.
- Is it fair time? Consider showing in your County Fair swine show or the Iowa State Fair.
- Contact your county ISU Extension Office for other local workshops, activities, and events
- Is interested in a college education in animal science or veterinary medicine? Schedule a visit with Iowa State University to explore those majors. www.iastate.edu

Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4-H Resources</th>
<th>Other Resources</th>
<th>Record Keeping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iowa 4-H Swine</td>
<td>Iowa Pork Industry Center <a href="http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/">http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/</a></td>
<td>Market Animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/swine">www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/swine</a></td>
<td>Iowa Pork Producer's Association <a href="http://www.iowapork.org">www.iowapork.org</a></td>
<td>Record Worksheet (4H-228JR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National 4-H Swine</td>
<td>National Pork Board <a href="http://www.pork.org">www.pork.org</a></td>
<td>- Project Worksheet (4H-228WS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/4-h-swine/">http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/4-h-swine/</a></td>
<td>Iowa State Animal Science <a href="http://www.ans.iastate.edu/">www.ans.iastate.edu/</a></td>
<td>Breeding Animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Incredible Pig Level 1 (4H 721A)</td>
<td>Iowa State Swine Teaching Farm <a href="http://www.ans.iastate.edu/centers/swine/?pg=visit">www.ans.iastate.edu/centers/swine/?pg=visit</a></td>
<td>- Record Worksheet (4H-229JR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamming It Up Level 2 (4H 721B)</td>
<td>National Swine Registry <a href="http://www.nationalswine.com">www.nationalswine.com</a></td>
<td>- Project Worksheet (4H-229WS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Going Whole Hog Level 3 (4H 721C)</td>
<td>County Swine ID Report (4H 106F)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swine Leader Guide (4H-721 LDR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-H Market Hog Project (4H 722)</td>
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Exhibit Ideas

- Participate in the 4-H swine show
  - Market Hog
  - Pen of three
  - Breeding Gilt
  - Showmanship
  - Derby show
- Consider an exhibit, notebook or display showing what you’ve learned in a swine-related topic
  - Nutritive value of pork
  - Pork meat cuts and proper preparation
  - Feeding rations
  - Importance of reading feed labels
  - Preventative vaccinations
  - Photos of different swine breeds
  - Daily routine in caring for animals
  - Grooming techniques
  - Best care techniques for newborns
  - Hog by-products
  - Impact of local foods on local economy
  - Pros and cons of a farrow to finish operation vs. grower operation
  - Bio-security measures for livestock farmers
  - Research where the pork checkoff dollars are used
  - Selection and how to judge a market hog or breeding gilt
  - How to register an animal with the National Swine Registry
  - Proper exercising techniques for show pigs
  - Caring for pigs in hot weather
  - Appropriate animal handling techniques
  - Explain how to read pig ear notches

Iowa State University

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