Are You Into It?

Do you have an animal you want to keep healthy or are you interested in a career keeping animals healthy? The 4-H Veterinary Science project helps you explore and learn more about animal health in your home, club, community, country, and world. Grow your knowledge about how animal health affects public health!

- Appreciate the importance of good management and sanitation practices in keeping animals and birds healthy
- Learn the values of scientific research and its influence on animals and their health

Here’s what you can do all year!

### Starting Out
**Basic / Level 1**
- Understanding differences of species in body styles, systems, breeds and life stages.
- Explore the animal basic needs and health/safety.
- Learn how veterinarians and owners work together to keep animals healthy.
- Investigate the many careers of animal science and veterinary science.

### Learning More
**Intermediate / Level 2**
- Discover the importance of Food Safety and Quality Assurance.
- Explore biosecurity and an animal health management plan for animals.
- Consider ethics and animal welfare.
- Develop and maintain accurate health records for animals and pets.
- Investigate health issues related to body systems, diseases, parasites and the importance of immunity.

### Expanding Horizons
**Advanced / Level 3**
- Incorporate science into understanding of genetics and animal reproduction and health.
- Research the use of veterinary technology and procedures.
- Identify the transfer of diseases between animals and humans.
- Further explore non-veterinary, animal-related careers.

**Step It Up!**

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

#### Communication
- Give an educational presentation on types of injections and how to vaccinate animals
- Develop an animal health management plan with a veterinarian
- Help in presenting in a FSQA session

#### Citizenship
- Volunteer at a local veterinary clinic
- Volunteer at Animal Rescue League
- Start a campaign encouraging pet owners to neuter and spay their pets

#### Leadership
- Help members develop a health care plan for their animal projects
- Create a bio-security informational sheet and kit for 4-H members to keep at their livestock areas
- Organize a pet first aid class through your local Red Cross Chapter

*For more information or to obtain project materials contact your county ISU Extension Office or go to: www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/vetscience*
Take Veterinary Science further!

Here are other opportunities to explore Veterinary Science:

- Assist with a local Food Safety Quality Assurance class for younger 4-H members
- Schedule a job shadow with your local veterinarian
- Become a youth representative on a livestock bio-security advisory group
- Set-up a local/area animal disease emergency preparedness and response team
- Attend Animal Science Round-Up as part of the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and participate in one of the livestock areas.
- Attend the Iowa State Fair Vet Camp (registrations available online)
- Is it fair time? Consider a communications speech or develop a poster or video for your county fair or the Iowa State Fair.
- Contact your county ISU Extension Office for other local workshops, activities, and events
- 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

**4-H Resources**

- Iowa 4-H Veterinary Science [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/Livestock/vetscience.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/Livestock/vetscience.htm)
- From Airedales to Zebras Level 1 (4H 0760A)
- All Systems Go! Level 2 (4H 0760B)
- On the Cutting Edge Level 3 (4H 0760C)
- University of Nebraska 4-H Vet Science Series
- The Normal Animal (EC 29981)
- Animal Disease 2 (4H 48)
- Animal Health and Its Relationship to Our World 3 (4H133)

**Other Resources**

- Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine [http://vetmed.iastate.edu/](http://vetmed.iastate.edu/)
- American Veterinary Medical Association [www.avma.org/](http://www.avma.org/)
- American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges [www.aavmc.org/](http://www.aavmc.org/)
- American Veterinary Medical Association [www.youtube.com/AmerVetMedAssn](http://www.youtube.com/AmerVetMedAssn)
- Future Vet [www.futurevet.net](http://www.futurevet.net)
- Healthy Pets [www.cdc.gov/healthypets/](http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/)

**Record Keeping**

- **4-H Yearly Summary** (4H0096)
- **Basic 4-H Project Record** (4H0096A)
- **Experienced 4-H Project Record** (4H0096B)
- **Advanced 4-H Project Record** (4H0096C)
- **Record keeping Self-Evaluation** (4H98)

**Exhibit Ideas**

- Create a display of products which come from livestock or animals
- Compare/Contrast various health management plans for a type of animal
- Interview a veterinarian and report on the various parts of their job.
- Create a display showing the difference in animal digestive systems
- Create a poster illustrating the types of injections for animals
- Research domestic animal health issues and how they affect people
- Research wild animal health issues and how they affect people
- Create a first aid kit for large or small animals
- Make a poster showing how to give first aid to an animal
- Make a poster about foods, plants, and/or household items that are poisonous to animals
- Take a tour of the Iowa State University Vet College
- Learn about newly approved feed additives for livestock and their uses
- Show the growth curve over an animal’s lifetime
- Develop a video on proper hoof care for an animal
- Develop a video or power point on ethics in the livestock industry