



SHEEP



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

The sheep project introduces you to a wide variety of fun and challenging activities including identifying parts of a sheep, selecting a project lamb, preparing for lambing season, identification of lamb meat products and feeding and showing sheep.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN LEARN...

STARTING OUT

- ✿ Identify different breeds
- ✿ Locate and name parts of sheep
- ✿ Learn about sheep health and proper care
- ✿ Learn what you need to show your animals
- ✿ Develop a management plan
- ✿ Learn about caring for newborn lambs
- ✿ Identify wool properties and use
- ✿ Identify sheep by-products and retail meat cuts

LEARNING MORE

- ✿ Learn about lamb yield grades
- ✿ Judge and present your sheep
- ✿ Understand the digestive process
- ✿ Read a feed tag to recognize nutrients needed for sheep
- ✿ Learn breeding and reproduction best practices
- ✿ Understand costs of sheep care
- ✿ Learn management practices to keep sheep healthy
- ✿ Explore sheep disease and health problems
- ✿ Learn food safety

GOING FURTHER

- ✿ Plan a judging contest
- ✿ Develop cost and expense records
- ✿ Identify parts of the sheep reproduction system
- ✿ Explore sheep genetics
- ✿ Market sheep products
- ✿ Learn how to select quality forages
- ✿ Identify sheep industry issues
- ✿ Explore careers in the sheep industry

RESOURCES

- ✿ *Lambs, Rams and You* (06367)
- ✿ *Shear Delight* (06368)
- ✿ *Leading the Flock* (06369)
- ✿ *Sheep Helper's Guide* (06370)
- ✿ *The 4-H Sheep Project: An Introduction* (uwyo.edu/4-h)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

- ✿ Tour a sheep farm
- ✿ Attend a sheep show and observe the judges and their techniques
- ✿ Design a business plan to market lamb meat directly to retailers, restaurants or private customers
- ✿ Write an educational article about some aspect of sheep production for your local newspaper
- ✿ Plan or participate in a sheep skillathon
- ✿ Organize a sheep showmanship contest
- ✿ Attend a national conference
- ✿ Job shadow a local veterinarian to learn about animal health
- ✿ Learn about the different uses for sheep
- ✿ Research sheep by-products
- ✿ Be part of your county Livestock Judging team and participate in the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest
- ✿ Attend Showcase Showdown and participate in the Livestock Skillathon
- ✿ Participate in the State 4-H Wool Judging Contest
- ✿ Participate in the State 4-H Meat Judging Contest
- ✿ Enter the Make it With Wool Contest
- ✿ Show in the Sheep Lead Line at State Fair
- ✿ Visit a local meat locker

ENHANCE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Design a poster on parts of the sheep and present this topic to others

Participate in a judging contest giving oral reasons

Give a shearing demonstration

GET INVOLVED IN CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE

Volunteer your lamb for a community petting zoo

Develop a recipe book of lamb recipes to share at local grocery stores

Do a food taste testing at a local grocery store

LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Lead a demonstration with your lamb at a local elementary

Teach others how to safely handle sheep.

Recruit younger members to join the sheep project

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EXHIBIT IDEAS

- ✿ Show your lamb at the fair
- ✿ Poster on the nutritive value of lamb
- ✿ Display of meat cuts and proper preparation
- ✿ Poster on feeding rations
- ✿ Create a poster about preventative vaccinations
- ✿ Notebook of photos on different breeds
- ✿ Presentation on developing a breeding herd
- ✿ Best care techniques for newborns
- ✿ Medical health kit
- ✿ Poster on understanding carcass grading in lamb carcasses
- ✿ Video on how to train your lamb to lead
- ✿ Display of proper exercising techniques
- ✿ Poster of feed additives
- ✿ Make a blanket or tube for your sheep
- ✿ Make a sheep fitting stand

