A natural compassion for animals and an interest in science is what leads most veterinarians into their field. Learn the role a veterinarian plays in practicing animal and public health while participating in many hands-on activities. These activities will help you learn about the different equipment used by veterinarians, diseases, health problems, and career opportunities as a veterinarian or volunteer. You do not have to own an animal to be in this project.

**HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN LEARN...**

**STARTING OUT**
- Recognize major breeds of different species of animals
- Identify basic needs of animals
- Investigate the different roles of animals
- Describe different stages of an animals’ life
- Discover body systems and organs
- Investigate animal behavior
- Explore nutrient groups and their function
- Learn to calculate medical dosages
- Explore the roles of a vet and the tools they use

**LEARNING MORE**
- Complete animal health records
- Learn how to recognize and reduce animal stress
- Investigate how the immune system works
- Recognize how disease can spread among animals
- Learn how parasites affect animal health
- Learn safe food handling and quality assurance
- Develop an understanding of disease causing agents
- Investigate veterinarian specialties

**GOING FURTHER**
- Discover the bond between humans and animals
- Investigate the mammalian reproductive system
- Learn about breeding and genetics
- Identify cell structure and function
- Recognize the importance of zoonotic diseases
- Learn about preventative medicine
- Learn about the need to control animal production
- Investigate technology used in veterinary medicine

**RESOURCES**
- From Airedales to Zebras 08048
- All Systems Go 08049
- On the Cutting Edge 08050
- Veterinary Science Helper's Guide 08051
- Veterinary Science 1: Animal Behavior 08744 DD
- Veterinary Science 2: Animal Vital Signs 08745 DD
- Veterinary Science 3: Disease Transmission 08746 DD
- Veterinary Science 4: Principals of Biosecurity 08747 DD
- Veterinary Science 5: Advanced Concepts in Animal Care 08748 DD

For more information visit www.uwyo.edu/4h
**EXHIBIT IDEAS**

- A notebook on a breed of animal
- A display of different types of housing for animals
- A diorama of the stages of life of an animal
- A pet food comparisons
- Create a safety report about an animal's environment
- A poster identifying tools used by a veterinarian
- A video library with reviews about movies with animals
- A chart comparing different animals normal heart rate, body temperature, and respiration rates
- A poster about a disease
- A poster about the importance of colostrum
- Display a lifecycle of a parasite
- A display about a specialty veterinarian
- A poster on the reproductive tract and cycle of an animal
- A display of animal cells and their function

**TAKE IT FURTHER!**

- Job shadow a veterinarian, producer, or pet store employee to learn more about how to care for animals
- Visit a zoo or a farm
- Research normal heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperatures of different animals
- Read Jane Goodall’s work about chimpanzee behavior
- Visit a pharmacist to talk about dispensing of medicine
- Visits a feed store to learn how feed gets from its original source to an animal, note where threats to feed safety could occur
- Learn how a complete blood count is performed
- Attend a youth quality assurance class
- Learn more about Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) pertaining to food safety
- Look into artificial insemination, embryo transfer, and cloning
- Interview a professional animal trainer
- Talk with someone who has contracted a zoonotic disease and interview them on their experience
- Visit the University of Wyoming Animal Science Department and the University of Wyoming Vet Lab

**ENHANCE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

- Write a story to share with others from an animal's point of view about its role
- Create a play about animals and have your club perform it for a local group
- Give a demonstration about reading medical labels

**GET INVOLVED IN CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE**

- Volunteer at the humane society
- Organize a vaccine clinic for dogs, cats, or horses
- Take your pets to a local nursing home
- Volunteer to watch someone’s pet

**LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP**

- Arrange for a local veterinarian or other person who works with animals to come and talk to your project group or club
- Teach others about Punnet Squares and basic genetics
- Sponsor a veterinarian skillathon for your club or community

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