



RABBIT



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Whether you see rabbits as soft and cuddly pets or a business opportunity, the rabbit project is flexible for your interest. Beginning level rabbit activities include selection, handling, breeds, parts, management, equipment, feeding, health, breeding and kindling. At the intermediate level through hands-on activities, you will learn how to select, judge, give oral reasons, show rabbits, tattoo, keep records and detect diseases. In the advanced level of the rabbits project, you will learn more about breeding, genetics, culling, determining pregnancy, designing a rabbitry, anatomy, teaching others, registering a rabbit and marketing your product.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN LEARN...

STARTING OUT

- ✿ Learn the different breeds and ideal traits
- ✿ Determine the use of your rabbit project
- ✿ Develop a rabbit care management plan
- ✿ Identify rabbit equipment and its uses
- ✿ Locate and name parts of a rabbit
- ✿ Learn proper feeding techniques
- ✿ Discover proper rabbit showmanship steps

LEARNING MORE

- ✿ Learn to judge rabbits and give oral reasons
- ✿ Discover the difference between 4 class and 6 class
- ✿ Explore the different rabbit body types and their function
- ✿ Design a plan for preparing rabbits for show
- ✿ Learn proper grooming techniques
- ✿ Tattoo your rabbits
- ✿ Learn about diseases and environment concerns

GOING FURTHER

- ✿ Learn about rabbit breeding programs and genetics
- ✿ Manage your rabbitry
- ✿ Determine pregnancy and palpation techniques
- ✿ Design a rabbitry
- ✿ Identify bones on a skeleton
- ✿ Evaluate rabbit health
- ✿ Develop and maintain a rabbit pedigree system
- ✿ Market your rabbits to others

RESOURCES

- ✿ *What's Hopping?* (08080)
- ✿ *Making Tracks* (08081)
- ✿ *All Ears* (08082)
- ✿ *Rabbit Helper's Guide* (08083)
- ✿ *The 4-H Rabbit Project: An Introduction* (uwyo.edu/4-h)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

- ✿ Tour a rabbit producer's farm
- ✿ Attend a rabbit show and observe the judge and their techniques
- ✿ Design a business card or marketing brochure for your farm
- ✿ Host a rabbit skillathon for your club or county
- ✿ Organize a rabbit showmanship contest
- ✿ Attend a national rabbit conference
- ✿ Learn about the different uses for rabbits; meat vs. non-meat production
- ✿ Try out recipes using rabbits as the main protein
- ✿ Research fiber processing for rabbits

ENHANCE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Write an educational article about some aspect of rabbit production for your newspaper

Design a poster on parts of the animal

Explain the use of rabbits for meat production

Find a rabbit pen pal and write letters to them about your rabbit experiences

GET INVOLVED IN CITIZENSHIP AND SERVICE

Volunteer your rabbit(s) for a community activity (i.e., nursing home, ag activity, etc.)

Volunteer to help at the county fair rabbit show

Give a talk at your local library about what to do with rabbits found in the wild

Work with your local shelter to develop a plan of what to do when a rabbit is brought in

LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Invite other 4-H members to tour your farm

Teach others how to safely handle rabbits

Lead a rabbit selection and feeding clinic

Lead a tattoo clinic and project workshops

EXHIBIT IDEAS

- ✿ Show your rabbit
- ✿ Make a poster on the economic value of a rabbit
- ✿ Prepare an emergency medical kit
- ✿ Display genetic variations and line-breeding
- ✿ Make a poster on feeding rations
- ✿ Do a display on preventative vaccinations
- ✿ Make a notebook showing different breeds
- ✿ Create a calendar of the daily routine in caring for animals
- ✿ Display grooming techniques
- ✿ Video interview with a rabbit producer
- ✿ Make a poster showing best care techniques for newborns
- ✿ Construct a nest box
- ✿ Make a poster on how to properly tattoo a rabbit
- ✿ Design a rabbitry
- ✿ Create a rabbit resource notebook



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