



# 4-H Dog Project



## Step It Up!

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

### Citizenship/ Leadership

- Volunteer to demonstrate obedience training techniques
- Collect dog food, towels and rags for the local animal shelter
- Volunteer to help at the county or state fair Dog show
- Volunteer to do a Dog presentation
- Raise a service dog

### Communication

- Design a poster on parts of the animal
- Participate in a judging contest giving oral reasons
- Teach someone about the care and maintenance of owning a dog.

## Are you Into It?

In the Dog project you can explore learning about raising and training dogs, health issues, and careers.

You will be able to:

- Learn major dog breeds and identification of their characteristics
- Study responsibilities of dog ownership
- Learn the basic principles of dog care and management in feeding, handling, record-keeping, grooming and fitting
- Learn dog health regulations, first aid, and simple treatments for ailments.

## Here's what you can do all year!

### Starting Out Basic

- Identify different breeds
- Locate and name parts of a dog: internal and external
- Learn proper feed and feeding techniques
- Learn basic obedience training and showmanship
- Purchase and use the appropriate grooming equipment and techniques
- Be a good sport when showing your animals

### Learning More Intermediate

- More about nutrients
- Begin to start agility training with your dog
- Explore the difference between class, breed and variety
- Describe signs of a healthy dog
- Learn about health issues that affect dogs

### Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Conduct a judging clinic
- Begin to enter into AKC /UKC junior shows
- Investigate DNA and genetics
- Starting a career in vet science, dog grooming or pet sitting

### Healthy Living

- Explore the best practices of nutritious advantages to feeding your dog
- Daily exercise with your dog as walking or playing

### Science

- Explore research on dog behavior
- Learn the science behind dog nutrition, growth and development, and genetics
- Explore how service dogs are trained



## Expand Your Experiences in the Dog Project

- Attend a Dog shows in nearby counties and observe the judge and their techniques
- Learn about service animals and the process for fostering and training a service animal
- Visit a pet-sitting service
- Write an educational article about some aspect of your dog project for your newspaper
- Participate in a Dog skill-a-thon or Quiz Bowl Team
- Attend an AKC /UKC Dog Show note the differences
- Explore what kinds of dogs make the best pets – compare breeds
- Research parasites and how they affect dogs and how to protect your dog
- Explore the subject of animal assisted therapy, how it is used and the benefits
- Register for 4-H University to attend workshops, participate in community service events, hear keynotes, compete in contests, have fun, and meet other youth from across Florida: [florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org)
- Interested in a career in Animal Science or Veterinary Science? Schedule a visit with the University of Florida: [ufl.edu](http://ufl.edu)
- Search the internet and see what other state 4-H programs are doing in Dog
- Contact your county Extension office for other local workshops, and events

### Project Sharing Ideas

- Participate in a 4-H Dog show:
  - Showmanship
  - Obedience
  - Rally
  - Agility
- Consider an educational exhibit, notebook or display
- Develop a video showing the steps in training a dog
- Make a toy for your dog and share with your club.

## Resources

### 4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or you can order directly.

Available at National 4-H: [www.4-hmall.org](http://www.4-hmall.org)

#### Dog

Level 1: Wiggles and Wags  
 Level 2: Canine Connection  
 Level 3: Flocking Together  
 Helper Guide: Leader  
 Materials

### Connections and Events

#### Check out these resources!

Service Animal  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/service\\_animal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/service_animal)

Animal Assisted Therapy  
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/animal-assisted\\_therapy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/animal-assisted_therapy)

American Kennel Club  
[akc.org](http://akc.org)

Service and Therapy Dogs  
[Pawswithacause.org](http://Pawswithacause.org)

Orange County, FL Pet Educational Materials  
[ocfl.net/AnimalsPets/PetsEducationalMaterials.aspx#U-eVSFaiStU](http://ocfl.net/AnimalsPets/PetsEducationalMaterials.aspx#U-eVSFaiStU)

### Record Keeping

Learning to take good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill.

The following record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities.

Project Report Forms can be found at [florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org)

- Junior (grades 4-6)
- Intermediate (grades 7-8)
- Senior (grades 9-12)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (ages 8-13)

Some counties may have designed their own local book for dogs – check with your county agent.

### Awards and Recognition

Florida's Recognition Program involves feedback through:

- Participation
- Setting Goals
- Meeting Standards
- Peer Competition
- Cooperation

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

Learn more about current recognition opportunities by contacting your county 4-H agent.

Learn more at [florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org)  
 or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

**4-H**  
 GROWING TOGETHER