

# Horse Projects

## Objectives

4-H'ers will learn to:

- develop positive attitudes and skills relating to working with adults.
- demonstrate the ability to judge and select quality animals.
- adopt the best management practices for animal care.
- adopt safe and ethical management practices for animal welfare.

## Project Manuals & Other Resources

### Horses (Ages 8-18)

This curriculum covers selection, housing, feeding, health, behavior and showing of horses. The guides include activities related to breeds, health care, grooming, production, reproduction, management, showmanship, marketing, and careers.



### Horse - National (ages 9 and up)

HS 1	Giddy up & Go
HS 2	Head, Heart & Hooves
HS 3	Stable Relationships
HS 4	Riding the Range
HS 5	Jumping to New Height
HS H	Horse Helper's Guide

### Horses - Florida

#### Horseless Horse Project (ages 8 and up)

HS1 1	Love a Horse I
HS1 2	Love a Horse II
HS1 H	Love a Horse Projects I & II Leader Guide

#### Horsemanship (11-18)

HS2 A	Horses and Horsemanship
HS2 B	Horse Science

#### Horse Advancement Program

HS3 1	Jr. Level 1 (ages 8-10)
HS3 2	Int. Level 2 (ages 11-13)
HS3 3	Sr. Level 3 (ages 14-15)
HS3 4	Sr. Level 4 (ages 16-18)
HS3 H	Leaders Guide

## Additional Resources

Horse Pattern

Horse Learning Lab Kit

Learning Lab Kit  
Interactive CD-ROM

Youth Leaders Manual

Horse Industry Handbook: A Guide to Equine Care and Management

Your Pony, Your Horse - A Kid's Guide to Care and Enjoyment (Ages 8-18)

Horse Course CD ROM - Project Support

Games on Horseback

Your Horse

Arena Pocket Guides - English and Western Exercises

CH-1 Beginner Western Exercises  
CH-2 Intermediate Western Exercises  
CH-3 Advanced Western Exercises  
CH-4 Beginner English Exercises  
CH-5 Intermediate English Exercises  
CH-6 Advanced English Exercises

The Kid's Book of the American Quarter Horse

FL Horse Project Record Book Preparation and Presentation of Oral Reasons in Horse Judging

4H Horse Judging Manual

Preparation and Presentation of Oral Reasons in Horse Judging (ages 13 and up)

Evaluation of Oral Reasons for Horse Judging

## Supporting Events & Activities

### Competitive Contests:

#### County, District, State or National Levels

##### Demonstration and Illustrated Talks

Part of the "Horse" division, this area includes all demonstrations pertaining to horses.

##### Horse Bowl

The Horse Bowl is a team competition in which individual members are able to demonstrate their knowledge by answering a series of questions about the horse industry, agriculture, and biological sciences. **Please see the next page for additional requirements and information.**

### Horse Public Speaking Contest

This is an individual competition within the 4-H Horse Program designed to give 4-H'ers experience in the preparation and delivery of a speech related to the horse industry. [Please see the next page for additional requirements and information.](#)

### Hippology Contest

This event provides 4-H'ers with an opportunity to blend their knowledge and experience in horse-judging, horse bowl, demonstrations, public speaking, and showing into one activity. [Please see the back of this brochure for additional requirements and information.](#)

### Horse Judging Event

This event provides 4-H'ers with the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and ability in the selection and evaluation of different breeds and types of horses. [Please see the back of this brochure for additional requirements and information.](#)

### Photo Exhibit

The General Photo Exhibit Contest provides a showcase for 4-H member's photographic accomplishments with the intent of increasing public awareness and understanding of the 4-H program. For more information and requirements, please visit <http://florida4h.org/events>.

### Poster Art Program

The Poster Art Program gives 4-H members an opportunity to use the visual medium of poster art to promote public understanding and support of the 4-H program. Program goals encourage 4-H Club members to develop an awareness of visual imagery and its power to express thoughts and ideas. For more information and requirements, please visit <http://florida4h.org/events>.

### Non-Competitive Events:

#### Horsemanship School

Horsemanship Schools provide 4-H members an opportunity to learn the basic fundamentals of horsemanship. The week at camp allows in-depth study, which is otherwise not available or practical on a short-term basis. Participants are introduced to the following topics: Riding Skills, Horse Health, Nutrition, Equipment/Tack Care and Selection, Showmanship, Safety, Fitting and Grooming. [Please see page 2 of this brochure for additional requirements and information.](#)

## Award & Recognition Opportunities

### Ribbons and Awards for Competitive Events

Blue, Red, and White ribbons are awarded based on quality of performance during a competitive event using a standard scoring system. In addition to ribbons, youth may receive additional recognition for excellence, such as trophies, at the district, state and national levels.

### 4-H Project Reports

Certificates, pins and other county determined awards are available to youth who complete their project records annually at the county level. The project report forms are available for each age group (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). For copies of these materials, please visit our website <http://florida4h.org>.

### 4-H Portfolios

Senior 4-H'ers (ages 14 and up) are eligible to complete and submit a 4-H Portfolio of their 4-H experiences and activities. Youth in these project areas may compete in one of the following categories:

- **Animal Sciences** - (predominantly focused on experiences in animal science category)
- **Citizenship** - (if activities have been significantly focused on community and helping others)
- **Achievement** - (if 4-H activities include a broad spectrum of 4-H projects)
- **Leadership** - (if 4-H experiences have centered on leadership provided to other youth or teaching and leading project activities)

The award for 4-H Portfolio is a partially expense paid trip to National 4-H Congress.

### College Scholarships

Graduating Seniors in 4-H are eligible to compete for a variety of educational scholarships.

*Contact your local 4-H office for these and other supporting project events, activities and award opportunities.*

### A Note About Horse Events

Counties unable to fill a team may work through the agents to merge with another county to form a team.

Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup allows participation in only one event per individual, per year, and individuals cannot participate in the same event more than once.

Any senior member who has already earned a trip to the national event will be ineligible for subsequent national qualifying events during the calendar year.

## Horse Bowl

**When:** June/July  
**Where:** UF Animal Sciences Building, Gainesville

### Participation Criteria:

4-H members who are at least 14 years of age by September 1 of the current program year.

### General Regulations:

- Informational packets are distributed by the Animal Science Department to counties.
- Each of the teams entered in the State contest are required to submit a specified # of questions by the designated date.
- Further information relative to this requirement is included with the State 4-H Horse Bowl information sent to the counties.

### Participation Procedures and Quotas:

**County:** A county may enter only one team (4 or 5 members) in the 4-H Horse Bowl Contest.

**State:** County teams are to be registered for the state contest by using County to State Form B. Registration must be received in the State 4-H Events office by the specified date in May. See event calendar for date each year.

### Awards:

- Members of the first, second, and third place teams will receive awards.
- The top two teams are eligible to participate in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships (location rotates between several states).
- The winning team at the State Competition will be eligible to represent Florida at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup in Louisville, Kentucky in November. This team will receive \$250 traveling money from the Florida 4-H Horse Program. There is currently no national sponsorship for this trip.

## Horsemanship School

**When:** Various Dates in June  
**Where:** Camps Timpooshee and Welaka

### Participation Criteria:

- 4-H Horsemanship School is open to any 4-H'er who is at least 11 years of age by September 1 of the current program year and is enrolled through their County 4-H Extension Office. Members must be able to manage and care for horse and tack without assistance.

### Participation Procedures:

Registration requirements are outlined on the horsemanship school Web site provided to the counties prior to the event.

All horses should be properly immunized, preferably under the supervision of a veterinarian, before coming to school. Youth will be required to present a current negative Coggins Test upon arrival at camp. If you do not present a current negative Coggins Test, your horse will not be allowed to remain at camp.

## Horse Public Speaking Contest

**When:** June/July  
**Where:** UF Animal Sciences Building, Gainesville

### Participation Criteria:

- Junior 4-Her's must be 8-10 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Intermediate 4-Her's must be 11-13 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Senior 4-H'ers must be 14-18 years old by September 1 of the current program year.

### Participation Procedures and Quotas:

- The top senior selected at county level competition may participate in the State Event.
- The top junior and intermediate selected at county level competition may participate in the District Event.

### General Regulations:

- Speech must be original and specifically related to the horse industry in a demonstrable way.
- Speech must have been specifically prepared for, and part of, the 4-H Horse Public Speaking program.
- All requirements must be met as set forth in the general regulations for participation in the Florida 4-H Public Speaking Project.
- Speeches given by Senior 4-H'ers should be no less than 8 and no more than 10 minutes in length. This requirement differs from General Public Speaking. Speeches by junior and intermediate 4-H'ers should be no less than 3 and no more than 7 minutes in length. Contestants not meeting the time requirement will be subject to penalization as outlined on the score sheets.
- Previous state-level first place 4-H public speaking contest winners in any division are not eligible to compete in this event.
- 4-H members should refer to the 4-H Public Speaking Guide for helpful suggestions in preparing their speeches.

### Special Requirements for State Competition:

- 4-H'er must have competed at the county level.
- Three type-written, double spaced copies of each speech including: topic, name, age, date, county, and district on the front. These must be submitted by the published deadline (typically June 1, see State 4-H Events Calendar) to Dr. Ed Johnson, PO Box 110910, Gainesville, FL 32611-0910. All counties must submit their entries for the state contest to their district event chairperson.
- County teams are to be registered for the state contest by using County to State Form B. Registration must be received in the State 4-H Events office by the specified date in May, see event calendar for date each year.

### Awards:

- Blue, red and white awards will be given. The first place blue ribbon winner will receive an award. Both 1st and 2nd place will be announced.
- The first and second place contestants at the state level will also be eligible to compete in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships and Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup.
- The first place winner is eligible to participate in the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup and will receive \$150 travel money from the Florida 4-H Horse Program. There is currently no national sponsorship for this trip.

## Hippology Contest

This event provides 4-H'ers with an opportunity to blend their knowledge and experience in horse-judging, horse bowl, demonstrations, public speaking, and showing into one activity.

**When:** March

**Where:** Orange County Agriculture Center,  
Orlando, FL

### Participation Criteria:

- Intermediate 4-H'er's must be 11-13 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Senior 4-H'er's must be 14-18 years old by September 1 of the current program year.

### Participation Procedures and Quotas:

- Any Florida 4-H Member is eligible to participate in the 4-H Hippology Contest, and horse ownership is not required.
- Each county is eligible to enter any number of senior teams (consisting of 4 members) and up to two intermediate teams in the contest. If the total number of youth exceeds contest capacity in either division, counties with excessive entries may be limited.
- All ties will be broken using the following sequence: written examination scores, scores at stations, reasons scores, and judging placing scores.

### Awards:

- Awards will be given to the top five individuals and teams in each division.
- The top two teams are eligible to participate in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships (location rotates between several states).
- The winning senior team will be given the opportunity to represent Florida at the Eastern National 4-H Roundup Hippology contest in Louisville, KY. The team will receive \$500 travel money from the Florida 4-H Horse Program. There is no national sponsorship available at this time for this national trip.

## Horse Judging Event

This event provides 4-H'ers with the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and ability in the selection and evaluation of different breeds and types of horses.

**When:** April

**Where:** UF Horse Teaching Unit, Gainesville

### Participation Criteria:

Senior 4-H'er's must be 14-18 years old by September 1 of the current program year.

### Participation Procedures and Quotas:

One four member team from each county may participate.

### Awards:

- Trophies and ribbons are presented to top teams and individuals in several divisions.
- The top two teams are eligible to participate in the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships (location rotates between several states).
- The winning senior team will be given the opportunity to represent Florida at the Eastern National 4-H Roundup Hippology contest in Louisville, KY. The team will receive \$500 travel money from the Florida 4-H Horse Program. There is no national sponsorship available at this time for this national trip.