Dairy Project Brief

Learning Objectives
- Increase dairy knowledge and skills.
- Raise a newborn calf with a bottle or bucket and care for their needs.
- Break the calf to lead and/or show.
- Gain skills in calf management.
- Understand proper grooming and exhibit techniques.
- Recognize proper management of dairy cattle.
- Identify dairy cattle selection characteristics.
- Complete the Show Me Quality Assurance Program.
- Keep records on your dairy project.
- Enhance showmanship skills.
- Understand the value of dairy products and marketing them.

Fair Projects
- Exhibit an animal.
- Calf raising kit.
- Homemade cheese.
- Homemade butter.
- Display of a proper Calf raising facility.
- Photos of dairy cows and calves.
- Homemade calf hatch.
- Homemade rope halter.
- Basic show equipment kit.
- Feed sample display.
- Animal health tool display.
- Diagram of efficient farm layout.
- Animal Care Poster.
- Best Practice Poster.

Demonstration Ideas
- How to prepare an electrolyte.
- CMT cow side testing.
- Identifying an animal by photographs.
- Care and handling of dairy equipment.
- Floor plans for milking parlors.
- Keeping a dairy record book.
- How to make homemade ice cream, butter, or other dairy food dishes and recipes.
- How to give a proper injection.
- How to properly tattoo an animal.
- How and when to give colostrums and/or synthetic colostrums.
- Parts of the cow.
- How to read a pedigree.
- How to make a rope halter.
- How to take notes for oral reasons.
- Parts of the milking machine.
- Proper milking procedures.
- Animal Care.

Field Trips
- Local dairy.
- Milk marketing plant.
- Local veterinarian clinic.
- Milk bottling plant.
- Artificial Insemination facility.
- Local Ag research facility (MU Farm, etc.).

Ideas for Speech Topics
- Importance of milk in the diet.
- Dairy production-way of life or business?
- Growth hormones in our milk.
- Grass fed options.
- Embryo transfer and collection.
- Why learn to judge?
- Common diseases of dairy animals.
- Future of family dairy farms.
- Grazing vs. conventional dairying.
- History of breed(s).
- Which breed is best?
- Show ring ethics.
- National identification - voluntary vs. mandatory.
- BSE.
- Why DHI?
- Showmanship and sportsmanship.
- Careers in dairy.
- Animal Care.

Critical Thinking
- How can you become a better decision maker?
- How could you share what you learned with others?
- When you are buying something, how would you gather information about it?
- How can you improve your judging skills?
- What ways can you use to describe something that has many steps?
- What jobs require good planning and organizing skills?
- How can you improve your showmanship skills?
- How can you measure the effectiveness of a parasite control program?
- What is the difference between a healthy cow chewing cud and that of a sick cow?

Community Service
- Work at the food bank.
- Pick up trash.
- Set up recycling in your school.
- Host a school group at your farm.
- Take an animal in to school on ag day.
- Help plant a community garden.
Science & Technology
How have you used science and technology processes in this project area?
Examples:
• Troubleshooting
• Research a problem
• Predict
• Observation
• Compare/Contrast

Show Me Character
Trustworthiness - includes honesty, promise keeping and loyalty.
• Show only animals you have raised and trained
• Follow the rules of the competition
• Only use approved products for show
• Always enter and show the same animals and in the correct classes

Respect - includes courtesy and proper treatment of people and things.
• Judge other participants on their character not on the quality of their livestock
• Be understanding of other's viewpoints
• Always be courteous in show rings

Responsibility - includes the pursuit of excellence, accountability and perseverance.
• Meet all obligations to sales centers and buyers
• Set a good example for other showmen
• Work hard and don't quit if results don't turn out the way you want
• Get your entries in on time

Fairness - involves consistently applying rules and standards appropriately for different age groups and ability levels.
• Use only stall space paid for and assigned to you
• Follow the rules set by the organization running the show
• Don't question consequences if they are a result of your choices

Caring - promoting the well being of people and things in a young person's world. It denotes action and not just feelings.
• Show consideration for other's livestock
• Help less experienced showmen practice before competitions
• Thank people who help you care for your livestock

Citizenship - includes making the home community and county a better place to live for themselves and others.
• Learn the rules and make sure you and others follow them
• Do what's best for everyone
• Protect the environment by disposing of waste according to law
• Be open to learning from others

Show Me Standards
Missouri 4-H members will acquire the knowledge and skills to gather analyze and apply information and ideas, communicate effectively, recognize and solve problems, make decisions and act as responsible members of society.

4-H members will acquire a solid foundation which includes knowledge of:
• Health/Physical Education - consumer health issues (such as the effects of mass media and technologies on safety and health)
• Communication Arts - participating in formal and informal presentation and discussions of issues and ideas
• Mathematics - data analysis, probability and statistics
• Science - characteristics and interactions of living organisms; impact of science, technology and human activity on resources and the environment
• Social Studies - economic concepts (including productivity and the market system) and principles (including the laws of supply and demand)

Resources
131 Dairy Unit 1
Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1300 Learning About Dairy, a Resource Guide
Y1310 Cowabunga!
LG1300 Dairy Helper's Activity Guide

132 Dairy Unit 2
Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1300 Learning About Dairy a Resource Guide
Y1320 Moooving Ahead
LG1300 Dairy Helper's Activity Guide

133 Dairy Unit 3
Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1300 Learning About Dairy, a Resource Guide
Y1330 Rising to the Top
LG1300 Dairy Helper's Activity Guide

134 Judging Dairy Cattle
Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1301 Dairy Judging Made Easy
135 Bucket Calf Project
Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1350 4-H Bucket Calf Project

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