



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 hutch
- Homemade rope halter
- Basic show equipment kit
- Feed sample display
- Animal health tool display
- Diagram of efficient farm layout

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

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

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

To Order

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For additional resources check with your local University of Missouri Extension Center or www.4-hmall.org/