



Poultry Project Brief

Learning Objectives

- Learn management of a production or market poultry flock
- Understand the various poultry diseases and prevention methods
- Develop a record keeping system for your poultry project
- Learn about careers in the poultry industry
- Care for a flock of laying hens for one year to learn production and marketing practices
- Complete the Show Me Quality Assurance Program
- Own, feed and care for pullet chicks from hatching to the layer house

Fair Projects

- Show an animal
- Egg laying box
- Egg candling
- Education display of breeds
- Poster or educational display of feather patterns

Demonstration Ideas

- How to cook poultry
- How to wash a chicken
- How to prepare your favorite egg dish
- Grooming poultry
- Proper care of poultry
- Feather patterns
- Making a range shelter
- Controlling insects or diseases
- Making chick feed and water dispensers
- Caring for baby chicks
- Sanitation measures
- How to candle an egg
- Grading and handling eggs
- How to clean dirty eggs
- Casing and storing eggs
- Proper handling of birds
- Prepare a bird for show

Field Trips

- Visit a poultry farm, poultry processing plant, hatchery, hobby farmer, swap meet or flea market

Ideas for Speech Topics

- Poultry production
- Use of poultry by-products
- Fresh farm poultry production
- Bird Flu
- Safe Processing

Critical Thinking

- Why do you compare birds to each other?
- What types of skills are needed to compare two things?
- Why is it important to learn to cook eggs safely?
- What did you learn about egg nutrition?
- What are some functions of feathers?
- What differences are there in sight and touch of the feathers?
- What new poultry products could be developed?

Community Service

- Bring a chicken to an elementary school
- Agriculture in the classroom demonstration with eggs and poultry
- Raise money for Heifer International
- Work at a community food bank
- Help with a Chicken BBQ fundraiser in your county

Science & Technology

How have you used science and technology in this project area?

Examples:

- Affects of lighting and heat on production of poultry.
- Evaluation of eggs or carcasses
- Collection of data related to feed and growth
- Optimize space available to raise birds.
- Research a problem with your flock

Show Me Character

Trustworthiness - includes honesty, promise keeping and loyalty.

- Show only animals you have cared for and trained
- Follow the rules of the competition
- Only use approved products for show
- Follow animal ownership guidelines

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

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)
- **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

151 Poultry Unit 1

Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1510 Scratching the Surface
G8350 Poultry – Small Flock Series
LG1540 Poultry Helper's Group Activity Guide

152 Poultry Unit 2

Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1520 Testing Your Wings
G8350 Poultry – Small Flock Series
LG1540 Poultry Helper's Group Activity Guide

153 Poultry Unit 3

Y620 4-H Project Record
Y1530 Flocking Together
G8350 Poultry – Small Flock Series
LG1540 Poultry Helper's Group Activity Guide

G materials downloadable at

extension.missouri.edu/explore/agguides/poultry

Supplemental Resources

4-H Poultry Judging CD
National 4-H Poultry Judging Manual
National 4-H Avian Bowl Manual

To Order

- Order the 4-H Poultry Judging CD at <http://www.ansci.umn.edu/poultry/CD/>. Order the National 4-H Avian Bowl Manual at <http://dprod4.clemson.edu/olos/asp/searchmain.asp>. Order the National 4-H Poultry Judging Manual from University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension at (402) 472-9713 or gnickels1@unl.edu.
- Extension Publications online at <http://extension.missouri.edu/explore/shop/> or by phone at 1-800-292-0969
- For additional resources check with your local University of Missouri Extension Center or www.4-hmall.org/