

OKLAHOMA 4-H HORSE PROJECT



4-H GROWN

LIFE SKILLS

- Use critical thinking, problem solving and decision making skills related to horse ownership, use and management
- Practice resiliency through successes and challenges of horse ownership, horse judging, hippology or horse-related events

LEADERSHIP

- Teach horsemanship skills, safety, judging, health and management to younger members
- Assist with local horse events
- Organize a tack swap for 4-H'ers

COMMUNICATION

- Develop a presentation on appropriate and safe tack
- Share information regarding equine current event issues and management through social media, news articles and community presentations
- Develop a poster or video about the importance of wearing a helmet when riding horses

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Horse Project provides youth with opportunities to learn topics within the horse industry including horse care, management, nutrition, behavior, training and selection. Youth explore horse activities from competitive shows to recreational riding and therapeutic benefits. Youth will:

- Utilize and share safety skills to prevent injury to horses and people
- Demonstrate knowledge about equine health, sound breeding, feeding, nutrition and management practices
- Connect knowledge to horse ownership and explore equine careers

GROW IN YOUR HORSE PROJECT

The activities below are ideas to inspire project development. This is not a complete list.

BEGINNER

- Learn horse anatomy
- Identify basic tack necessary and the appropriate parts
- Learn showmanship skills
- Research horse breeds
- Identify horse colors and markings
- Acquire the skills to safely work with horses and prevent injury to animals and humans
- Explore equine disciplines

INTERMEDIATE

- Develop ability to administer horse first aid
- Explore equine diseases
- Learn horse feed ingredients and feed management principles
- Understand equine behavior and training techniques
- Connect horse selection criteria to judging standards
- Check and clean tack

ADVANCED

- Demonstrate and teach advanced horsemanship
- Understand current equine industry issues
- Learn the equine reproductive system, including selection, breeding and genetics
- Develop an appreciation for research and science-based journals
- Discover breed associations

EXPAND YOUR EXPERIENCE

- Interview a farrier and a veterinarian
- Volunteer at a therapeutic riding facility
- Attend horsemanship clinics
- Showcase youth work at horse shows and events



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CITIZENSHIP

- Volunteer at a rescue horse facility
- Volunteer for a therapeutic riding program
- Encourage friends and family to wear helmets when riding

HEALTHY LIVING

- Practice safety around horses and share horse safety with others
- Increase physical fitness for more effective horsemanship
- Explore therapeutic riding

SCIENCE

- Research proper vet science techniques and apply them to equine management
- Investigate assisted reproductive technologies and give presentations to horse owners
- Keep an electronic log/diary of your practice each week

RESOURCES

4-H CURRICULUM

- National 4-H: <http://www.4-hmall.org/Category/horse.aspx>
- Oklahoma 4-H Horse Curriculum: <http://4h.okstate.edu/literature-links/lit-online/animal-science-companion-animals/horse>

OPPORTUNITIES

- Horse Judging Contests
- Hippology
- Horse Shows
- Horsemanship Clinics
- Volunteerism
- Trail Rides

RESOURCES

- AQHA Junior Master Horseman Program: <https://aqha.com/youth/learn/junior-master-horseman/junior-master-horseman/>
- PATH International: www.pathintl.org/
- Horse eXtension: <http://articles.extension.org/horses>

Learn more at:
or contact your county
Cooperative Extension office.



Oklahoma 4-H is the youth development program of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service and Oklahoma State University

Join Our 4-H Community:



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