



4-H Poultry Project



Step It Up!

Pass it on! Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started...

Citizenship/ Leadership

- Volunteer your bird for a community petting zoo
- Volunteer to help at the county fair poultry show
- Volunteer to do a poultry promotional presentation

Are you Into It?

In the poultry project you can explore poultry by learning about raising birds and dive into health issues, poultry products and careers.

You will be able to:

- Learn the basic principles of animal science by owning, caring for, and keeping records on one or more animals
- Explore knowledge of sound breeding, feeding, and management practices
- Investigate current issues facing the industry and how you can start a career in the poultry business
- Learn how to rear eggs

Communication

- Design a poster on parts of the animal
- Participate in a judging contest giving oral reasons
- Explain the cuts of meat and how to prepare them
- Teach someone about the importance of the poultry industry

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic

- Learn the different types of birds and what they're used for
- Produce a healthy and safe meat product
- Identify different breeds
- Locate and name parts of a bird
- Learn proper feeding techniques
- Be a good sport when showing your animals

Learning More Intermediate

- More about nutrients and poultry products
- Compare poultry carcasses and grading
- Explore the difference between class, breed and variety
- Discover how eggs are made
- Describe signs of a healthy bird
- Learn different housing systems

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Conduct a judging clinic
- Managing your flock
- Investigate DNA and genetics
- Types of eggs produced and sold
- Poultry processing
- Food safety from farm to table
- Starting a career in poultry

Healthy Living

- Explore the nutritional advantages to eating poultry products
- Learn how poultry products fit into MyPlate (www.choosemyplate.gov)
- Spend 60 minutes a week on physical activity related to your poultry project

Science

- Explore science experiments related to poultry
- Complete an embryology project learning about incubation and the life cycle
- Learn the science behind poultry nutrition, growth and development, genetics and the poultry industry



Expand Your Experiences in the Poultry Project

- Tour a poultry farm
- Attend a poultry show and observe the judge and their techniques
- Attend a poultry project meeting
- Design a business card or marketing brochure for your farm or imaginary farm
- Write an educational article about some aspect of poultry production for your newspaper
- Participate in a poultry skill-a-thon
- Organize a poultry showmanship contest
- Attend a national poultry conference
- Ride with a local veterinarian to learn about animal health
- Visit a local grocery store to learn proper meat handling techniques
- Register for 4-H University to attend workshops, participate in community service events, hear keynotes, compete in contests, have fun, and meet other youth from across Florida: florida4h.org
- Interested in a career in Animal Science or Veterinary Science? Schedule a visit with the University of Florida: ufl.edu
- Search the internet and see what other state 4-H programs are doing in poultry
- Contact your county Extension office for other local workshops, and events

Project Sharing Ideas

Participate in the 4-H poultry show:

- Breeding birds
- Chickens
- Ducks
- Geese
- Turkeys
- Quail
- Pigeons
- Market broilers
- Egg production
- White egg layers
- Brown egg layers
- Showmanship

Consider an exhibit, notebook or display showing what you've learned in a poultry-related topic

Resources

4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or you can order directly.

Available at National 4-H:
www.4-hmall.org

Poultry

Level1: Scratching the Surface
Level2: Testing Your Wings
Level 3: Flocking Together

Available at IFAS bookstore:
ifasbooks.ifas.ufl.edu

-4-H Club Poultry Record Book
-What Are the Risks of Contracting Diseases Associated with Chickens?
-Hatching with my Peeps
Embryology Countdown Calendar

4-H Embryology
florida4h.org/embryology

Connections and Events

Check out these resources!

Central Florida Poultry Breeders Association
cflpoultrybreeders.org

National Poultry Improvement Plan
aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/poultry/participants.shtml

American Egg Board
aeb.org

Good Egg Project
incredibleegg.org/good-egg-project

American Poultry Association
amerpoultryassn.com

UF IFAS Poultry
solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/agriculture/livestock/poultry.html

Record Keeping

Learning to take good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill.

The following record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities.

- 4-H Club Poultry Record Book
edis.ifas.ufl.edu

Project Report Forms can be found at florida4h.org

- Junior (ages 8-10)
- Intermediate (ages 11-13)
- Senior (ages 14-18)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (ages 8-13)

Awards and Recognition

Florida's Recognition Program involves feedback through:

- Participation
- Setting Goals
- Meeting Standards
- Peer Competition
- Cooperation

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

To learn more about current recognition opportunities contact your county 4-H agent or visit the Florida 4-H website: florida4h.org

Learn more at florida4h.org
or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER