



## Dogs Project Brief

### Learning Objectives

- Practice the life skills of decision making, communicating with others, leading self and others, planning and organizing and learning to learn.
- Identify different dog breeds and their characteristics
- Properly groom, care for, and show dogs
- Recognize proper management and health care for dogs
- Understand dog behaviors and how to reward good behavior and correct bad behaviors
- Keep records on your dog project

### Fair Projects (building)

- Poster identifying and classifying dog breeds
- Diagram of dog body parts
- Educational poster about nutrients a dog needs
- Chart explaining origins of dog breeds
- Create a dog care budget
- Poster about dog behaviors
- Educational poster explaining the duties of guide dogs
- Scrapbook of your dog's activities
- Animal Care Poster
- Best Practice Poster

### Demonstration Ideas

- How to choose the right dog for your family
- How to decide which category of dog breeds your dog fits into
- Show a dog trick
- Show ideas on how to keep your dog from getting lost
- How to house train a puppy
- How to make a dog command
- How to groom a dog
- How to correct bad dog behaviors
- Animal Care

### Field Trips

- Visit veterinary clinic
- Visit an animal shelter
- Attend a dog show

### Ideas for Speech Topics

- Dog breeds
- Dog diseases
- Guide dogs
- Dog laws
- Animal Care

### Critical Thinking

- Name at least one disease that can be passed from dogs to humans and explain how it is passed.
- What type of dog food does a dog get the most nutrients from?
- Name at least one parasite that affects a dog and explain its life cycle.
- What is the most important nutrient a dog needs?
- What is one category dog breeds are split into and what is its description?
- Is it acceptable to purposely breed a mutt?
- Why is it important to never pet a dog being used as a guide?
- When is it legal to kill a dog right on the spot?

### Community Service

- Volunteer at a kennel
- Volunteer at a veterinary clinic
- Volunteer at an animal shelter
- Walk a dog for a family member, friend, or neighbor
- Join a pet therapy club

### Science & Technology

How do you use science and technology in this project area?

Examples:

- Research the life cycle of a flea
- Demonstrate what you have learned the bone structure of a dog
- Analyze the digestive system of a dog
- Gather information on how chocolate affects dogs
- Collaborate with others about diseases and vaccinations

## Show Me Character

**Trustworthiness** - includes honesty, promise keeping and loyalty.

- Only exhibit animals you raised and trained yourself
- Show your animal that they can trust you to do what's in their best interest
- Be on time to shows so everyone can start on time
- Enter in the proper weight class and age category for your animal

**Respect** - includes courtesy and proper treatment of people and things.

- Take care of other's animals too; remember each animal is a pet to someone
- Show appreciation to those who help you complete your projects
- Always congratulate the winner of the show, no matter how you place

**Responsibility** - includes the pursuit of excellence, accountability and perseverance.

- Do your part in raising your animals
- Make sure you have all of your supplies ready to go so you have everything you need to show
- Try to pay for your own supplies to prove that you can care for your animal

**Fairness** - involves consistently applying rules and standards appropriately for different age groups and ability levels.

- Make sure you raise your animal with help from mom and dad only when you need it
- Follow all rules for entering and showing in competitions
- Never punish your animal for a poor showing

**Caring** - promoting the well being of people and things in a young person's world. It denotes action and not just feelings.

- Do your chores to help your animals stay healthy and happy
- Reward your animals with praise and treats no matter how they perform in shows
- Keep animals' surroundings properly maintained

## Resources

### 171 Dog Unit 1

Y620 4-H Project Record  
Y1710 Wiggles 'n' Wags  
LG1740 Dog Helper's Activity Guide

### 172 Dog Unit 2

Y620 4-H Project Record  
Y1720 Canine Connection  
LG1740 DOQ Helper's Activity Guide

To Order

Extension Publications online at <http://extension.missouri.edu/explore/shop/> or by phone 1-800-292-0969

For additional resources check with your local University of Missouri Extension Center or the 4-H Source Book at <http://www.4-hmall.org/educationalresources.aspx>.

**Citizenship** - includes making the home community and county a better place to live for themselves and others.

- Find ways to use your animal for good in your community
- Follow the rules, no matter how unfair they may seem
- Teach others what you know
- 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** - Diseases and methods for prevention, treatment and control
- **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)

### 173 Dog Unit 3

Y620 4-H Project Record  
Y1730 Leading the Pack  
LG1740 Dog Helper's Activity Guide