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
- Animal Care Poster
- Best Practice Poster

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
- Animal Care

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
- Animal Care

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

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.

For information on State Fair 4-H photography guidelines, visit
http://4h.missouri.edu/go/events/statefair/photoguidelines.pdf

For information on State Fair 4-H photography posters & display guidelines, visit
http://4h.missouri.edu/go/events/statefair/building.htm

Join the Photo Corps team. Information at
http://4h.missouri.edu/go/programs/photocorps/