Do you have an animal you want to keep healthy or are you interested in a career in keeping animals healthy? The 4-H veterinary science project helps you explore and learn more about animal health in your home, club, community, country and world. Increase your knowledge about how animal health affects public health!

- Appreciate the importance of good management and sanitation practices in keeping animals and birds healthy.
- Learn the values of scientific research and its influence on animals and their health.
- Explore large- and small-animal veterinary medicine.

### Here’s what you can do all year!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Out Basic/Level 1</th>
<th>Learning More Intermediate/Level 2</th>
<th>Expanding Horizons Advanced/Level 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understand differences of species in body styles, systems, breeds and life stages.</td>
<td>Discover the importance of food safety and quality assurance.</td>
<td>Incorporate science into understanding genetics and animal reproduction and health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore basic animal needs and health/safety.</td>
<td>Explore biosecurity and an animal health management plan for animals.</td>
<td>Research the use of veterinary technology and procedures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn how veterinarians and owners work together to keep animals healthy.</td>
<td>Consider ethics and animal welfare.</td>
<td>Identify the transfer of diseases between animals and humans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate the many careers of animal and veterinary science.</td>
<td>Develop and maintain accurate health records for animals and pets.</td>
<td>Further explore nonveterinary, animal-related careers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate health issues related to body systems, diseases, parasites and the importance of immunity.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Pass it on!**

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

**Communication**
- Give a presentation on types of injections and how to vaccinate animals.
- Develop an animal health management plan with a veterinarian.
- Help present a food safety quality assurance session.

**Citizenship**
- Volunteer at a local veterinary clinic.
- Volunteer at Animal Rescue League.
- Start a campaign encouraging pet owners to neuter and spay their pets.

**Leadership**
- Help members develop a health-care plan for their animal projects.
- Create a biosecurity informational sheet and kit for 4-H members to keep at their livestock areas.
- Organize a pet first aid class through your local Red Cross chapter.

**Entrepreneurship**
- Job shadow a veterinarian or veterinary technician.

Learn more at [www.ndsu.edu/4h/](http://www.ndsu.edu/4h/) or contact your county NDSU Extension office.
Opportunities to explore the veterinary science project:

- Assist with a local food safety quality assurance class for younger 4-H members.
- Schedule a job shadow with your local veterinarian.
- Set up a local/area animal disease emergency preparedness and response team.
- Consider a communications speech or develop a poster or video for your county fair or achievement days. It may be chosen to go to the North Dakota State Fair.
- Volunteer to teach a project activity day session on pet health care.
- Contact your county NDSU Extension office for other local workshops, activities and events in your area.
- Interested in a college education in animal science or veterinary medicine? Schedule a visit with NDSU (www.ndsu.edu) to explore those majors.

### 4-H Resources

- **National Curriculum**
  - From Airedales to Zebras (HBI111)
  - All Systems Go (HBI112)
  - On the Cutting Edge (HBI113)
  - Veterinary Helper’s Guide (HBI211)

- **Educational Trunks**
  (check out by contacting local Extension office)
  - Beef
  - Dairy
  - Dog
  - Goat
  - Horse
  - Poultry
  - Sheep
  - Swine

### Other Resources

- **North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association**
- **American Veterinary Medical Association**
- **American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges**
- **AVMA – Pet First Aid**
- **Healthy Pets**

### Recordkeeping

- **4-H Project Plan (PA095)**
- **Planning for My Project Adventure (PA093)**
  (Ages 8-10)
- **4-H Plan of Action (PA096)**
  (Ages 11-18)
- **ND 4-H Participation Summary for 11- to 19-year-olds (PA098)**

### Contests

- **Dairy Judging Contest**
- **Horse Judging Contest**
- **Horse Quiz Bowl**
- **Hippology Contest**
- **Livestock Judging Contest**

### Exhibit Ideas

- Create a display of products that come from livestock or other animals.
- Compare/contrast various health management plans for a type of animal.
- Interview a veterinarian and report on the various parts of his/her job.
- Create a display showing the difference in animal digestive systems.
- Create a poster illustrating the types of injections for animals.
- Research domestic animal health issues and how they affect people.
- Research wild animal health issues and how they affect people.
- Create a first aid kit for large or small animals.
- Make a poster showing how to provide first aid to an animal.
- Make a poster about foods, plants and/or household items that are poisonous to animals.
- Learn about newly approved feed additives for livestock.
- Show the growth curve during an animal’s lifetime.
- Develop a video on proper hoof or nail care for an animal.
- Develop a video or PowerPoint on ethics in the livestock industry.

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