



# 4-H VETERINARY SCIENCE ACTIVITY PAGE

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Beginning

## Your 4-H VETERINARY SCIENCE Project



You have to make decisions every day. Some are fun, some are simple and some are hard to make. Veterinarians and other people who work with animals have to make decisions, too.

This 4-H project will help you learn more about animals so that you can make decisions about the best way to care for them. Some of the skills you can learn and activities you can do in this project are listed below. Check your favorites.

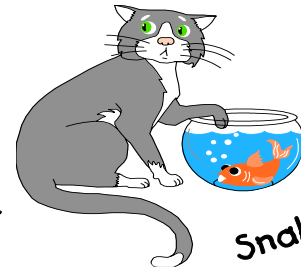
Then, work with your 4-H leaders and parents to make a 4-H project plan of what you want to do and learn this year.

- Learn how to properly care for your pet.
- Learn what a pet owner needs to do to keep his/her animal healthy.
- Learn the differences between mammals, birds and reptiles.
- Learn what a vet does during a routine checkup for your pet.
- Learn about at least three of the 45 different wildlife mammals in Tennessee.
- Learn about some animal diseases that affect humans.
- Learn about careers in vet science besides being a veterinarian.
- Complete a service project using vet science skills you have learned.
- Give a vet science demonstration in your 4-H club meeting.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



Life Skill

Ethical Decision Making



Hedgehogs

Snakes

## My Favorite Animal

Describe your favorite animal. Use another sheet of paper to write about your favorite animal. Things to write about include species, gender, age, health, personality, exercise, any training it receives and food it eats. Include a photo if you'd like. Share your story with your 4-H friends and keep it in your 4-H project folder.

Dogs

## What Your Pet Needs

Draw a picture of your favorite pet. It can be one you have or one you would like to have. Then, draw what you need to take care of your pet. Be sure to include everything your pet might need to stay healthy and happy. Share your picture with others and keep it in your 4-H project folder.

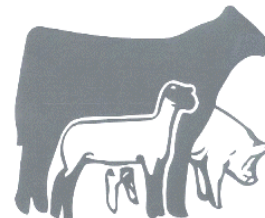


Pigs

Cows

Horses

Cats



## "Paws" for True or False

- |     | True  | False |  |
|-----|-------|-------|--|
| 1.  | _____ | _____ | A dog's normal temperature is 100.2 - 102.8 degrees Fahrenheit.                |
| 2.  | _____ | _____ | A rabbit can run faster than a person, cat or a white-tailed deer.             |
| 3.  | _____ | _____ | A horse's heartbeat rate is 70-85 beats per minute.                            |
| 4.  | _____ | _____ | A Holstein (black & white) cow can produce an average 8 gallons of milk a day. |
| 5.  | _____ | _____ | Dogs do not really help people.  |
| 6.  | _____ | _____ | Oxygen is necessary for the life of every cell of the body.                    |
| 7.  | _____ | _____ | Ruminant animals (cows, sheep, goats) have 4 stomachs.                         |
| 8.  | _____ | _____ | Pigs can't sweat.  |
| 9.  | _____ | _____ | Insulin and about 40 other medicines are made from pigs.                       |
| 10. | _____ | _____ | Dogs only need rabies vaccinations every 10 years.                             |
| 11. | _____ | _____ | Intramuscular injections are given in the muscle.                              |
| 12. | _____ | _____ | The digestive system starts in the stomach.                                    |
| 13. | _____ | _____ | The average cow drinks 50 gallons of water a day.                              |
| 14. | _____ | _____ | Sheep have top front teeth.  |

Answers on back



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## Take a Closer Look

Choose one or more of these activities to learn more about vet science. Share what you learn with your family and friends through a story, exhibit or poster.



- Observe one wild mammal for a month or more. Find out all you can about this animal: Where does it live? What does it eat? How does it care for its young? What animals prey on it? Write a story on what you see.
- Make an animal collage from pictures in a magazine or pictures that you have taken. List some facts about the animals you have chosen.
- Interview a veterinarian. Find out such things as which types of animal they usually deal with, what is the most common problem or disease that this vet treats, which vaccines (if any) can be used to prevent this disease.
- Visit a zoo. Take a picture of your favorite animal, observe its behavior and find out what is required to keep this animal healthy and happy.



## Career Scavenger Hunt

By asking others, researching on the Internet, or reading a book or magazine—search for a job that uses vet science skills and knowledge. Here's what you are looking for.

1. Job Title \_\_\_\_\_
2. Job Description \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Education Required \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Things in a Vet's Office

Veterinarians are doctors for animals. Think about what you see when you visit your doctor. Vets use many of the same things that your doctor uses. Listed below are several items that you might find in a vet's office. Talk to a vet or look in books or on the Internet to find out how a vet uses these items. Share what you learn in a 4-H meeting.

BRUSH  
 LABEL  
 MEDICATION  
 MICROSCOPE  
 NAIL CLIPPERS  
 NEEDLE  
 SCALES  
 STETHOSCOPE  
 SYRINGE  
 THERMOMETER  
 VACCINE

S Z S Y B E G I F M I S  
 Y T W V Y R A C I X R M  
 Q J E Z E V U C H E G E  
 E Z Z T E N R S P T S D  
 L J W C H O I P H E G I  
 K N F W S O I C L X I C  
 E C P C V L S A C G K A  
 L T O O C A C N A M T  
 D P L L K S Q M O P V I  
 E T I L A B E L I P K O  
 E A E G N I R Y S C E N  
 N T H E R M O M E T E R

## Service Ideas

- Volunteer to help out at a vet clinic or animal shelter.
- Help find homes for pets at an animal shelter.
- Take care of someone else's pet.
- Conduct an educational "show & tell" about pet care.

Don't forget to submit your project report to your 4-H leader.

Other 4-H Vet Science Activities

- 4-H Demonstrations
- Fair Exhibits
- Pet Shows
- 4-H Project Groups
- Livestock Shows

## Additional Resources

Making decisions is an important part of the vet science project. This activity sheet has given you the opportunity to explore things to think about as you make decisions in vet science. You've observed a wild animal, learned about your own pet and other cool things. But this is just the beginning! Use the resources listed below to continue learning about veterinary science.

- School & public libraries
- People who know about different animals such as veterinarians, livestock owners, wildlife officers, animal trainers, groomers and zoologists
- 4-H project groups
- The 4-H veterinary science Web page:

<http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/vetscience.htm>

For more ideas, contact your 4-H office.

True & False Answers

1. True, 2. True, 3. False, 4. True, 5. False, 6. True, 7. False, 8. True, 9. True, 10. False, 11. True, 12. False, 13. True, 14. False.

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