



# 4-H DAIRY GOAT PROJECT



In the dairy goat project, youth can learn about raising and milking a dairy goat. Youth learn about breeds, showmanship, care and management practices.

- Acquire skills in management and care of dairy goats through ownership and project support.
- Learn processing, consumption, nutrition and use of dairy products.

## 4-H Thrive!

### Help Youth:

#### Light Their Spark

A spark is something youth are passionate about; it fires them up & gives them energy. Help youth find what it is about llamas/alpacas that excites them.

#### Flex Their Brain

The brain grows stronger when we try new things and master new skills. .

#### Reach Their Goals

Help youth use the GPS system to achieve their goals.

**Goal Selection:** Choose one meaningful, realistic and demanding goal.

**Pursue Strategies:** Create a step-by-step plan to make daily choices that support your goal.

**Shift Gears:** Change strategies if you're having difficulties

#### Reflect

Ask project members how they can use their passion for this project to be more confident, competent and caring. Discuss ways they can use their skills to make a contribution in the

#### Starting Out *Beginner*

- Know your dairy breeds
- Identify parts of the animal
- Learn about diseases and immunization
- Learn how and what to feed your dairy goat
- Learn to evaluate your animal
- Learn showmanship techniques and grooming

#### Learning More *Intermediate*

- Learn necessary and recommended feed supplements
- Learn to identify a sick animal, and learn both treatment and prevention
- Learn about breeding and kidding
- Learn body condition scoring
- Learn safe and productive milking techniques

#### Exploring Depth *Advanced*

- Learn judging skills
- Explore career opportunities
- Learn herd management for both farm and backyard goats
- Design a breeding program
- Learn how to properly administer injections

The activities above are ideas to inspire further project development. This is not a complete list.

*Light Your Spark*

*Flex Your Brain*

*Reach Your Goals*

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# Expand Your Experiences!

## Healthy Living

- Learn biosecurity methods
- Learn safe milk handling procedures

## Science, Engineering, and Technology

- Evaluate milking machines, both hand held and electric
- Learn about animal welfare and make ethical decisions

## Citizenship

- Educate the community about dairy goats
- Participate in outreach activities with your goat

## Leadership

- Become a junior or teen leader in your project group
- Recruit others into the dairy goat project
- Start your own herd and sell animals to youth and community members

## Resources

- American Dairy Goat Association  
[www.adga.org](http://www.adga.org)
- Dairy Goat Journal  
[www.dairygoatjournal.com](http://www.dairygoatjournal.com)
- Goat Wisdom  
[www.goatwisdom.com](http://www.goatwisdom.com)
- FiasCo Farm- goat care, health & husbandry  
[www.fiascofarm.com](http://www.fiascofarm.com)

## Connections & Events

**Presentation Day**- share what you have learned and educate others through a goat presentation  
**UC Davis Goat Day**- learn from experts and participate in hands-on activities  
**County/State fair**- show your goat!

## Curriculum

Available from 4-hmall.org  
<http://www.4-hmall.org/Product/4-hcurriculum-dairy-goat/08352.aspx>

- Getting Your Goat Level 1
- Stepping Out Level 2
- Showing the Way Level 3

## 4-H Record Book

4-H Record Books give members an opportunity to record events and reflect on their experiences. For each project, members document their personal experiences, learning and development.

4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.

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University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

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