



4-H Horse Project



Step It Up!

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

Citizenship/ Leadership

- Assist with the 4-H horse show at the county fair
- Participate in the local saddle club charitable benefit
- Ask friends to always wear a helmet when riding horses
- Explore therapeutic riding and horse rescue opportunities

Communication

- Present about parts of a horse
- Send a Letter to the Editor describing your opinion regarding an ethical horse situation
- Present a riding safety session at your county 4-H horse workouts prior to county fair

Healthy Living

- Keep a record of how long and how often you rode your horse
- Learn proper stretching and warm-up techniques to increase your balance and core strength

Science

- Learn how a bit works by understanding pressure points and leverage works
- Learn how a horse's confirmation will dictate their movement and discipline
- Learn how a horse digests its food mechanically and chemically

Are you Into It?

Horse & Pony is a project area you can participate in whether you own a horse or not!

Horse and Pony is an exciting 4-H project area because you can participate whether you own a horse or not! Discover all the aspects about raising and riding horses.

- Appreciate riding as recreation
- Learn horsemanship skills and understand breeding, training, and raising of horses as a business
- Acquire skills in horse management by owning and being responsible for an animal
- Acquire safety skills to prevent injury to persons and animals

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic

- Learn about basic horse care
- Identify parts of a horse
- Learn breeds of horses
- Learn the gaits of the horse
- Understand horse reproduction parts
- Learn about genetics and heredity of horses
- Investigate horse diseases

Learning More Intermediate

- Learn the basics of trail riding
- Check horse vital signs
- Learn how to mount and dismount safely
- Etiquette to ride safely as a group
- Communicate with your horse
- Practicing horsemanship maneuvers
- Improve your riding style

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Research and purchase show clothing
- Improve a show horse's appearance
- Improve your showmanship pattern
- Riding patterns
- Understand the quarter's system
- Evaluating ethics in competitive situations



Expand Your Experiences in Horse

Here are other opportunities to explore Horses:

- Attend a horse show, rodeo, or other horse event
 - Visit a horse farm, horse training facility, horse boarding facility, etc.
 - Participate in a horse riding camp
 - Visit a local tack shop or horse supply store
 - Check out horse events on television to learn about different type of horse shows and events
 - Create a collection of horse showmanship and horsemanship patterns
 - Keep a diary of your practices each week
 - Research horse-related careers
 - Give a public speech or team demonstration or compete with a painting, poster, photograph, drawing, essay, poetry, scrapbook, digital story, clothes article, woodworking piece or a model horse
 - Participate in a community service project, bringing ideas back to your community.
 - Is it fair time? Consider riding in your County Fair horse show or the Florida State Fair.
 - Attend Florida 4-H University and participate in workshops, listen to motivational speakers, and participate in a community service project: <http://florida4h.org/programsandevents/>
- Check out all the resources at UF Animal Science Youth Program website: <http://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/youth/>

Project Sharing Ideas

- Make a diagram of horse coloring/marketing patterns, horse body parts, the horse life cycle, or a horse skeleton
- Develop a horse health or supplies price chart
- Make a scrapbook of the history of horses
- Horse body language
- Design a floorplan for a horse stable
- Make a YouTube video of how to groom a horse, tag a horse, proper safety around horses, and how to show a horse
- Identify dental problems of horses
- Create a horse first-aid kit

Resources

4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or you can order directly.

Available at National 4-H:
www.4-hmall.org

- Horse-5 levels of books for members
- Helpers Guide

Available through EDIS:
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

- 4-H Horse Member Adv. Prog: Level I, II, III, IV
- 4-H Prep & Presentation of Oral Reasons in Horse Judging
- Love a Horse Project I and II

Connections and Events

Attending events and taking advantage of opportunities that will expand your project learning will help you become the best you can be. Contact your county 4-H office.

Take part in:

- Horse Shows (county, district & state levels)
- Public Speaking (county, district, and state level)
- Horse Judging
- Horse Quiz Bowl
- Florida 4-H Horsemanship School
- Florida 4-H Horseman of the Year Scholarship and Award

Attend other statewide events. Check them out at www.florida4-h.org and <http://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/youth>

Record Keeping

Learning to take good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill.

The following record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities.

Project Report Forms can be found at <http://florida4h.org>

- Junior (grades 4-6)
- Intermediate (grades 7-8)
- Senior (grades 9-12)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (ages 8-13)

Awards and Recognition

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

To learn more about current recognition opportunities visit the Florida 4-H website at <http://florida4h.org> or contact your county 4-H agent.

Learn more at florida4h.org
or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER