



# Self-Determined Horse Project

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## Introduction

- This project is designed for senior 4-H horse project members who have the experience, resources, and ability to participate in an advanced program.
- The project should be directly and closely supervised by a leader knowledgeable in the selected field.
- Members may enroll in and complete this project as many times as they wish.
- The project may be short-term or long-term, depending upon the selected field.
- Members may or may not have access to a horse.
- This project can be used as an advanced follow-up to the Horses are Fun project.

## Project Requirements

- Participate in a 4-H Community Club or enrichment program.
- Design and complete an independent project, using the project development criteria.
- Complete a written summary of the project, addressing criteria and questions in the project outline as well as life skills and science skills.
- The project may or may not include the use of a horse, but must be oriented to the horse.
- Read at least two publications related to the project.
- Share the learning experience gained from this project through a presentation.
- Develop a portfolio as an optional evaluation strategy.

Name _____	Age _____	Club Year _____
Address _____		
County or City _____		
Name of Club _____	Years in 4-H _____	
Name of Leader _____	Years in Related Activities _____	
Title of Project _____		

## Skills to Practice

Choose from the following life skills and science skills, or add others that apply to your project.

Life Skills: Planning and Organizing, Critical Thinking, Keeping Records, Goal Setting. You will describe how you have grown in these areas as a result of your project.

Science Skills: Throughout this project you will investigate at least four of the twelve processes that have been identified as basic to scientific investigation (Padilla et al., 1995) and report how they were used in your project.

Observing	Predicting	Formulating and Testing	Experimenting
Classifying	Inferring	Hypothesis	Constructing Models
Communicating	Identifying and	Interpreting Data	
Measuring	Controlling Variables	Defining Operationally	

## Type Of Project Or Selected Field

The member may select or design any type of special project not included in any other 4-H project area. The project must be approved by the leader at the planning stage. The project should be self-determined, directed, conducted, and reported by the 4-H member. Some suggested project areas to consider:

<p><b>1. Scientific Research</b> <i>Conduct a research experiment.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ration Comparisons</li> <li>Artificial Insemination</li> <li>Daily Feed Intake</li> <li>Feed Analysis</li> <li>Dominant Characteristics of a Group of Horses</li> <li>Parasite Control Comparisons</li> <li>Exercise and Conditioning</li> <li>Relationship of Conformation to Soundness</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Applied Demonstration</b> <i>Conduct a field demonstration.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pasture Management</li> <li>Group Housing</li> <li>Forage Tests</li> <li>Creep Feeding</li> <li>Hoof Care</li> <li>Stable Management</li> <li>Soil Tests and Fertilization</li> <li>Comparison of Different Kinds of Tack</li> <li>Stallion Management</li> <li>Waste Management</li> <li>Economic Analysis</li> </ul>	<p><b>3. Apprenticeship</b> <i>Work and study under the direction of a professional in the selected field.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training</li> <li>Stable Management</li> <li>Horse Shoeing</li> <li>Tack Shop (Retail)</li> <li>Feed Store (Retail)</li> <li>Jockey</li> <li>Veterinary Technician</li> <li>Horse Show Management</li> <li>Farm Management</li> <li>Riding School Instructor</li> <li>Rodeo Contestant</li> <li>Showing</li> <li>Hunting</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Service Learning</b> <i>Conduct a community service program.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riding for the Handicapped</li> <li>County Horsemen's Directory</li> <li>Local Horse Census</li> <li>Riding for the Disadvantaged</li> <li>Establishing Trails and Riding Areas</li> <li>Zoning Survey</li> </ul>	<p><b>5. Literature Research</b> <i>Review literature in specific area.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digestion</li> <li>Blood Chemistry</li> <li>Reproductive Problems</li> <li>Mineral Nutrition</li> <li>Performance Records</li> <li>Coat Color Inheritance</li> <li>Unsoundnesses</li> <li>History of a Particular Breed</li> <li>Evolution of the Horse</li> <li>A Specific Disease</li> <li>Economic Contributions of the Industry</li> </ul> <p><b>6. Activities</b> <i>Organize and conduct an activity.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Horse Show</li> <li>Competitive Ride</li> <li>Endurance Ride</li> <li>Parade</li> <li>Drill Team Performance</li> <li>Tack Sale</li> <li>Horse Sale</li> <li>Camp</li> <li>Packing Trip</li> <li>Clinic</li> <li>Riding School</li> <li>Judging School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tour</li> <li>Wagon Train</li> </ul> <p><b>7. Public Affairs</b> <i>Conduct a public affairs program.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TV Program Series</li> <li>Radio Program Series</li> <li>Field Day</li> <li>Newspaper and Magazine Articles</li> <li>Exhibit</li> </ul> <p><b>8. Advanced Riding Techniques</b> <i>Individual work.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dressage</li> <li>Endurance Riding</li> <li>Hunting</li> <li>Polo</li> <li>Calf Roping</li> <li>Cutting</li> <li>Jumping</li> </ul> <p><b>9. Entrepreneurship</b> <i>Income value</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train and Sell Horses</li> <li>Raise and Sell Hay</li> </ul>
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# Project Development

I. Title:

II. Project Outcomes: (What do you expect to happen as a result of this project?)

III. Project Goals: (What are the overall goals for the project?)

IV. Reference Materials: (List title, author, publisher, date, number of pages)

V. Materials Used: (Detail kind of equipment, animals, etc. used)

**VI. Methods Used:** (List methods, tests, techniques, etc.)

**VII. Project Procedures:** (List or detail how the project was conducted)

**VIII. Results:** (List the results or accomplishments including learning experiences)

**IX.. Evaluation:** (Evaluate the results, accomplishments, etc. and summarize the benefits, applications, failures, etc.)

**X. Written Report:** (Complete and attach a written report and evidence of a presentation of the entire project program)

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_ successfully completed all the requirements of this record book.

4-H Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Extension Agent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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