



Texas 4-H Dog Care & Training Project

Project Description

The 4-H dog project is an excellent way for young people to develop a love for animals, gain valuable skills, and contribute positively to their communities. It combines practical knowledge with hands-on experiences to promote personal growth and responsibility in youth participants..

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Youth will also learn about daily care and health of their dog, and being a "dog foster parent." Youth can even do community service or competitions with their dog. Most important of all is having fun as you build a bond with your dog and make friends who love dogs too!

Basic

- Own a dog
- Own a foster, therapy, or guide dog
- **Responsibility:** Take on the responsibility of caring for a dog, which includes feeding, exercising, and ensuring the well-being of the animal
- **Health Care:** Learn the nutritional needs, grooming, and overall health care of dogs. Participants may also learn about veterinary care and preventive measures
- **Community Service:** Engage in community service projects related to dogs, such as organizing educational events or providing assistance to local animal shelters

Intermediate

- **Breed Knowledge:** Learning about different dog breeds, their characteristics, and the specific needs of each breed
- **Training:** Learn how to train and handle dogs, teaching basic commands, and developing a positive relationship with their canine companions

Advanced

- **Leadership -** Assist younger members with their projects
- Explore careers with dogs
- Canine Good Citizenship testing

TAKE DOG CARE & TRAINING FURTHER

Project Learning Opportunities:

- Open Educational Presentations
- Public Speaking Contests
- Texas 4-H Dog Show
 - Classes (Obedience, Confirmation, Rally, Showmanship, Tricks, Costume, Drill, Tricks, Dog Olympics)
 - Dog Skill-a-thon
 - Photography Contest
 - Canine Good Citizen Testing
- Participate in clinics and/or shows in your community/around the state
- Volunteer at a local kennel
- Research dog breeds and characteristics

Resources:

- Texas 4-H Dog Show Rules and Guidelines
- American Kennel Club- <https://www.akc.org/>

Did you know?

4-H is a club for kids and teens to develop life skills and make friends. Youth can join 4-H in all 254 counties. Everybody ages 8-18 and in 3rd-12th grades can join 4-H. Kids in Kindergarten to 2nd grades can join as Clover Kids. There are 43 different project areas in five project categories: Agriculture & Livestock, Family & Community Health, Leadership & Citizenship, Natural Resources, and STEM.

Want to get started?

First...Contact your County Extension Agent!

- Contact information can be found at texas4-h.tamu.edu > contacts information at the bottom of the page > county offices

Explore more at texas4-h.tamu.edu