



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

# Veterinary Science Project

Updated June 2020

## What is it All About?

A natural compassion for animals and an interest in science is what leads most veterinarians into their field. Learn the role a veterinarian plays in practicing animal and public health while participating in many hands-on activities. These activities will help you learn about the different equipment used by veterinarians, diseases and health problems, and career opportunities as a veterinarian or volunteer. You do not have to own an animal to be in this project!

## Grow in Your Project

### Starting Out

- Recognize major breeds of different species of animals.
- Identify basic needs of animals.
- Investigate the different roles of animals.
- Describe different stages of an animals' life.
- Discover body systems and organs.

#### Resources

- Veterinary Science 1: Animal Behavior (08744DD)\*
- Veterinary Science 2: Animal Vital Signs (08745DD)\*

### Learning More

- Complete health records on an animal.
- Learn how to recognize and reduce animal stress.
- Investigate how the immune system works.
- Recognize how disease can spread among animals.
- Learn how parasites affect animal health.

#### Resources

- Veterinary Science 3: Disease Transmission (08746DD)\*

### Going Further

- Discover the bond between humans and animals.
- Investigate the mammalian reproductive system.
- Learn about breeding and genetics.
- Recognize the importance of zoonotic diseases.

#### Resources

- Veterinary Science 4: Principals of Biosecurity (08747DD)\*
- Veterinary Science 5: Advanced Concepts in Animal Care (08748DD)\*

### Resources for All Three Levels

- From Airedales to Zebras (08048)\*
- All Systems Go (08049)\*
- On the Cutting Edge (08050)\*
- Veterinary Science Helper's Guide (08051)\*

## Take Your Project Further!

- Job shadow a veterinarian, or pet store employee to learn more about how to care for animals.
- Research normal heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperatures of different animals.
- Read Jane Goodall's work about chimpanzee behavior.
- Visit a pharmacist to talk about dispensing of medicine.
- Learn how a complete blood count is performed.
- Attend a youth quality assurance class.
- Look into artificial insemination, embryo transfer, and cloning.
- Interview a professional animal trainer.
- Talk with someone who has contracted a zoonotic disease and interview them on their experience.
- Visits the University of Wisconsin Animal Science Department and the University of Wisconsin Vet Lab.

\*Resources available at your local Extension office or [shop4-H.org](http://shop4-H.org).

## Applying Project Skills to Life

### **Enhance Your Communication Skills**

- Write a story to share with others from an animal's point of view about its role.
- Create a play about animals and have your club perform it for a local group.
- Give a demonstration about reading medical labels.

### **Get Involved in Citizenship and Service**

- Volunteer at the humane society.
- Organize a vaccine clinic for dogs, cats, or horses.
- Take your pets to a local nursing home.
- Volunteer to watch someone's pet.

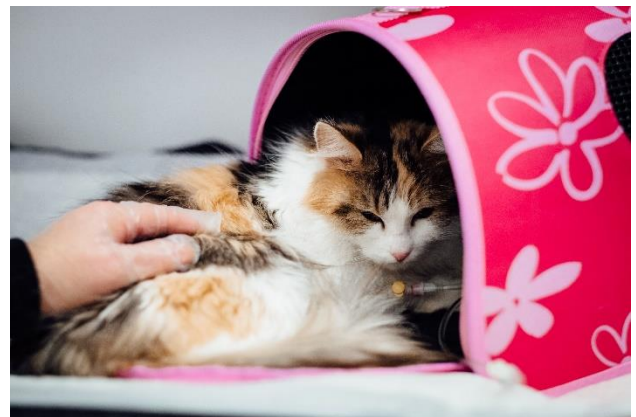
### **Learn about Leadership**

- Arrange for a local veterinarian or other person who works with animals to come and talk to your project group or club.
- Teach others about Punnet Squares and basic genetics.
- Sponsor a veterinarian skill-a-thon for your club or community.



## Showing What You've Learned

- A notebook on a breed of animal.
- A display of different types of housing for animals.
- A diorama of the stages of life of an animal.
- A pet food comparisons.
- Create a safety report about an animal's environment.
- A poster identifying tools used by a veterinarian.
- A video library with reviews about movies with animals.
- A chart comparing different animals normal heart rate, body temperature, and respiration rates.
- A poster about a disease.
- A poster about the importance of colostrum.
- Display a lifecycle of a parasite.
- A display about a specialty veterinarian.
- A poster on the reproductive tract and cycle of an animal.
- A display of animal cells and their function.



Adapted with permission from Wyoming State 4-H, Project Information Sheet, Vet Science. Retrieved from: <https://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/projects/animal-science/vet-science.html>.

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