

# Small Animal

## Description:

This project and related activities provide youth a fun and hands-on learning experience directly related to animal care, feeding, housing, and management. Youth develop important life skills such as decision making, goal setting, record keeping, time management and communication.

## State Fair Entries:

No State Fair Exhibit.

## Exhibit Guidelines:

**ALL LEVELS:** Each member may enter up to three (3) different project exhibits (Live and Educational Poster combined)

All Live exhibits must be in a completely enclosed environment (container/cage). Includes the following animals: hamster, gerbil, guinea pigs, turtles, snakes, birds, etc. Pet Rabbits should be enrolled in the Pet Rabbit project. You must have cared for your small animal for a minimum of 30 days prior to exhibition.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

**NOTE: You are responsible to feed and water your small animal while it is on display during the Fair.**

## Exhibit Class Guidelines:

### Live option:

### *Beginner (grades 3-5)*

Exhibit (1) one or two animals of the same species.

# Small Animal

## *Intermediate (grades 6-8)*

Exhibit (1) one or two animals of the same species.

## *Advanced (grades 9-12)*

Exhibit (1) one or two animals of the same species.

### **Educational Poster Option:**

#### *Beginner (grades 3-5)*

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a small animal topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

#### *Intermediate (grades 6-8)*

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a small animal topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

#### *Advanced (grades 9-12)*

Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a small animal topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.