



Pets

Hamsters



Project Overview

The objective of this project is to educate 4-H members about hamsters. You will learn about the characteristics, anatomy, housing, health, identification, and behavior of these animals. The project is designed to teach you about how to care for a hamster in your home as it focuses on cage management, nutrition, grooming, breeding, and expenses associated with owning a pet hamster.

Key Learning Topics:

- Anatomy
- Breed identification
- Disease prevention
- Reproduction education
- Handling
- Hamster nutrition

Expanding the Project

- Construct a poster or photo journal of your hamster project to exhibit.
- Show your hamster at a local or county fair pet show
- Keep records of the expenses associated with having a rodent.
- Keep a log of the activities you participate in which are related to those areas.
- Attend Project meetings and workshops.
- Deliver a demonstration or illustrated talk on your project.

Resources

- Hamster
- Guinea pig
- Birds
- Tropical Fish
- Record Form 300.A-7



Exhibit Guidelines

1. Hamster Exhibit
2. Self-Determined advanced Small Pets Exhibit including Self-Determined Project Record Sheet 300.SD.1

- Posters may be no larger than 14 X 22 inches. Posters are defined as any flat paper, foam board, cardboard, or other backing appropriate for hanging on the wall.
- Display Boards may be no larger than 18 x 48 inches. Display boards are defined as scored, freestanding science boards.
- Exhibits: Exhibit bases for three dimensional vertical displays may be no larger than 24 x 24 inches

Targeting Life Skills:

- Goal Setting
- Cooperation
- Problem Solving
- Empathy
- Resilience
- Healthy lifestyle choices
- Decision making
- Disease Prevention
- Self-discipline
- Character

