



## NM 4-H Tropical Fish Greentop

400.B-26 R-18



**Objectives:** To educate 4-H members about tropical fish. You will learn about breed characteristics, anatomy, health, identification, and behavior of fish. The project is designed to teach you about how to care for tropical fish in your home as it focuses on aquarium management, including set up (plants, temperature, pH levels, gravel), maintenance, and cleaning of the tank. You will also learn about nutrition and expenses associated with owning tropical fish.

### Materials Included in this project:

- Tropical Fish Project Manual 100.B-26
- NM 4-H Tropical Fish Greentop 400.B-26 (R-18)
- Pet Record Form 300.L-5

### Suggested tips for successful project completion:

- Review the project book, record sheet, and Greentop to become familiar with the project before you begin.
- Review needed materials: Tropical fish (at least 3), aquarium, water, aquatic plants, gravel/sand, pump and other accessories if needed or desired, commercial fish food, catch net.
- Choose the areas about the tropical fishy in which you wish to study.
- Keep records of the expenses associated with having a rodent.
- Keep a log or diary of the activities you participate in which are related to those areas. This will make it easier to complete your record sheet at the end of the 4-H year.
- Attend Project meetings and workshops.
- Deliver a demonstration or illustrated talk on your project.
- Complete the record form, and turn in a county record book to your local Extension Agent.

### Learning Activities/Topics:

- The anatomy of fish and how they are different from other aquatic animals.
- Different breeds of fish and their characteristics.
- Common fish diseases.
- Aquarium management.
- Catching and handling your pet fish.
- Proper nutrition of fish.
- Factors affecting fish in the wild.
- Build your own fish net.
- Show your fish at a local or county fair pet show.
- Construct a poster or photo journal of your pet, parts of a fish, forms of fish tails, aquarium management, diseases, aquatic plant species for aquariums to exhibit at a fair, or achievement day.

### Additional info can be found from:

- County Extension Agent
- Club or Project Leader
- Local Pets Store
- Internet
- Library

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