

National 4-H Curriculum  
BU-08352

# Getting Your Goat



## Dairy Goat Project Activities

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_



# Note to the Project Helper

Congratulations! A young person has asked you to be his/her dairy goat project helper. As a helper you are in a great position to help youth grow and develop in positive ways as they learn about dairy goats and themselves. You can nurture and cultivate their interest in this project by guiding their planning, helping them carry out their projects and recognizing them for a job well done.

## Your Role

- Become familiar with the material in this activity guide and the *Helper's Guide*
- Support youth in their efforts to set goals and complete the *Getting Your Goat* achievement program
- Help youth get to know themselves, including their strengths and weaknesses
- Encourage the use of the experiential learning cycle described on this page

## About These 4-H Activity Guides

These guides are not textbooks. They are activity guides. Several fact-filled books about goats are listed as resources on page 36 of this guide. 4-H activities are active, hands-on, engaging activities that are guided by the 4-H motto: Learning by Doing.

As youth explore a dairy goat project topic of interest to them, they also practice important life skills. Although a few dairy goat project youth will find careers with goats, ALL youth will benefit from the life skills they acquire as they complete the activities in these guides.

## Learner Outcomes

Youth who explore this curriculum will develop essential dairy goat project skills such as demonstrating proper goat management and health practices, developing goat fitting and showing skills, selecting a goat that will meet their needs, promoting goat products and the goat industry and comprehending national and international goat-related issues. Youth will also practice the life skills of record keeping, decision making, leadership, communication, planning and organizing and more.

## The Dairy Goat Series

1 – <i>Getting Your Goat</i>	4-H BU-08352
2 – <i>Stepping Out</i>	4-H BU-08353
3 – <i>Showing the Way</i>	4-H BU-08354
<i>Helper's Guide</i>	4-H BU-08355

Guides 1, 2 and 3 are developmentally appropriate for grades 3–5, 6–8 and 9–12, respectively, but may be used by youth in any grade based on their project skills and experience.

All activities include a description of the skills to be practiced, discussion questions, suggestions for additional activities (“Udder Ideas”) and other helpful information. Vocabulary words are italicized and included in each book’s glossary (“Bleat Street Talk”). The Success Indicator listed for each activity is an excellent way to evaluate the youth’s success. Each of the guides includes an achievement program to encourage youth to learn more about dairy goats while developing important life skills. “My Brain Gain” is a quick and fun way for youth to assess their knowledge before and after they complete the Achievement Program. In the *Helper's Guide* you will find another evaluation piece titled “Evaluating the Impact.” Use this before beginning each level and after the youth has completed each level.

## Dairy Goat Helper's Guide

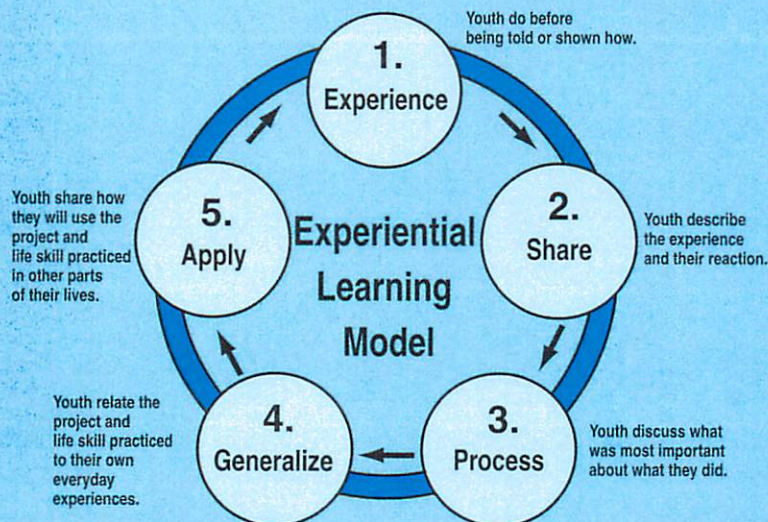
The Dairy Goat *Helper's Guide* provides additional learn-by-doing activities that can be adapted for families, classrooms, after school activities, child care settings, 4-H groups, other youth groups or camps. It also contains information about characteristics of youth, life skill development, teaching experientially, group meeting ideas and answers to many of the activities in the youth guides.

Good luck in your role as Project Helper and thanks for contributing to the positive development of young people!

## Experiential Learning Model

This five-step model is included in each activity in this series.

Experiential Learning Model  
Pfeiffer, J.W., & Jones, J.E.,  
“Reference Guide to Handbooks and  
Annuals” © 1983 John Wiley & Sons,  
Inc. Reprinted with permission of  
John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



As you can see, the youth first attempt the activity on their own. After the youth do as much of the activity as they can, you then meet together and discuss: What did they do? What was important? How does what they did relate to their lives? How might they use these life and project skills in the future? Your ability to ask thought-provoking questions and listen to the youth's ideas will add to the educational impact of the experience.

For more on dairy goats... look for these other guides in this set.

# What's Inside?

## Getting Your Goat



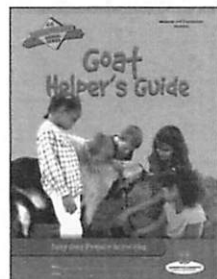
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**Dairy Goat 2**  
**Stepping out**  
**Chapter 1 Health and Management**  
 Horns and Hooves and Worms, Oh My! Two Words, First Word Sounds Like... All Stocked Up  
**Chapter 2 Feeds and Nutrition**  
 Goats Eat Oats and... Hey, How's That Hay? Got More Milk?  
**Chapter 3 Reproduction**  
 The Heat is On! Here Come the Kids! Kidding Around  
**Chapter 4 Milk and Milking**  
 Milk It for all It's Worth CSI: Mastitis  
**Chapter 5 Judging**  
 And the Winner Is... Talk Like a Judge Ethics: A Good Value



4-H BU-08354

**Dairy Goat 3**  
**Showing the Way**  
**Chapter 1 Health and Management Skills**  
 Getting Parasites Out of Sight One Fish, Two Fish, Red Foot, Blue Foot?! What's the Score? Two, Four, Six, Eight, Now It's Time to Evaluate!  
**Chapter 2 Genetics and Reproduction**  
 Breeding Up Hip Hip Hooray for DNA Thaw the Straw or Truck the Buck? Twist and Shout, Get That Kid Out!  
**Chapter 3 Leadership**  
 Goat for the Gold Y'all Come! Are Goats in Your Future?  
**Chapter 4 National and International Issues**  
 Up, Up and Away! Putting your Best Hoof Forward Global Greatness of Goats



4-H BU-08355

**Dairy Goat Helper's Guide**  
**Chapter 1 Games and Activities**  
 G-O-A-T-S Bingo Demo Time! Show What You Know! Goatees and X, Y, Zs Playing Goat Pyramid Hit the Road! Bowling for Answers Teaching with Triangle Tag  
**Chapter 2 Dairy Goat Project Skills**  
 Plan Your Project Year OSHA for Goats?! The Circle of Life Record-Setting Fun  
**Chapter 3 Developing Character**  
 Animal Welfare: Helping Animals "Fair" Well Goodbye Old Friend

Note to the Project Helper	Inside Front Cover
What's Inside?	1
Welcome to <i>Getting Your Goat</i>	2
<i>Getting Your Goat</i> Planning Guide	3
<i>Getting Your Goat</i> Achievement Program	4
<i>Getting Your Goat</i> Completion Certificate	5
<b>chapter 1 - Selection and Judging</b>	
So, You Think a Goat Is for You	6
All Goats Are Not the Same!	8
Parts from Poll to Pastern	10
<b>chapter 2 - Feeds and Nutrition</b>	
The Big Switch	12
Checking the Tag	14
<b>chapter 3 - Management Skills</b>	
Goat Security Check	16
May I Check Your Goat?	18
When I Get "A Round Tuit"	20
For the Record	22
<b>chapter 4 - Fitting and Showing</b>	
Show Time!	24
Looking Good!	26
Show Like a Pro	28
Be a Sport	30
<b>chapter 5 - The World of Goats</b>	
Delightful Dairy Products	32
Bleat Street Talk 1 (Glossary)	34
Goat Resources	36
Photo Credits	Inside Back Cover

## Acknowledgements

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## Let's Kid Around!

**W**elcome to the first activity guide in an exciting series designed to help you learn all about dairy goats! Many fun and interesting activities have been planned for you. No matter what type of goat you have, or even if you have none at all, these activities will help you learn a lot!

If you don't have a goat yet, this guide will help you decide if you want to buy and care for one. Owning an animal is a big job and there is a lot to learn. By doing the activities in this guide, you will learn how to select, feed, house and care for goats properly. If you already have a goat, don't worry—you will still learn a lot from these activities.

Each activity will ask you to do something then share what you learned with your helper. You can work by yourself or as part of a group. Try to do the activity first, but ask your helper for help if you have any problems or questions.

While you are learning important and fun dairy goat project skills, you will also learn important skills you will use your whole life. Some of these skills are decision making, leadership, communication, record keeping and planning and organizing. Here's what you'll do in *Getting Your Goat*.

- Select the right goat for you
- Research goat breeds
- Recognize goat body parts
- Investigate goat digestive systems
- Explore your goat's diet
- Identify goat safety concerns
- Examine a healthy goat
- Make goat management decisions
- Appreciate the value of records
- Get ready for a show
- Investigate goat fitting methods
- Interview a successful goat showperson
- Explore dairy goat products

### *Getting Your Goat* Project Guidelines

- Set your goals and record project highlights
- Do at least seven activities in the *Getting Your Goat* Achievement Program each year and complete the program within three years
- Practice and develop the life skills of decision making, leadership, communication, record keeping and planning and organizing
- Increase your knowledge about goats and improve your skills needed to be a good goat caretaker

### *Getting Your Goat* Achievement Program

While you are having fun doing the activities, you'll also be completing the *Getting Your Goat* Achievement Program. This program will help you set goals, record your successes and be recognized for your hard work. When you complete the program, you can earn the Completion Certificate on page 5.

### Your Project Helper

Your project helper is on your team supporting you and making learning more fun. This person may be a parent, goat breeder, veterinarian, project leader, advisor, neighbor or older friend who knows about goats. The choice is yours. As you do the activities, you'll discuss with your helper what you did by answering the questions in the "Ruminations" part of each activity. Sometimes your helper will work with you to help you find resources, including people, organizations, Web sites, events, magazines and books necessary to complete an activity. After you have successfully completed each activity, your helper will date and initial your achievement program.

Write your project helper's contact information here:

My project helper: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Good Luck and Have Fun with Dairy Goat I  
*Getting Your Goat*

## My Dairy Goat Project Goals

My name \_\_\_\_\_

My animal's name or number \_\_\_\_\_

Breed \_\_\_\_\_

What I want to do and learn in *Getting Your Goat*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Dairy Goat Project Highlights

Date and list the exciting things you do and learn.

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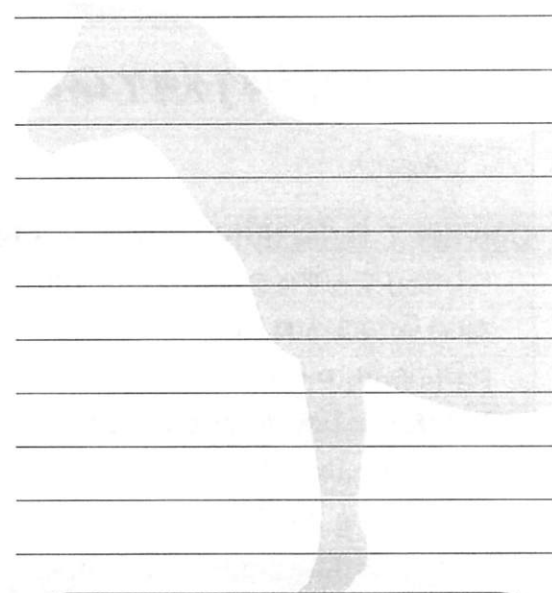
## My Brain Gain

Here's an easy way to tell if you learned something new and developed important project skills. **BEFORE** you do the activities in this guide, circle the number that is the best measurement of what you know before the activity, then circle the number that is the best measurement of what you know **AFTER** you complete the activity. You may be surprised how much you learned! Share the results with your helper.

Begin each statement with the words "I know how to..." then circle:  
 1 (not at all), 2 (somewhat) or 3 (a lot).

I know how to...	Before	After
Describe what is needed to care for a goat	1 2 3	1 2 3
Describe differences between goat breeds	1 2 3	1 2 3
Correctly identify goat body parts	1 2 3	1 2 3
Explain the differences between kid and adult goat digestion	1 2 3	1 2 3
Name the five major nutrients and their sources	1 2 3	1 2 3
Identify safe goat management practices	1 2 3	1 2 3
Examine a goat and record the results	1 2 3	1 2 3
Explain when routine management actions should be performed	1 2 3	1 2 3
Describe types of dairy goat project records to keep	1 2 3	1 2 3
Describe what to do to prepare for and take to a show	1 2 3	1 2 3
Properly fit a dairy goat for show	1 2 3	1 2 3
Describe basic showmanship practices	1 2 3	1 2 3
Define good sportsmanship	1 2 3	1 2 3
Describe the changes milk goes through to become cheese	1 2 3	1 2 3

Attach a photo or drawing of you and your goat here.



# Getting Your Goat Achievement Program

## Directions

1. Do at least seven of the *Getting Your Goat* and/or "Udder Ideas" activities each year.
2. Complete at least 21 of the *Getting Your Goat* and/or "Udder Ideas" activities within three years to complete the Achievement Program.
3. Have your project helper date and initial the activities as you complete and discuss them.
4. Complete the "My Brain Gain" survey before and after you do the activities in this book.

## Getting Your Goat Activities

Activity	Date completed	Helper's initials
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### Chapter 1 Selection and Judging

So, You Think a Goat Is for You

All Goats Are Not the Same!

Parts from Poll to Pastern

### Chapter 2 Feeds and Nutrition

The Big Switch

Checking the Tag

### Chapter 3 Management Skills

Goat Security Check

May I Check Your Goat?

When I Get "A Round Tuit"

For the Record

### Chapter 4 Fitting and Showing

Show Time!

Looking Good!

Show Like a Pro

Be a Sport

### Chapter 5 The World of Goats

Delightful Dairy Products

## Udder Ideas

Select and do any of the "Udder Ideas" activities in *Getting Your Goat* or make up your own. Record the page and number of each one you complete and get your helper's initials.

Page	Number	Date completed	Helper's initials
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Write your own activity here.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Helper's initials \_\_\_\_\_

Write your own activity here.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Helper's initials \_\_\_\_\_

Write your own activity here.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Helper's initials \_\_\_\_\_

# Getting Your Goat

## Completion Certificate

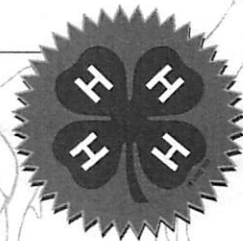
I certify that

\_\_\_\_\_

has completed all requirements of the  
*Getting Your Goat* Achievement Program  
in the 4-H Dairy Goat Series.

Helper's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



In this space, paste a drawing or photo of you and your goat in Year #1 of *Getting Your Goat*.

In this space, paste a drawing or photo of you and your goat in Year #2 of *Getting Your Goat*.

In this space, paste a drawing or photo of you and your goat in Year #3 of *Getting Your Goat*.

## So, You Think a Goat Is for You

Is a goat for you? Goats can make great project animals, but are not perfect for everyone. Owning an animal is a big job. Everyone in your family will have to help. If you join a group with other goat owners, you will learn about goats and get to know other people who like goats. This activity will help you decide if a goat is right for you!

### Goat to it!

Before getting your first goat or adding goats to your herd, give yourself this quiz. It will help you know if you are ready for a goat. Talk over the answers with your helper or group.

### A Quick Quiz

1. Why do I want to raise a goat?
2. What do I want to learn from raising a goat?
3. Who are the people in my area who raise goats and can help me?
4. How much time do I have to care for a goat?
5. What housing do I have for my goats?
6. Where can I buy *feed* and supplies?
7. Is it legal for me to keep a goat where I live?

**Dairy Goat Skill:** Investigating goat ownership

**Life Skill:** Decision making

**Education Standard:** NS.K-4.3: Life Science: Organisms and environments

**Success Indicator:** Describes what is needed to care for a goat.



"Can I take care of a goat properly?"

### Test your goat knowledge!

Now you have decided that you would like to own a goat, but what do you know about them? Use the matching activity on the next page to test your goat knowledge. If you don't know the answer, do a little research on the internet.





## Match 'em up! *Place the correct letter by the question.*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| _____ 1. How often is a dairy goat milked?         | <b>A.</b> A clean, safe shed or barn                        |
| _____ 2. What kind of feed could a dairy goat eat? | <b>B.</b> Farmers, feed mill or farm store                  |
| _____ 3. What kind of housing does a goat need?    | <b>C.</b> Electric fence or woven wire fence four feet high |
| _____ 4. How is goat milk used?                    | <b>D.</b> Clean, dry straw                                  |
| _____ 5. Grain is available from ...               | <b>E.</b> Good quality hay or grass and water               |
| _____ 6. What should goats sleep on?               | <b>F.</b> Twice a day (every 12 hours)                      |
| _____ 7. How would you keep a goat fenced in?      | <b>G.</b> Veterinarian                                      |
| _____ 8. A goat eats feed and ...                  | <b>H.</b> Drink it, sell it, or make cheese or butter       |
| _____ 9. Who would you call when a goat gets sick? | <b>I.</b> From a respected breeder                          |
| _____ 10. Where do you buy a goat?                 | <b>J.</b> 16% protein dairy feed                            |

## Ruminations

*Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.*

### Say Cheese! *(Share what you did)*

- What do you know about goats?
- Where and how did you find answers to the questions?

### The Buck Stops Here *(Process what's important)*

- What's most important to you about raising goats?
  - What will you have to do to get ready to have a goat and care for it?
- 
- 
- 

### Spread It Around *(Generalize to your life)*

- Why is it good to ask yourself many questions before making a decision?
  - When was another time you gathered information before making a decision?
- 
- 

### Browse for More *(Apply what you learned)*

- How can you use what you learned to help you set your goat project goals?
  - The next time you make a decision, what will you do differently?
- 
- 

## Whey cool facts

## Goats Are Great!

The goat project has something to offer nearly everyone! Most goats can be handled with ease by most youth. Also, dairy goats need little space compared to horses and cows. Goats' personalities make them ideal for youth project animals. Ask your county 4-H staff how you can learn about goats.

Goats can be used for many purposes:

- |                          |         |                  |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------|
| • Dairy                  | • Fiber | • Breeding stock |
| • Meat                   | • Pet   | • Packing        |
| • Weed and brush control | • Draft |                  |

### Costs

It's hard to say how much your dairy goat project will cost you each year. You may have to buy your animal, its feed and supplies, but sometimes someone may be willing to give or loan you what you need. To care for a goat properly, you need equipment such as a collar, hoof trimmers, milking bucket, grooming supplies, bottles for kids, disbudding iron, banders and more. Your goat will also need certain medicines and shots. All goats need hay or grass, minerals, vitamins and water to stay healthy and most need grain, too. Make sure to create a yearly budget for your goat project.

If you can give a goat everything it needs to be safe and healthy, then maybe a goat is for you!

## Udder Ideas

1. Read a book about goats and share what you learned with your helper or family member.
2. Contact at least two breed associations for information (see page 36). Share what you learned with your group or family.
3. Talk to someone in your area who already owns goats and find out why they decided to raise them.

# All Goats Are Not the Same!

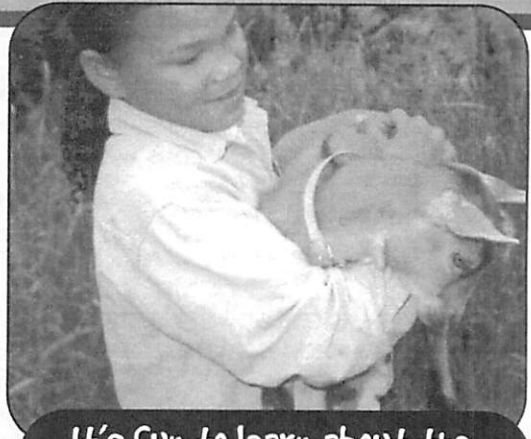
There are more than one hundred breeds of goats in the world! How will you make up your mind which breed of dairy goat to get? This activity will help, so let's get goating!

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Investigating goat breeds
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Acquiring and evaluating information
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NS.K-4.3: Life Science: The characteristics of organisms
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Describes differences between goat breeds.

## Goat to it!

Build a dairy goat breed notebook. Collect information by going to a meeting of a dairy goat breed club, visiting a breeder, reading books or visiting your Extension office. You can also search the Internet, contact national breed associations or look through breed magazines. Include photos, facts and anything you can find to help you learn about as many different goat breeds as you can.

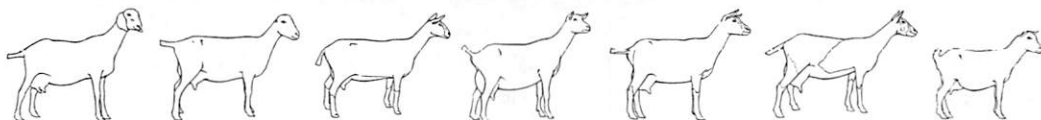
Next, use what you learned to fill in the chart. This will help you understand the differences between the breeds and decide which breed is your favorite.



It's fun to learn about the different breeds of goats!

## My Dairy Goat Breed Chart

Breed of Goat	Description (size, color, other)	Is a herd near me?
Alpine		
LaMancha		
Nigerian Dwarf		
Nubian		
Oberhasli		
Saanen		
Sable		
Toggenburg		



# Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

## Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- Where did you find what you needed to do this activity?
- What new things did you learn about goats?

## The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- What are the big differences between goat breeds?
  - Why is it good to get facts before making a decision?
- 
- 
- 
- 

## Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What other times have you had to gather information to make a decision?
  - Where is your favorite place to get information?
- 
- 
- 
- 

## Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- Which dairy goat breed would be best for you?
  - How can you meet the needs of the breed you have chosen?
- 
- 
- 
- 

## Bits & Butts

The Golden Guernsey is a rare breed but numbers in the U.S. are growing.



# Which Goat to Get?

## Alpine

This breed is from France. Does are at least 30" at the withers and 135 pounds; bucks are 32" and 170 pounds. The only breed of any color pattern with upright ears; their face is straight.

## LaMancha

This breed is from the U.S. Does are at least 28" and 130 pounds; bucks are 30" and 160 pounds. This breed has good milk production with high butterfat. The face is straight and the ears are missing or very small. Any color or combination is allowed.

## Nigerian Dwarf

This is a miniature dairy breed from West Africa. Does are 22.5" or less, bucks 23.5" or less. They can be any color with erect ears and a straight or dished face.

## Nubian

This breed is from Africa/Europe and is known for high milk production and butterfat. Does are at least 30" at the withers and 135 pounds; bucks are 32" and 170 pounds. The face curves outwards ("Roman nose"). Ears are long, wide and hang down. Any coat color(s) or pattern is acceptable.

## Oberhasli

This is a Swiss breed. Does may be black or reddish brown with standard black markings on the face, legs, belly and elsewhere. Does are at least 28" and 120 pounds; bucks must be at least 30" and 150 pounds. The face is straight or dished.

## Saanen

This breed is from Switzerland. Does are at least 30" at the withers and 135 pounds; bucks are 32" and 170 pounds. Saanens are white or cream colored. Ears are erect and point forward. The face is straight or dished.

## Sable

Sables are colored Saanens. They can be any color or combination, solid or patterned, except white or cream.

## Toggenburg

This breed is from Switzerland. Does are at least 26" and 120 pounds; bucks are 28" and 150 pounds. They are fawn to dark chocolate colored with certain white markings on their ears, face, legs and tail. Ears are erect and carried forward. Face may be dished or straight.

# Udder Ideas

1. Attend a goat show and talk to owners about their breed of dairy goat. Watch the animals in their pens and show ring.
2. Give a presentation about your favorite dairy goat breed to a group.

# Parts from Poll to Pastern

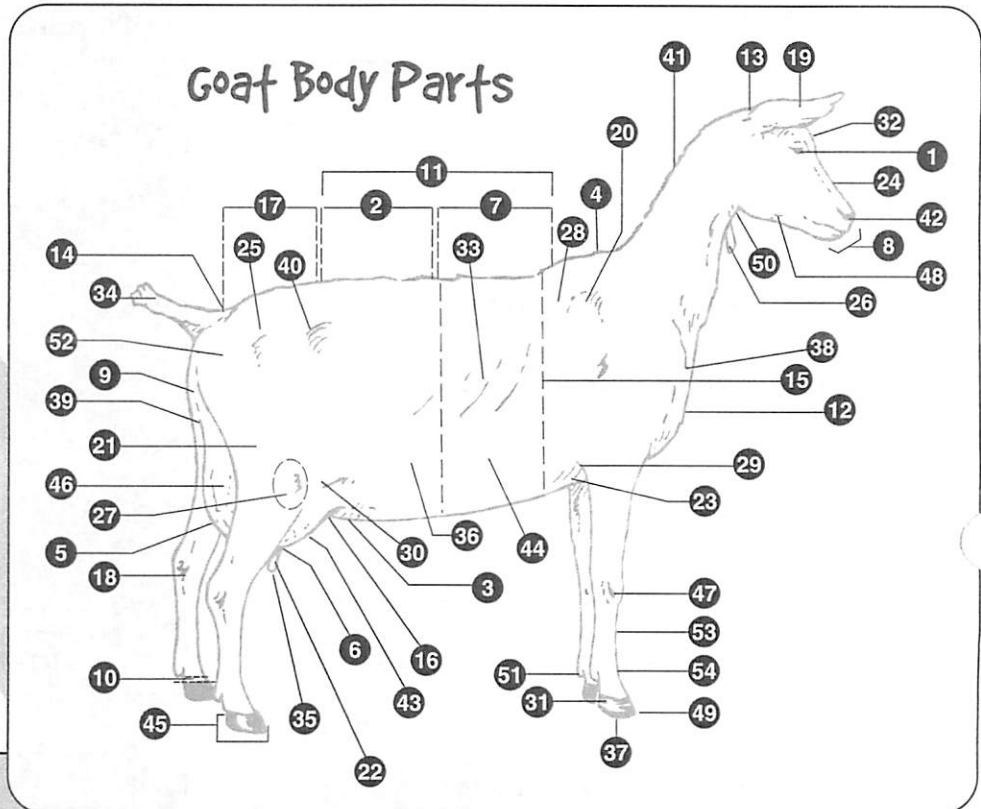
If a showmanship judge asked you to point to your goat's thurl, could you do it? How about its chine? There are many good reasons to learn the names of a goat's body parts. This activity will help you do just that and have fun along the way.

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Identifying goat body parts
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Reasoning
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NS.K-4.3: Life Science: Organisms and environments
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Correctly identifies goat body parts.

## Goat to it!

Label each word in the Word Bank with the number of the line that points to the correct body part. See the example for "eye." It may take you several years to learn all these parts. Do the best you can now.

For more fun, get an unlabeled goat parts diagram from your 4-H office or draw a large outline of a goat. Put it up on a wall. Write each Word Bank part on a separate piece of paper and put them all in a bowl. With a group of friends, take turns drawing a piece of paper from the bowl and showing where that goat body part is found on the goat diagram on the wall. If you can, name and point to goat body parts on a real live goat.



## Word Bank

- |                    |                                |                           |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| ___ back           | ___ flank                      | ___ milk vein             | ___ rump           |
| ___ barrel         | ___ floor of udder             | ___ muzzle                | ___ shoulder blade |
| ___ belly          | ___ forehead                   | ___ neck                  | ___ sole           |
| ___ bridge of nose | ___ fore udder                 | ___ nostril               | ___ stifle         |
| ___ brisket        | ___ fore udder attachment      | ___ orifice               | ___ tail           |
| ___ cannon bone    | ___ heart girth                | ___ pastern               | ___ tail head      |
| ___ chest floor    | ___ heel                       | ___ pin bone              | ___ teat           |
| ___ chine          | ___ hip                        | ___ point of elbow        | ___ thigh          |
| ___ crop           | ___ hock                       | ___ point of shoulder     | ___ throat         |
| ___ dewclaw        | ___ hoof                       | ___ poll                  | ___ thurl          |
| ___ ear            | ___ jaw                        | ___ rear udder            | ___ toe            |
| ___ escutcheon     | ___ knee                       | ___ rear udder attachment | ___ wattle         |
| <u>1</u> eye       | ___ loin                       | ___ rib                   | ___ withers        |
| ___ fetlock        | ___ medial suspensory ligament |                           |                    |

# Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

## Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- Which part of this activity did you like best?
- What new goat body parts did you learn?

## The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- How does learning the names of goat parts help you talk with others about goats?
- How did the activities help you learn the names of goat body parts?

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## Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- Which body part names are the same for goats and people?
- When are some other times you have had to figure things out from a drawing?

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## Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How will you use what you learned about goat body parts?
- How will you help your friends learn the names of goat body parts?

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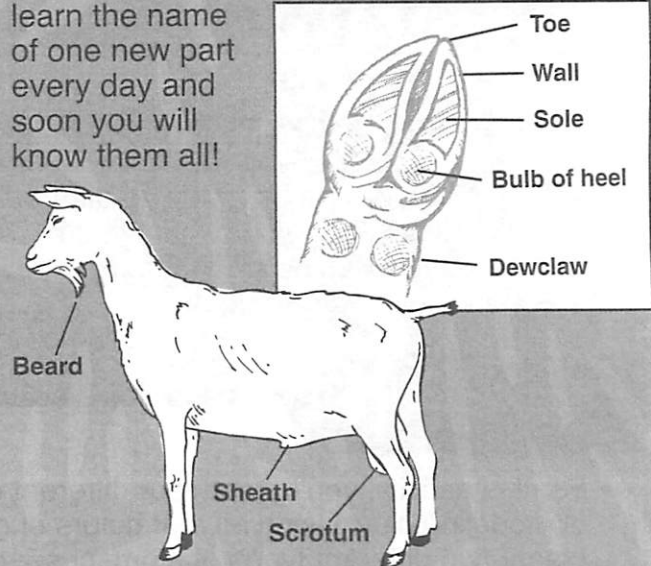
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## Hair, Hide, Hoof and Horn

You need to know the names of goat body parts so you can talk with other goat owners, breeders, judges and veterinarians. Try to learn the name of one new part every day and soon you will know them all!



**Acknowledgement**  
Hoof drawing adapted and used with permission from the National Pygmy Goat Association. Buck parts drawing adapted and used with permission from the United States Boer Goat Association



Learn the names of goat parts so you can talk about goats with others.

## Udder Ideas

1. Using a real goat, teach 20 parts to a friend.
2. Play the game with a group of other goat youth.

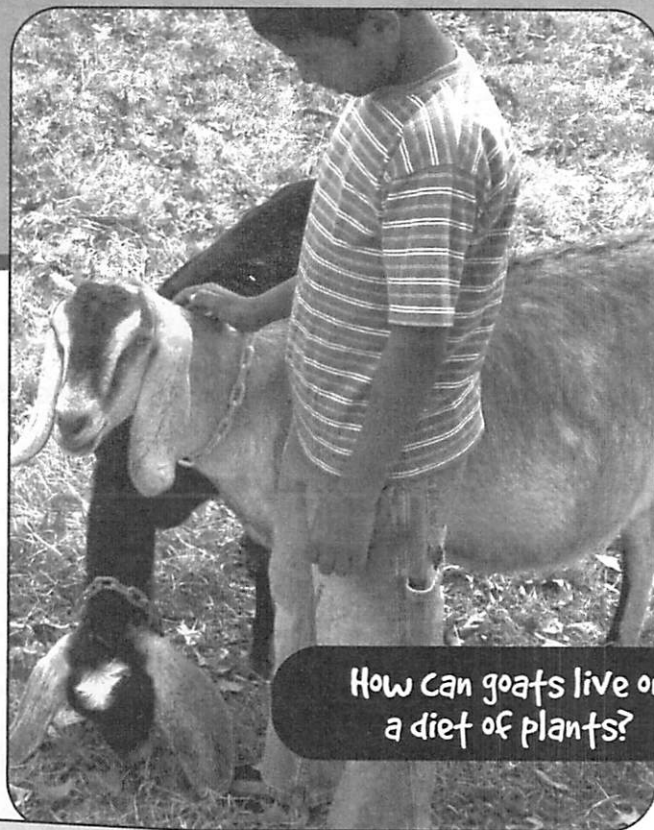
## The Big Switch

We feed milk to kids but we feed hay and grain to adult goats. Did you ever think about why we feed kids and adult goats so differently? This activity will help you do just that as you explore the differences between the digestive tracts of young and mature goats.

### Goat to it!

For this activity, you'll need four different colors of modeling clay. Using all four colors of clay, create two different types of stomachs—one for an animal that just drinks milk and another for an animal that eats hay, grain and grass. Don't forget to leave "in" and "out" spouts. In the space below, draw what you created.

Stomach for Milk Only



How can goats live on a diet of plants?

Stomach for Hay, Grain and Grass

# Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

## Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What did you do?
- How did you decide what types of stomachs to make?

## The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- Explain how you needed to be creative to make the models.
  - How are stomachs of kids and adult goats different?
- 
- 
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## Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- How are goats' stomachs different from your stomach?
  - What are other times when models helped you understand something?
- 
- 
- 

## Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How can you teach others about how goats' stomachs work?
  - What are other ways you can be creative while you learn?
- 
- 
- 

## Bits & Butts

- Ruminants chew their food twice, once when they bite and swallow it quickly, then again later when they are relaxed and bring up a cud (food ball) to chew again and again before re-swallowing.
- Humans, pigs, dogs and cats are simple-stomached animals. Goats, cattle and sheep are ruminants.

Bleat Street Talk

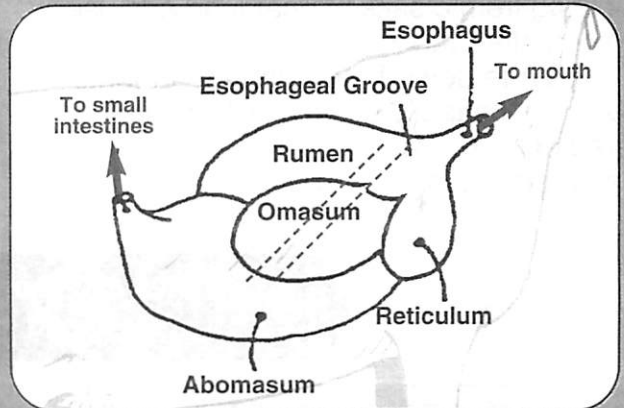


# Whey Cool Facts

## Chew on This!

Animals with one stomach part are called simple-stomached animals. Animals like goats with four stomach parts are called *ruminants*.

The first part of this stomach is the *rumen*. Helpful *microflora* live there and digest the plants these animals eat. When ruminants eat, food moves down the *esophagus* into the rumen, then slowly into the *reticulum*, *omasum* and *abomasum* (the fourth or "true" stomach).



In young ruminants on a milk diet, a groove sends milk from the esophagus right to the abomasum. Food that reaches the abomasum and beyond is digested the same way for both baby and adult ruminants. Food is broken down and its parts are used by the animal to grow muscles, make milk, move and live.

When kids eat solid food, the rumen slowly grows and microflora start to live there. By three months of age, kids have a working rumen and can live on a diet of plants.

**Acknowledgement:** Diagram adapted and used with permission from Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4-H and Rural Organizations Section.

## Udder Ideas

1. Ask a veterinarian to show you rumen bacteria under a microscope. Draw what you see and share what you saw with others.
2. Have a goat producer show you how to tube feed a goat kid. Talk about why you would need to do this.

# Checking the Tag

Goats can eat many different things including hay, grain, grass and *browse*. To reach top production and health, though, goats need a balanced diet that meets all their nutritional needs. This activity will help you figure out what is in the feed you give your goat and how these things keep your goat healthy.

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Identifying uses of feed ingredients
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Decision making
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NS.K-8.2: Physical Science: Properties of objects and materials
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Names the five major nutrients and their sources.

## Goat to it!

Get a tag from a sack of goat feed and use it to complete the Feed Ingredient Chart below. Write down four of the ingredients shown on the tag. Decide which *nutrient* this ingredient provides and what that nutrient does for the goat.



"Forages are things like hay, browse and grass."

### Feed Ingredient Chart

Feed ingredients (see feed tag)	Nutrients provided



## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What ingredients were in the feed?
- What ingredients surprised you?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- What are the five basic nutrients?
- How do you decide what to feed your goat?

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### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What foods are in your diet?
- What have you fed your goat at different stages of its life?

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### Browse For More (Apply what you learned)

- What will you now look for on feed tags?
- How can you feed your goat a balanced but low-cost diet?

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Enzymes  
Supplements  
Browse  
Nutrient

## Bits & Butts

- In the United States it is illegal to feed protein that comes from animals to ruminants. This law helps prevent the spread of Scrapie in sheep and goats.
- Make sure your goat can't eat your dog or cat's food!



## What's In Feed?

The nutrients in your goat's food keep it healthy, warm and able to move around. Nutrients also help an animal grow, make milk, work or produce a kid. What are the major nutrients?

**Water**—Water is the most important nutrient. It is needed for digestion, temperature control, milk production, waste removal and many other purposes. Make sure to give your goat clean water at all times.

**Protein**—Proteins in feed help an animal create muscle, milk, *enzymes* and more. Protein is in hay and grass, milk, soybean meal, sunflower seeds and other foods. Protein is very important in the diet of young animals and milking does.

**Energy**—Carbohydrates and fats give animals energy. Energy helps goats stay warm, grow, move, make milk and have kids. Energy is in grains, hay, grass, browse, molasses, seeds, fruits and other foods. It is very important for milking does, breeding bucks and kids.

**Minerals**—Minerals include elements like sodium, calcium, iron and many more. They are needed to make strong bones, for the heart and nerves to work well and for body fluid balance. Minerals are in special salts and other mixes you can buy.

**Vitamins**—These nutrients include vitamin A, C, D, E, K and the B vitamins. They are in green forages, yellow corn, colostrum, grains and *supplements*. Healthy ruminants make their own vitamin B, C, D and K. Vitamins help keep cells healthy. They are needed for strong bones, good vision, growth, milk production and more. You can give your animal vitamins in feed, supplements and shots.

## Udder Ideas

1. Visit goat raisers and find out what they feed their animals. Share what you learned with your group or helper.
2. Investigate nutritional diseases of goats and give a presentation about one of them to a group.

## Goat Security Check

The world can be a dangerous place for your goat! Your job as a goat owner is to keep your goat as safe and healthy as possible. This activity will help you look at your goat's *environment* in a new way.

**Dairy Goat Skill:** Providing a safe environment for a goat

**Life Skill:** Reasoning—identifies problems

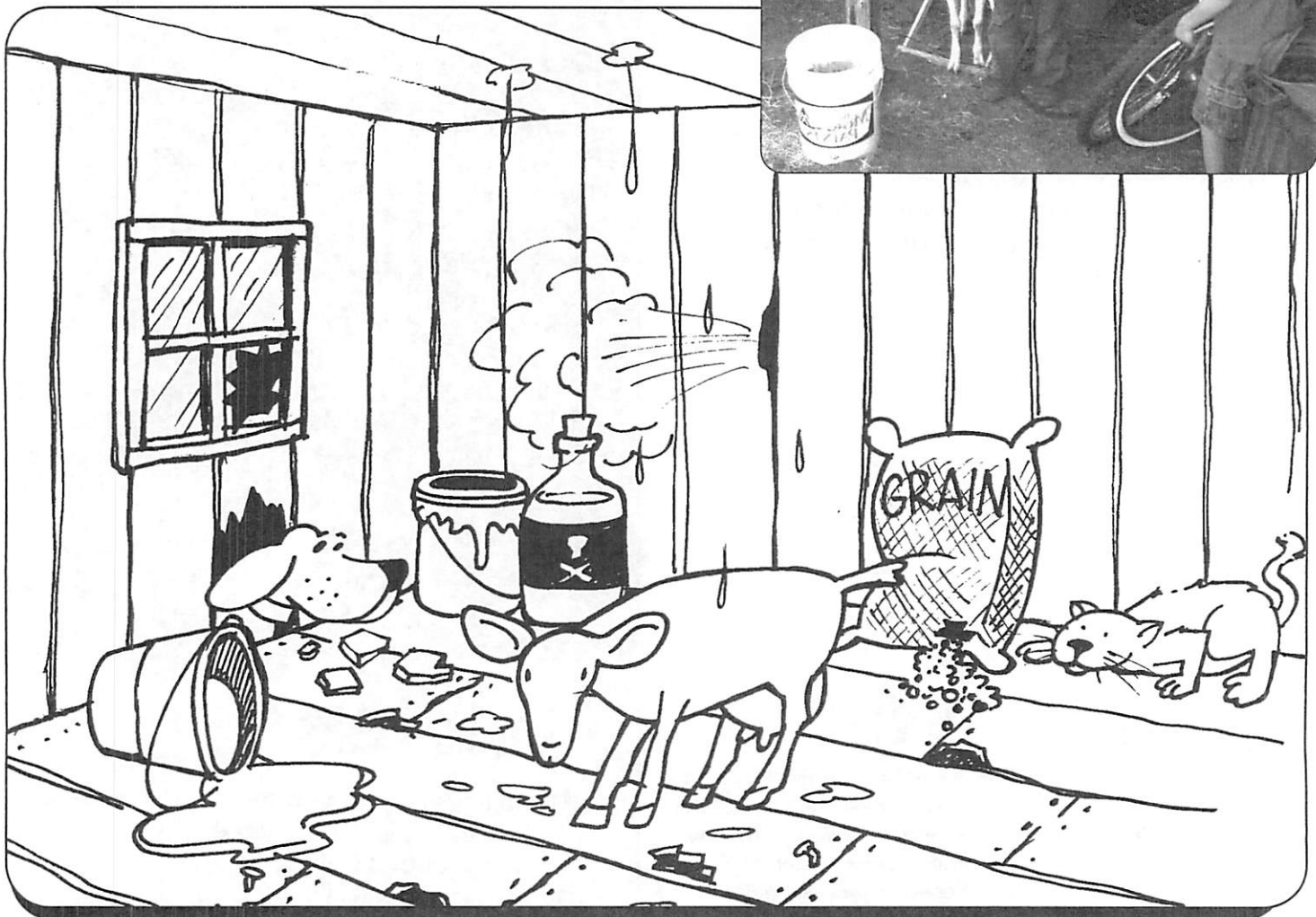
**Education Standard:** NPH-H.K-8.3: Reducing health risks

**Success Indicator:** Identifies safe goat management practices.

### Goat to it!

Look at the drawing and see how many *hazards* you can find. Circle the problems you see. Talk about what you found with your group or helper.

"Is this a safe place for our goat?"



## Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What hazards did you find?
- What hazards had you not thought about before?

## The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- Describe how "an ounce of prevention beats a pound of cure."
  - Why does your goat rely on you to keep it safe?
- 
- 
- 

## Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What safety hazards are in your environment?
  - When have you been hurt by something unsafe?
- 
- 
- 

## Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How will you change your goat's environment to make it safer?
  - What else can you do to keep your goat healthy?
- 
- 
- 

## Bits & Butts

- Predators are a big safety concern for goat owners.
- Protect your goats from coyotes, dogs and other predators!
- Avoid using wooden fences or pens because they are hard to clean well.



## Fencing

Goat fencing should be at least four feet tall to help keep goats in and predators out. Avoid using barbed wire—it can injure animals badly. Woven wire, electric fencing or cattle panels can work for some goats. All items in the pen should be placed so the goat cannot jump over the fence.

## Housing

All goats need protection from rain. Two goats need a pen at least four feet by four feet. Give your goat at least a good three-sided shed with a solid roof tilted toward the rear. The shed should have safe windows for good air but no drafts. Make sure there are no holes where your goat could break a leg. Remove broken glass or nails that could hurt your animal.

## Feeders and Waterers

Do not feed hay on the ground. Water containers should be small enough that they can be drained and cleaned often. Put the water in a place that is shady and clean to keep it cool and fresh. Don't let the water freeze during the winter.

## Grain

Keep grain locked up or your goat could get into it, eat too much and die! Also, keep cats, birds and mice out of your goat's grain or they can spread diseases to your goat.

## Other Concerns

Goats love to chew, so keep all electrical wires, chemicals and other harmful items out of their reach. Remove goats' collars when not in use to prevent accidental choking.

## Udder Ideas

1. Do a safety check of your house or barn. Discuss with your family what you find.
2. Act as an advisor for others who want to make their goat's environment safe. Write up a report of your findings and share it with the owner.
3. Ask a veterinarian about the illnesses and injuries they treat that can be prevented.

# May I Check Your Goat?

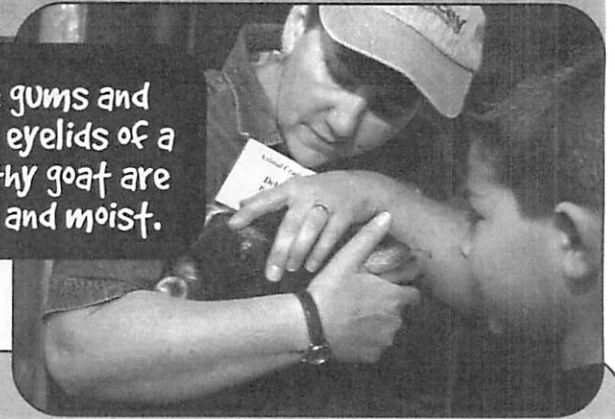
Uh-oh! Your goat is lying down and won't get up. Is she just tired or is she sick? What should you do? In this activity, you'll discover what is normal for healthy animals. You'll investigate signs of illness, too. These skills will help you become a better goat owner!

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Examining a healthy goat
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Decision making
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NS.K-4.3: Life Science: Characteristics of organisms
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Examines a goat and records the results.

## Goat to it!

Pretend you will be looking at goats to decide if they are sick or healthy. First, complete the chart below to help you remember what to look for in sick and healthy goats. You may do this activity by yourself or with a friend. You may also just skip ahead and examine a goat and record your findings here.

The gums and inner eyelids of a healthy goat are pink and moist.



## Checking Your Goat

Item	In healthy goats	In sick goats
Body condition		
Behavior		
Appetite		
Drinking		
Gums		
Temperature		
Heart rate (beats per minute)		
Breathing (sounds and rate)		
Teeth and mouth		
Eyes		
Nose		
Muscles		
Feet		
Legs and joints		
Hooves		
Skin and hair		
Manure		
Urine		
Udder		

## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- Where did you get the information to fill in the chart?
- What information was new to you?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- Why do you need to be able to tell when your goat is sick?
  - How does starting with what you already know help you learn new information?
- 
- 
- 

### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What signs of goat illness have you seen in real life?
  - How do you act when you are sick?
- 
- 
- 

### Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How can you use what you learned to take better care of your goat?
  - How can you teach others to tell when their goat is sick?
- 
- 
- 

## Bits & Butts

- A normal goat's temperature is 101.5 to 104°F.
- A normal goat's heart rate is 70 to 80 beats per minute.
- A normal goat's breathing rate is 15 to 30 breaths per minute.



## Healthy, Wealthy and Wise

Watch your goat carefully to learn what is normal for your goat. Your goat should be strong, alert and curious, not dull and weak. Healthy goats have a good appetite and drink a normal amount of water. Their manure should be well-formed pellets, not diarrhea.

A healthy goat is neither too fat nor too thin, so feel your goat regularly to make sure that its body condition is right (you will learn more about this in Dairy Goat 3). Its coat should be glossy and free from parasites, not dull or full of lice or other pests. You should not notice limping or any swellings on the legs or body.

Your goat's eyes and nose should be free from discharge. Its gums should be pink, not pale or white. You should not hear any coughing or sneezing.

If your goat is giving milk, the milk should be a normal white color and not contain any clumps, unusual color or odd smell. The udder should be even and soft.

Young animals should grow well and be playful and full of energy.

### **Warning**

Be sure to call your veterinarian whenever you have a question about your animal's health.

## Udder Ideas

1. Go to the Dairy Goat Project Online Web site and review the health record for a healthy animal.
2. Use the chart on page 18 to create an examination chart for your animal. Now examine at least one live animal and record your findings. Share what you did with your helper.
3. Travel with a veterinarian and observe him/her examining animals. Share with your helper or group what you observed.

# When I Get "A Round Tuit"

Your goat just had a kid. When does it need to be vaccinated? Dewormed? Weaned? This activity will help you become familiar with all the "whats" and "whens" of caring for your goat. Along the way, you'll be surprised how much you can learn about caring for goats by talking with others. On your mark, get set, spin!

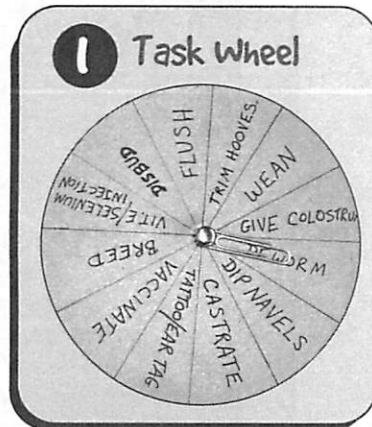
<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Making management decisions
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Decision making
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NL-ENG.K-12.4: Communication Skills: Students adjust their use of spoken language to communicate effectively
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Explains when routine management actions should be performed.

## Goat to it!

There are two parts to this activity—making the cardboard wheel and then using it for the activity.

### Part 1, Making a Goat Management Task Wheel

Supplies needed: a medium-sized piece of thin cardboard, pencil, scissors, compass, ruler, brass fastener and a paper clip. With the compass and pencil, draw a large circle on the cardboard. Cut out the circle and make a hole in the middle large enough for the brass fastener to poke through. With your ruler and pencil, divide the circle into 12 equal parts as shown in Box 1. In one of the 12 parts, write one of the 12 Management Tasks listed in Box 2. Make sure each part of the wheel has a task and all tasks are used. Connect the paper clip to the cardboard by running the brass fastener through one end and opening its wings. Make sure the paper clip can spin.



### 2 Goat Management Tasks

1. Disbud
2. Give colostrum
3. Wean
4. Castrate
5. Breed
6. Flush
7. Vaccinate
8. Give Vit.E/Selenium injection
9. Dip navels
10. Trim hooves
11. Deworm
12. Tattoo or ear tag

With help, you can learn to do many basic goat management tasks yourself!



### Part 2, Playing the Goat Management Decision Making game

This activity is best done in teams of two. Take turns spinning the paper clip. Each time it lands on a management task, your team should answer this question: "When should this task be done?" Choose and discuss an answer from the list of Timeline Options in Box 3. Take turns spinning. Discuss many goat management tasks.

### 3 Timeline options

Immediately at birth	Other or as needed
Within 1 hour of birth	Twice a year
Within 12 hours of birth	Every 6 weeks
Within 24 hours of birth	Once a year
At 7 to 10 days old	At 7 to 12 months old
At 1 month old	At 6 months old
At 2 to 3 months old	Never

## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What were the hardest and easiest parts of this activity?
- How did your answers differ from your teammates' answers?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- How did this activity help you make decisions about your animals?
- How did being part of a team affect the decisions you made?

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### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- Which of the goat management tasks have you done before?
- When else have you served on a team and made decisions?

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### Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How could you share what you learned with others?
- How will what you learned change how you care for your goats?

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## Bits & Butts

Selenium is an important mineral that keeps muscle cells healthy. In many parts of the U.S., Selenium is lacking in soils and plants. Livestock in these areas can die from a lack of Selenium if owners do not make sure they get enough. Too much can be deadly, too.

Written by Susan Kerr.



## Plan Your Work, Work Your Plan

Goat producers need to do many tasks to keep their animals healthy. Some only need to be done once and others need to be done often.

### Routine Tasks

- Goats' feet must be trimmed often or they will become overgrown, cracked and cause lameness. You may need to trim as often as every six weeks.
- Some goats may need to be dewormed as often as every month. Work with your veterinarian to decide how often to deworm your goats.
- Goats in most parts of the U.S. need to be given Selenium to keep healthy. This is very important for young and growing animals. Work with your veterinarian to decide how to give your animals Selenium.
- All goats should get a tetanus vaccination every year. Kids and pregnant does also need to be vaccinated to prevent Overeating Disease with a "C and D" vaccine. Goats in your area may need other vaccinations, so ask your veterinarian.
- Does and doelings can be flushed for three weeks before and after breeding to increase the chance they give birth to at least twins.
- Breeding time will depend on when you want kids to be born. Most goats come into heat in the fall so their kids are born in the spring.

### One-Time Tasks

Immediately after birth, kids should receive colostrum and have their navels dipped with iodine. They can be tattooed or ear tagged at any time. Kids can be disbudded when the horn buds are felt, usually before one week old. Buck kids can be banded or castrated after they are off to a good start and the testicles can be felt, usually at seven to ten days old. Some people choose to castrate kids when they are several months old. Kids can be weaned at two, three or even six months.

Breed  
colostrum  
Flush  
castrate  
wean  
Disbud  
Bleat  
Street Talk

## Udder Ideas

1. Visit a goat farm and observe as many different tasks as you can. Take photos, make a scrap book and share it with your helper or group.
2. Plan a Goat Management Skills day where you teach others how to perform basic goat management tasks.

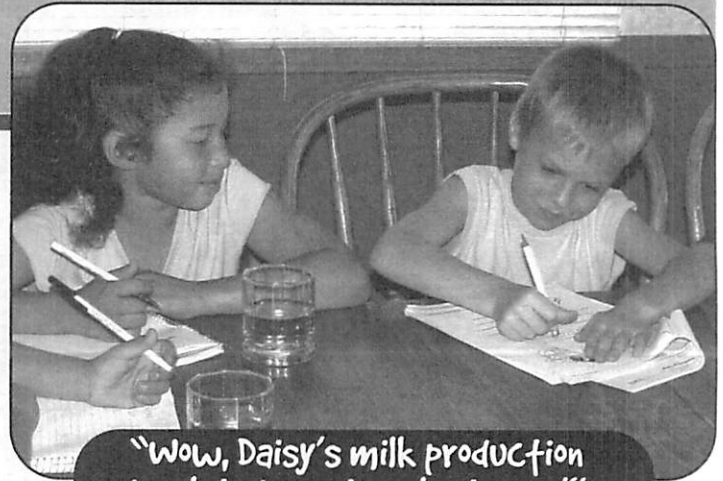
# For the Record

If you care for a goat, you need to keep track of certain things. Records help you keep track of your goat's diet, health and much more. They also help you figure out how much it costs to have a goat. It is fun to look back on your records when you are older and remember what you did and the awards you received. The better records you keep, the better you will know how to care for your goat. You will be better prepared for your life as an adult, too!

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Keeping dairy goat project records
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Organizing Information: Selects appropriate categories
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NL-ENG.K-12.4: Communication skills
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Describes types of dairy goat project records to keep.

## Goat to it!

For the matching activity below, decide which activity goes with each type of record. Put the number of the entry in the empty column in the middle, next to the proper type of record. Some types of records may have more than one entry and some entries may be able to go into more than one type of record. Be able to explain to your helper why you matched each entry with each type of record.



## Record Entry Matching Activity

Entry	Match	Record type or category
1. Jan. 4, bought 50 lb. of mineral mix for \$7.85		A. Project goals
2. Our club picked up trash on highway		B. Expense
3. July 8: Dewormed Petunia with 5 grams of "WormsBgone." Withheld milk 3 days, meat 28 days		C. Project journal
4. Gave a demonstration on fitting and showing at my club meeting on Jan. 15		D. Production records
5. Petunia had two doelings on Feb. 14		E. Income
6. I received an Achievement Program certificate on June 4		F. Reproduction records
7. This is my third year in the dairy goat project		G. Leadership activities
8. Feb. 3, program planning committee meeting		H. Calendar
9. I plan to complete the Level 1 Achievement Program this year		I. <i>Quality assurance</i>
10. Helped new club member learn the parts of a goat		J. Demonstration
11. I was finally able to trim Petunia's hooves all by myself		K. Recognition
12. I spent 20 minutes a day each day this week teaching Petunia to set up for judging		L. Personal information
13. Earned \$24.50 in premiums from county fair		M. Inventory
14. Petunia gave one gallon of milk a day this month		N. Project highlights
15. Jan. 8, was in hay judging contest		O. Feed records
16. Started project year with new brush worth \$3.50		P. Educational activities
17. \$15 transportation cost to go to dairy goat show		Q. Judging activities
18. June 12, attended animal science workshop		R. Health records
19. Petunia had mild mastitis in her right side on Feb. 10. She got better when I milked her out a lot.		S. Community service activities



## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- Where did you think each entry should go?
- How many of these types of records were new to you?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- How can records help you reach your goat project goals?
- How does organizing information make it more useful?

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### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- For what other purposes do you keep records?
- What are some ways to keep records?

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### Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How can you become a better record keeper?
- How can you tell others about the importance of good records?

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## Bits & Butts

Dairy Herd Improvement Association members have fests done every month on their herd's milk. They get helpful information back on every animal. This includes milk production and milk quality information.



## Types of Records

### Production Records

- Dates
- Milk production for each animal
- Milk quality information
- Meat production

### Health Records

- Dates of births
- Vaccinations
- Laboratory tests
- Illnesses and injuries
- Treatments (deworming, Vitamin E/Selenium, etc.)

### Quality Assurance Records

- Dates
- Animal identification
- Medicine and vaccinations given (name, dose, location, method)
- Meat and milk withholding dates
- Medication lot numbers
- Veterinarian's contact information

### Feed Records

- Total grain fed
- Total hay fed
- Days on pasture
- Total minerals fed
- Individual feeding information

### Show Records

- Shows entered
- Show results
- Show photos

### Breeding and Reproduction Records

- Day bred
- Dam and sire information
- Due dates
- Kidding details (date, number of kids, etc.)

### Growth Records

- Monthly heart girth
- Monthly height at withers
- Monthly weight

### Inventory

- Equipment and value at beginning of year
- Equipment and value at end of year

### Financial Records

- All income (meat or milk sales, sale of animals, premium money, etc.)
- All expenses (feed, supplies, breeding, equipment, animals, veterinary, show fees, etc.)

### Youth Project Records

- Project goals
- Project journal
- Leadership activities
- Planning calendar
- Demonstrations
- Awards
- Personal information
- Project highlights
- Educational activities
- Judging activities
- Community service activities

quality assurance

Sire  
Dam

Bleat Street Talk

## Udder Ideas

1. Ask your parent(s) to explain how a checking account is kept or how your family's income tax is figured.
2. Make a budget for next year for raising your goat. Share what you created with your helper or parent.

## Show Time!

When show day arrives, you will be so excited that it will be hard to think straight! That is one of the reasons it's important to be ready for a show well ahead of time. What will you need to take? Is your equipment in good shape? How can you keep from forgetting something? This activity will help you get ready for the big day ahead!

**Dairy Goat Skill:** Getting ready for a show

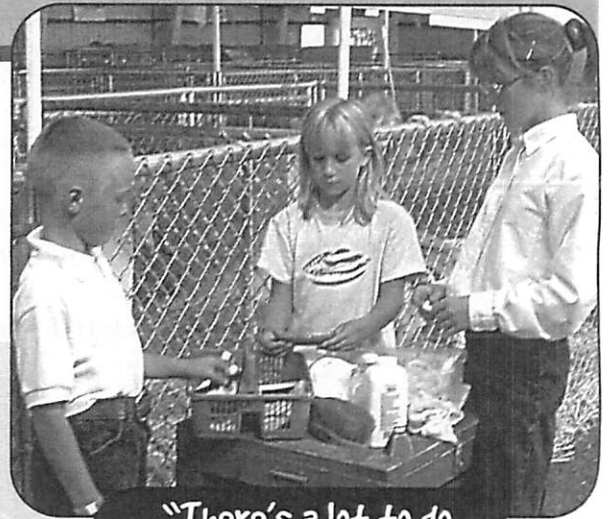
**Life Skill:** Planning and organizing

**Education Standard:** NL-ENG.K-12.12: Applying language skills

**Success Indicator:** Describes what to do to prepare for and take to a show.

### Goat to it!

For some fun background for this activity, ask an experienced goat showperson about some of the things he/she has forgotten to do to get ready for a show or to take to a show. They will probably tell you a pretty funny story! Take notes in the space below during your interview so you can write a story and share it with your helper or group.



"There's a lot to do to get ready!"

Next, make a list of the things to do to get ready for a show and a list of things to take to a show.

### Getting Ready for a Show

Things to do	Things to take
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____
9. _____	_____

## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What are some things you need to take to a show?
- What are some things you need to do to get ready for a show?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- Why is it important to get ready for a show ahead of time?
  - What could happen if you are not ready for a show?
- 
- 
- 

### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What other activities require you to be prepared ahead of time?
  - When are some times that you haven't been very prepared?
- 
- 
- 

### Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How can you help others prepare for shows or other events?
  - How can what you learned help you prepare to go to school or summer camp?
- 
- 
- 
- 
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## Bits & Butts

You may want to take water from your farm along when you show. Some animals don't drink well when they are away from home because they don't like the taste of "strange" water.



## Show Business

After you have created a checklist of things to take to a show, use it each time you prepare for a show. Make changes as needed over time. Make sure all products are legal to use on goats.

### Show Items to Take

- Grooming equipment (brushes, clippers, shampoos, scissors, petroleum jelly, trimmers, cotton swabs, toothbrush, etc.)
- Fly spray
- Milking equipment (if needed)
- Shovel, rake, wheelbarrow, broom
- Hay, feed, salt, supplements, pellets, treats
- Sleeping bag, pillow, tent if needed
- Towels, soap, comb, toothpaste and toothbrush
- A little cash for food and other expenses
- Camera
- Show box
- Show collar and extra collar
- Disinfectant
- First aid kits (human and goat)
- Water and feed buckets
- Lead and tie ropes
- Barn shoes and show shoes
- Farm or club identification sign for stall
- Stall decorations
- Sunscreen
- Cell phone or calling card
- Scissors
- Show clothes
- Educational posters and handouts
- Fitting stand
- Registration papers
- Health papers
- Towels, wash rags
- Blow dryer
- Water

## Udder Ideas

1. Ask an adult to help you make a show box and take it to your next show.
2. Make a videotape of the process of getting ready for a show. Show your tape at a group meeting or other event.

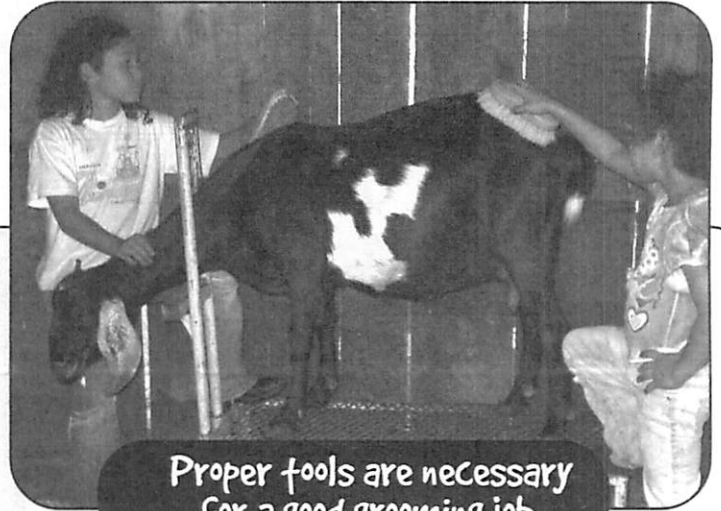
# Looking Good!

Getting ready to show your goat is hard work but fun! How do you make your four-footed pal look good? This activity will set you both on the right track for looking sharp in the show ring.

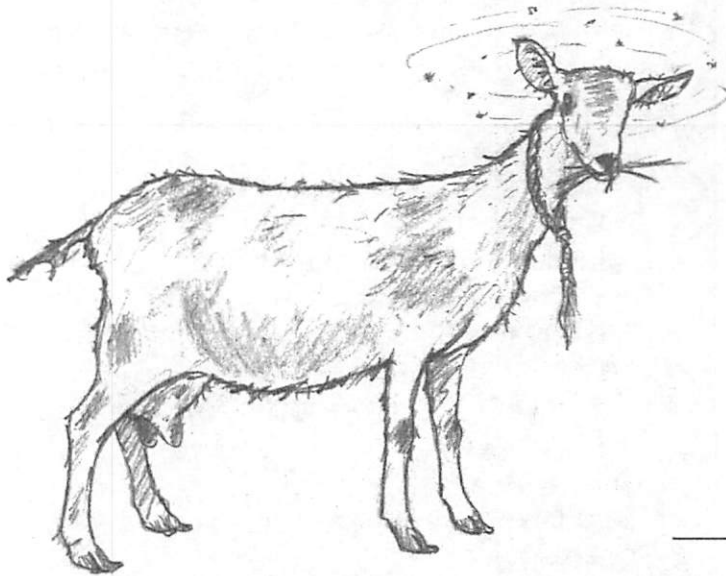
<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Discovering show fitting techniques
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Decision making
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NA-VA.K-4.2: Using knowledge of structures and functions
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Properly fits a dairy goat for show.

## Goat to it!

Is this doe ready for a show? Circle things in this drawing that you think need to be changed to get her ready for her show class. In the space given, describe what needs to be done or talk about it with your helper.



Proper tools are necessary for a good grooming job.



What needs to be done to get this doe ready for a show?

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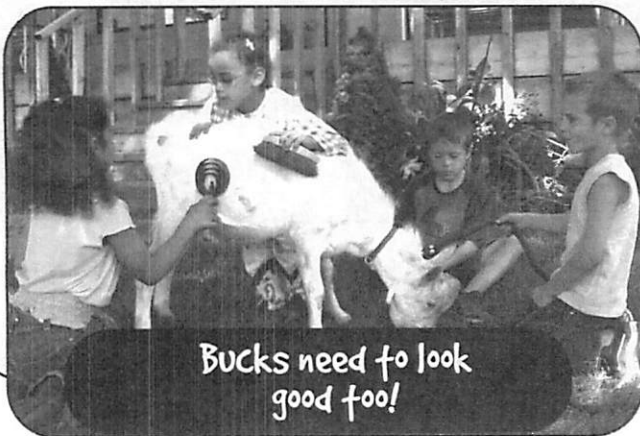
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Bucks need to look good too!

## Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What did you decide to change in the drawing to get the goat ready for a show?
- Describe how your "fitted" goat will look.

## The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- What is the purpose of each action in fitting a goat for show?
- How will you decide when your goat is fit for a show?

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## Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- When was another time where you had the final say on how something looked?
- What other decisions do you need to make about showing?

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## Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How will you change the way you fit your goat for her next show?
- How can you share your fitting skills with others?

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## Bits & Butts

Wrap your goat's hooves with a non-sticky bandage after washing and scrubbing them. Remove the booties just before you enter the show ring (don't be late!) and they will look as though they were just washed.



# Dressing the Part

**Clipping the Body** – How you should clip your goat could depend on how goats are clipped for shows in your area. Ask your helper for help. Usually, four to six weeks before showing, clip the goat against the grain of the hair with a #5 or #10 electric clipper blade. Clip from the rear toward the head starting with the feet and legs. Trim the head, thighs, udder and tail. Ten to 14 days before the show, trim her all over in a close shave with a #10 blade. This is called a *show clip*. Some people also do a *dairy clip*, which involves special trimming of the hind legs, belly and udder.

**Cleaning** – Wash the entire body with a mild soap that won't irritate the skin. Rinse well. A shampoo conditioner can be used to make your goat's coat shine. Bathe her once after clipping and then again the day before the show. Wash under her tail and tail web during the bath. Keep her nose, eyes and area under the tail wiped clean right up until you step into the show ring!

**Tail** – Square off the tail about 1/2" beyond the bone and leave a bottle brush or V-brush effect at the end.

**Ears** – The day before the show, trim inside the ears with a #40 clipper blade. Remove all dirt and waxy debris.

**Mammary System** – If she is in milk, trim all hair off the udder with a #40 clipper blade or a beard trimmer the morning of the show.

**Hooves** – Trim regularly so you only have to trim and smooth with a rasp the day before the show. The bottom should be parallel with the hair line. Scrub the hooves so they're sparkling clean.

## Udder Ideas

1. Attend a goat show and watch experienced showmen fit their goats.
2. With an experienced helper, fit your own doe for a show. Decide how you are going to make her look her best, then fit her. Take photos or make before and after drawings. Take notes so you'll know what to do next time.

# Show Like A Pro

Showmanship is fun! However, with so many things to remember when showing, it can seem hard when you are first getting started as a showman. In this activity, you will talk with an older showman and become more confident about what to do when the time comes for you to enter the show ring.

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Investigating showmanship skills
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Communication
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NL-ENG.K-12.4: Communication skills
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Describes basic showmanship practices.

## Goat to it!

Talk with a more experienced showman about showing. In the space given, record at least six important tips you discovered. Practice what you learned in a fun class with your friends, using the experienced showperson as the judge. Paste a photo or drawing of you in a showmanship class in the space below.

### Showmanship Tips I Learned

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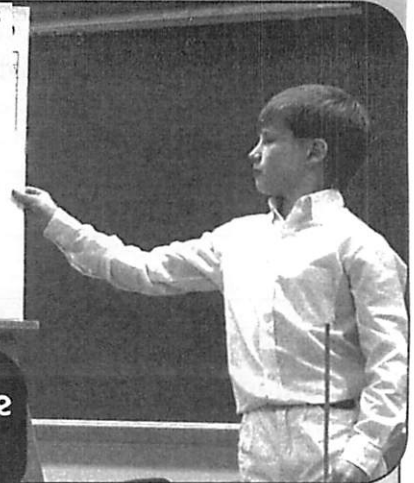
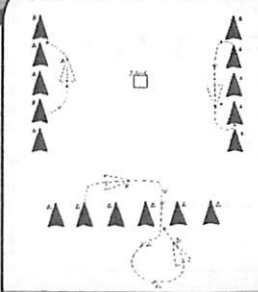
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Paste a photo or drawing of you in a showmanship class here.

MOVING IN THE SHOWRING



### Know how to move in the show ring.

#### Dairy Goat Showmanship Guidelines

Perfect Score

- Showman's Appearance** ..... 10
- Neat and clean.
  - Dressed properly. (A long-sleeved white shirt and white pants are preferred for dairy animals.)
- Goat's Appearance** ..... 40
- Normal growth; neither too thin or too fat.
  - Hair clean and properly groomed, hooves trimmed and goat neatly disbudded if not naturally hornless.
  - Entire body clipped with neatly trimmed tail and ears.
  - Entire body free from stains with special attention to legs, knees, feet, tail area, nose and ears.
- Showing the Goat** ..... 50
- Hold the goat's head high and lead it slowly around the ring in a clockwise direction. The goat should lead readily and respond quickly.
  - Hold the goat's collar or neck chain with your right hand. Line up with plenty of space between your goat and the next one.
  - Set goat up with front feet directly under withers. Set up back feet farther back and apart. Set up the end of the goat nearest the judge first.
  - Squat or stand next to the goat. Keep the goat between you and the judge at all times. Lead from the side away from the judge. Change placing by leading the goat forward out of the lineup to the place directed. Next, walk through the lineup to the back area, make a U-turn toward the line-up and move into the new position.
  - Answer the judge's questions about the goat scorecard, parts of the animal, goat facts and your goat.

## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What was it like to talk with an experienced showman?
- What questions did you ask?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- Why do good showmen need to be good communicators?
  - What showmanship skills should a beginner have?
- 
- 
- 

### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- Besides interviewing, how else have you learned from others?
  - Who is the best communicator you know? What makes him or her so good at it?
- 
- 
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### Browse For More (Apply what you learned)

- How can you become a better communicator?
  - How will you change what you do in the show ring?
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- 
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## Bits & Butts

Round Robin is a showmanship contest between the top showpeople of different species. Each person shows several kinds of animals such as cattle, swine, sheep, goats and horses.



## In the Center of the Ring

Showmanship is both an art and a skill. It takes practice and experience to become a good showman. Here are some basic things every beginning showman should know:

- How to hold a goat
- How to walk a goat in a show ring
- How to understand a judge's signals
- How to show proper ring manners
- What clothing to wear
- How to line up goats in a show ring
- How to set up a goat
- How to use showing collar
- How to stay safe while showing goats
- How to answer basic questions from the judge (goat's breed, age, parts....)

### More advanced showmen should know:

- How to switch animals with another showman and show this animal well
- How to answer harder questions from the judge
- How to walk patterns with a goat
- How to show kids, does and bucks (open class)

#### Acknowledgement

Showmanship guidelines adapted from American Dairy Goat Association Showmanship scorecard.

## Udder Ideas

1. With a helper, plan a dairy goat showmanship practice session for a group of youth.
2. Go to a large dairy goat show and watch the top showmen. Take notes on what they do and share what you learned with your group.

# Be a Sport

If you have done some showing already, you have probably had some successes and some letdowns. How did you handle each situation? Were you a good winner AND a good loser? *Sportsmanship* describes what type of *character* you show during competition. This activity will help you define sportsmanship for yourself so it comes alive for you.

**Dairy Goat Skill:**

Demonstrating good character through sportsmanship

**Life Skill:**

Demonstrating character

**Education Standard:**

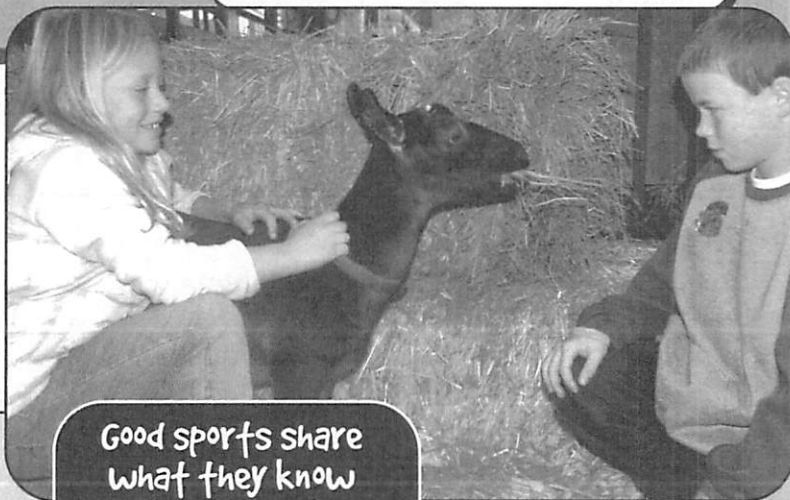
NA-VA.K-8.6 Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines

**Success Indicator:**

Defines good sportsmanship.

## Goat to it!

In the space below, draw an outline of yourself. A stick figure is OK! Next, think about words that describe someone who shows good sportsmanship. What type of person are they? How do they act? What do they say? Write these words down all around your drawing. Draw a line between your drawing and each word that is true of you.



Good sports share what they know with others, too.

### Behaviors of a Good Sport

- Follow all rules
- Be ethical
- Be honest
- Do not cheat
- Treat all animals with kindness and respect
- Treat others with good manners and respect
- Dress correctly for each situation
- Keep promises
- Accept judges' decisions without complaint
- Exhibit your own work





## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What are some words that describe a good sportsperson?
- Which of these words describe you?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- As a 4-Her, why is it even more important for you to show good sportsmanship at all times?
  - How does sportsmanship reflect your character?
- 
- 
- 

### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What examples of good and poor sportsmanship have you seen?
  - Besides livestock shows, where can people display sportsmanship?
- 
- 
- 

### Browse for More (Apply what you learned)

- How will you show others you are a good sportsman?
  - How will you react in the future if you get a blue ribbon? A white ribbon?
- 
- 
- 

## Bits & Butts

*Resiliency* is another trait good sportsmen have. It means the ability to "bounce back" when things don't go your way. If you are resilient, you are quick to recover from setbacks.

### Acknowledgements

"What is the real purpose of 4-H livestock projects?" by Donald R. Hammatt, Louisiana State University.

CHARACTER COUNTS! is a service mark of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics. CHARACTER COUNTS! logo and information used with permission.

Written by Susan Kerr.



## Your Character DOES Count!

The CHARACTER COUNTS!<sup>SM</sup> program promotes The Six Pillars of Character<sup>SM</sup>: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Character is a big part of youth livestock projects and sportsmanship is part of character! Here are examples of how The Six Pillars of Character relate to livestock projects and sportsmanship:

**Trustworthiness** – honesty, promise-keeping and loyalty.

*Example: Support the decisions of fellow members, leaders, judges and other officials*

**Respect** – proper treatment of all people, animals and things.

*Example: Listen to and follow the advice of parents, leaders and advisors*

**Responsibility** – honesty and trying your best.

*Example: Do herdsmanhip duties*

**Fairness** – using rules fairly for all age groups and skill levels.

*Example: Accept winning and losing with the same dignity*

**Caring** – supporting the well being of people. Caring means action, not just feelings.

*Example: Help younger and less-experienced youth*

**Citizenship** – making one's home, community and country a better place for everyone to live.

*Example: Be a team player*

Food animal producers have an extra duty: to follow all the laws that cover the proper use of medications. Livestock quality assurance programs help ensure animal products are safe to eat.

## Udder Ideas

1. Find a story in the news about someone who plays sport who showed poor sportsmanship. What did they do? What happened as a result? Share what you discovered with your group.
2. With your group, create a skit about someone showing good sportsmanship and very bad sportsmanship at a show. Perform your skit at a group meeting or other event.

## Delightful Dairy Products

Milk is just one of the products goats produce. Meat and fiber are two others. In this activity, you'll explore a goat dairy product—cheese—like a scientist. You'll perform an experiment with milk and observe what happens. Say cheese!

<b>Dairy Goat Skill:</b>	Making a dairy goat cheese product
<b>Life Skill:</b>	Acquiring and evaluating information
<b>Education Standard:</b>	NS.K-8.1 Science as Inquiry: Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry
<b>Success Indicator:</b>	Describes the changes milk goes through to become cheese.

### Goat to it!

For safety reasons, ask an adult to help you with this activity. You'll need:

- Stove
- One gallon of fresh milk (*pasteurized* goat milk or store-bought cow milk)
- Large clean enamel or stainless steel pot
- Thermometer that reads from room temperature to 200°F
- Measuring cup, soup ladle, slotted spoon, colander and large bowl
- ¼ cup of vinegar
- 12-inch by 12-inch square piece of cheese-cloth or light cotton material
- Crackers and seasonings

Refrigerate leftovers right away.

Pour milk into the pot. Take its temperature and see what the milk looks like. In the chart, write what you saw. Place the pot with milk on the stove burner. Heat up the milk, stirring to keep it from sticking. Have an adult help you take the temperature of the heating milk a few times. Make observations about how the milk looks. When the milk reaches 185 to 200°F, have an adult pour ¼ cup of vinegar in while you watch what happens.

Let the contents of the pot cool down. Spread the cloth in a colander over a large bowl. Pour the milk from the pot into the colander. Describe what you saw. Add your favorite seasonings to the cheese you made, spread it on crackers and eat up!

### My Observations

Beginning milk temperature	
What the fresh milk looked like	
Temperature of the hot milk	
What the hot milk looked like	
What the milk looked like after heating to 200°F and adding vinegar	
What milk looked like on cloth in colander	



## Ruminations

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper.

### Say Cheese! (Share what you did)

- What part of this activity did you like the best?
- How did what happened differ from what you thought would happen?

### The Buck Stops Here (Process what's important)

- Why do scientists need good observation skills?
  - What did you learn about using milk from your goat for your family?
- 
- 
- 

### Spread It Around (Generalize to your life)

- What dairy goat products have you eaten?
  - What other experiments have you done?
- 
- 
- 

### Browse For More (Apply what you learned)

- How can you learn more about cheese making?
  - How else can you use your scientific observation skills in the goat project?
- 
- 
- 

## Bits & Butts

### WARNING

- In many states, it is not legal to sell or even give away cheese made at home. Only use the cheese you make for your own family or the group that made it.
- Clean all cheese-making tools and surfaces very well and soak in a bleach solution for at least 30 seconds.



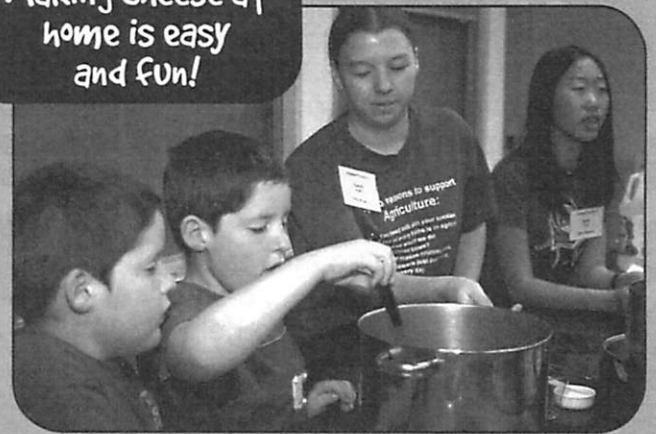
## Show Me the Whey

Goat milk contains many of the nutrients animals and people need to stay healthy. Cow milk and goat milk are very similar, except goat milk has more milk sugar and is naturally *homogenized*. Cow milk is homogenized by machine to keep cream from separating from the milk.

Goat milk fat contains certain fatty acids that are easy to digest. This is why goat milk is good for sick people and baby animals. These fatty acids add special flavors to goat cheeses. The sugar in milk is called lactose. Milk also contains protein. Cheese is made by using a natural acid to curdle some of the proteins and fat in milk. If milk is heated to a high temperature, some proteins and fat will curdle when you add an acid like vinegar. Other proteins and lactose do not curdle and are left in the *whey*.

Many cheeses, yogurt and buttermilk are made with special bacteria to curdle milk.

### Making cheese at home is easy and fun!



## Udder Ideas

1. Add salt to your cheese and wrap it tightly in cheesecloth. Press it under something heavy overnight in your refrigerator. This will make a harder cheese.
2. Combine one cup of cheese curds, one tablespoon of baking soda and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of water. Stir until smooth to make white glue.
3. Check out a book on cheese making from the library and learn to make another kind of cheese.

# Bleat Street Talk I

This is the first of three Dairy Goat Bleat Street Talk glossaries for you to use to increase your goat vocabulary. See how many of these words your family knows.

## A

**Abomasum** - Fourth part of goat's stomach, where food is digested by enzymes and acids; "true" stomach.

## B

**Breed** - Mate a buck with a doe.

**Browse** - Leaves, branches and bark eaten from trees, shrubs, weeds and other plants; also to eat these plant parts.

## C

**Castrate** - Turn a buck into a wether; remove testicles.

**Character** - Someone's qualities and traits.

**Colostrum** - First milk produced by doe after kidding; high in fat, vitamins and antibodies to prevent infection.

## D

**Dairy clip** - Trimming the hair of a goat's hind legs, thighs, belly and udder for show and to help keep milk clean.

**Dam** - Mother.

**Disbud** - In young kid, destroy tissue that will develop into horns.

## E

**Environment** - Place where something lives.

**Enzymes** - Proteins that make body functions go faster.

**Esophagus** - Muscular tube that sends food from mouth to stomach.

## F

**Feed** - Food for an animal; usually refers to grain, not hay, grass or browse.

**Flush** - Give more or better food to a doe for a few weeks before and after breeding to increase the number of kids she will give birth to.

## H

**Hazard** - Source of danger.

**Homogenized** - Milk that has fat globules broken up so cream does not separate out.

## M

**Microflora** - Helpful bacteria and other one-celled life forms that live in the rumen and help digest plants.

**Mucous membranes** - Tissue that lines the body in the mouth, nose, reproductive tract and other areas.

## N

**Nutrients** - Parts of foods needed for survival; includes protein, vitamins, energy, minerals and water.

## O

**Observation** - Something that can be seen and is noticed by watching.

**Omasum** - Third part of goat's stomach; has many folds that compress food and absorb water.

## P

**Pasteurized** - Milk that has been heated to kill disease-causing agents.

**Predator** - Type of animal that kills other animals to eat.

## Q

**Quality assurance** - Making sure that animal products are good and safe to eat.



## R

**Ruminant** - Animal that has four stomach compartments, including a rumen where bacteria digest plants eaten by the animal.

**Rumen** - First and largest part of goat's stomach, where food is digested by bacteria.

**Reticulum** - Second part of goat's stomach; lining has a honeycomb appearance.

## S

**Show clip** - Whole-body, close shave given to show goats.

**Sire** - Father.

**Sportsmanship** - Attitude and actions displayed while participating in competitive events, especially regarding winning and losing.

**Supplements** - Feeds that are added to an animal's diet to provide missing nutrients.

## W

**Wean** - Discontinue milk in diet, whether from doe or bottle.

**Whey** - Watery part of milk that separates from cheese during the cheese-making process. Contains water, protein and milk sugar.

A well frained goat is a well behaved goat.

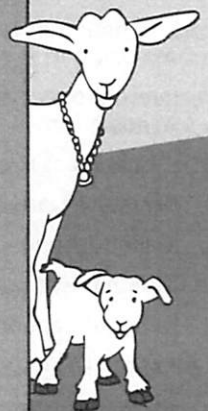


## Dairy Goat | Glossary Word Find

C R D E C Y O G M F R T X C U  
 R I N A T N P U U L I O G F A  
 R U R U M A R A E U A S O M G  
 O R M T T T R Z R S L C H U D  
 K M Z I S R C T I H C I R R N  
 D I A O N A I E S A U T E U U  
 P E L S M A G E B A O O T M S  
 Q O I H U S N O N F C I I I J  
 C I A P O M M T N T G B C N Y  
 E S O P H A G U S O S O U A K  
 T D D I S B U D H T M R L T R  
 N T W U S E M Y Z N E P U E D  
 Z E M P R E D A T O R M M Y V  
 A I R E T C A B N E M U R C G  
 H G U S K I I Y J U W E A N E

### Word Bank

abomasum	nutrients
bacteria	omasum
castrate	predator
colostrum	reticulum
dam	rumen
disbud	ruminant
enzymes	sire
esophagus	wean
flush	



# Goat Resources

The following are examples of resources to help you complete the activities and learn more about this exciting project. Dairy and non-dairy goat resources are included. The Extension Service does not endorse any non-Extension resources.

## Extension Service Resources

- 4-H BU-08352  
Dairy Goat 1 – *Getting Your Goat*
- 4-H BU-08353  
Dairy Goat 2 – *Stepping Out*
- 4-H BU-08354  
Dairy Goat 3 – *Showing the Way*
- 4-H BU-08355  
Dairy Goat *Helper's Guide*
- 4-H BU-07909 Meat Goat 1 –  
*Just Browsing*
- 4-H BU-07910 Meat Goat 2 –  
*Growing with Meat Goats*
- 4-H BU-07911 Meat Goat 3 – *Meating the Future*
- 4-H BU-07912  
Meat Goat *Helper's Guide*

## Dairy Goat Breed Associations

To find current contact information for each association, search for the association name on the Internet.

- Alpines International
- American Dairy Goat Association
- American Harness Goat Association
- American LaMancha Club
- American Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Association
- American Nigerian Dwarf Organization
- Cashmere Producers of America
- Colored Angora Goat Breeders Association
- Golden Guernsey Goat Society
- International Goat Association
- International Nubian Breeders Association
- International Sable Breeders Association
- Kinder Goat Breeders Associations
- Miniature Dairy Goat Association
- Mohair Council of America
- National Pygmy Goat Association
- National Saanen Breeders Association
- National Toggenburg Club
- Nigerian Dwarf Goat Association
- Oberhasli Breeders of America
- Pygora Association

## Books

- Dairy Goat Judging Techniques*  
by Harvey Considine  
ISBN: 0-93084-802-0
- Dairy Goats for Pleasure and Profit*  
by Harvey Considine  
ISBN: 0-93084-800-4
- Goat Health Handbook*  
by Thomas R. Thedford, DVM  
ISBN: 1-57360-001-6
- Goat Medicine*  
by Mary C. Smith & David M. Sherman  
ISBN: 0-8121-1478-7
- Raising Milk Goats Successfully*  
by Gail Luttmann  
ISBN: 0-91358-924-1
- Raising Milk Goats the Modern Way*  
by Jerry Belanger  
ISBN: 0-88266-576-6
- The Illustrated Standard of the Dairy Goat*  
by Nancy Lee Owen  
ASIN: B0006WROLK
- The New Goat Handbook*  
by Ulrich Jaudas and Matthew M. Vriends  
ISBN: 0-81204-090-2
- Your Goats: A Kid's Guide to Raising and Showing*  
by Gail Damerow  
ISBN: 0-88266-825-0
- Veterinary Parasitology Reference Manual*  
(5th Ed.)  
by Dr. William J. Foreyt  
ISBN: 0-8138-2419-2

## Extension/4-H Publications

- 4-H 131, 4-H Goat Manual  
Ohio State University Extension  
Media Distribution  
385 Kottman Hall  
2021 Coffey Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43210-1044

## Magazines and Journals

- Dairy Goat Journal*  
145 Industrial Drive  
Medford, WI 54451
- Goat Tracks Magazine: Journal of the Working Goat*  
ECPG-GT  
Box 755  
Estacada, OR 97023
- United Caprine News*  
P.O. Box 328  
Crowley, TX 76036
- Wild Fibers*  
P.O. Box 1752  
Rockland, ME 04841
- Ruminations: The Nigerian Dwarf Goat Magazine*  
22705 Hwy 36  
Cheshire, OR 97419
- The GOAT Magazine*  
9250 New Salem Road  
Pleasantville, OH 43148

## Miscellaneous Resources

### Videotapes/DVDs

- "The Line in the Sand"
- "What's the Beef"
- "A Step Beyond"
- "The Heart of the Matter"
- "A Question of Ethics"

All available at:  
Goodwin Educational Videos  
Instructional Materials Service  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX 77843-2588

- ADGA educational videotapes
- "Dairy Goat Grooming and Showmanship"
  - "Goat Basics"

Contact ADGA for loan or rental information

Goat Learning Kit  
The Ohio State University  
254 Agricultural Administration Bldg.  
2120 Fyffe Road  
Columbus, OH 43210-1067

DAS-0002, Goat Breeding & Reproduction (DVD)  
Instructional Video Library  
Ag Communications Services  
Room 19, Scovell Hall  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 40546-0064



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## The 4-H Pledge

I pledge  
my Head to clearer thinking,  
my Heart to greater loyalty,  
my Hands to larger service, and  
my Health to better living,  
for my club, my community,  
my country, and my world.



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Dairy Goat Level I

Getting your Goat