

220 POCKET PETS

Project Description

In this project, you will learn to feed, care and manage one of the following small animals: hamsters, gerbils, mice, or rats.

To Complete the Project

Use your project book as a guide to do the following:

1. Identify 1 or more goals with 3 objectives each on page 7.
2. Select and study 1 or more topics from the Pocket Pets Resource Handbook. List them on page 8. Complete the Topic of Interest Summary on page 9.
3. Select at least 5 activities from the Pocket Pets Resource Handbook and record them on page 11 of your project book. See suggestions for age levels on page 10.
4. Take part in at least 2 learning experiences each year.
5. Take part in at least 2 citizenship/leadership activities.
6. Complete the “Animal Care & Welfare” and “Animal Records” sections in your project book.

Take part in a project review. If you choose not to participate in judging at the fair, make arrangements to discuss and review completion of your project with your advisor.

Judging of this Project

This project will be judged as part of Special Interest Judging:

at the Union County Fair on Wednesday – Friday immediately prior to the start of the fair
OR

at the Richwood Fair on Sunday immediately prior to the start of the fair

Your advisor will tell you a more specific judging time later in the summer. At the specific judging time assigned to you, **bring your completed project book, your project display, your pet and a list of foods fed to your small animal. Bring your small animal to judging in a safe traveling cage.** Remember there will be other animals and lots of noise at judging. You will participate in an interview judging and then leave your exhibit (a display of your project) on display the entire week of the fair.

Project Display

Prepare a display that shows the judge and fair visitors what you learned and accomplished in your project. For example: objects used or created, experiments performed, visuals, and other items used to complete project book activities, or a poster showing project activities and results. **If you choose to make a poster, it must be**

regular poster board (maximum 22 x 28), not foam board or tri-folds. Your project book cannot serve as your project display.

Display Area

At the Union County Fair Special Interest Projects will be displayed in the Armory.

At the Richwood Fair these projects will be displayed in the Jr. Fair Building.

Project Pick-Up

You must pick up your project display at the end of the fair, or arrange for someone to get it for you. At Union County Fair, Special Interest Projects will be released on Saturday of the fair from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Projects not picked up by 5 p.m. will be disposed of or donated to charities.

At the Richwood Fair, all Special Interest Projects will be released at 3 p.m. on Monday of the fair and should be removed by 9 p.m.

Award Presentation

Union County Fair Special Interest Project Awards will be presented at the Jr. Fair Awards Program on Tuesday of the fair at the Armory.

Richwood Fair Special Interest Project Awards will be presented at the Jr. Fair Awards Program during the fair. Check the fair paper for the day, time and location of this program.

Ohio State Fair Opportunity

Every 4-H'er who wishes to compete with this project at the State Fair can do so by submitting an Ohio State Fair Companion Animal Day Entry Form to The Ohio State Fair Livestock Entry Department. Entries must be postmarked by (to be announced). Entry fee.

The entry form and rules may be viewed and printed at this website:

<https://ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/companion-animals/companion-animal-resources>