



### 4-H Thrive!

Positive Youth Development

When youth have a passion for animals, the 4-H Swine Project provides a great opportunity to explore their interest. From judging contests and visual presentations to showing market hogs or commercial gilts, 4-H'ers can participate in aspects of the project with or without owning swine.

The project teaches animal husbandry including selecting, feeding, managing, and marketing of swine. Developing teamwork, responsibility, and decision-making alongside both animals and people is unique to the livestock program experience. Hobbies or careers in animal agriculture enable utilization of these lifelong skills and project mastery.

#### Developing Competence

Adults create environments where youth can develop competence in their chosen project area.

#### Building Confidence

Youth build confidence as they learn to think for themselves, build mastery, and are recognized for their efforts.

#### Nurturing Caring

Adults nurture a caring environment where mutual trust between youth and adults is established. Caring relationships with adults are key to resilient youth.

#### Finding Connection

Youth build solid connections which are critical to their well-being.

#### Forming Character

Create a community where youth play an active role in developing their character.

#### Determining Contribution

Youth actively contribute to their clubs and communities.

#### Starting Out Beginner

Join a 4-H club to meet experienced volunteers and make new friends. There is so much to learn in starting a swine animal project. Seek opportunities in your club to volunteer for various tasks at your county show. Develop visual presentations to learn about swine topics of interest, and then share them with your club and in contests.

#### Learning More Intermediate

Put your knowledge into practice by competing in contests and purchasing a hog or gilt to show. Join a livestock or meats judging team. Buy a market hog or commercial gilt to show at your county, district, and state shows. Explore topics for visual presentations such as marketing, genetics, or nutrition. Document swine project activities and goals in your record book.

#### Exploring Depth Advanced

Advance your animal selection and skills in exhibiting your swine to the next level competing in regional and national shows. Expand your learning to multiple species with the livestock bowl. Share your project experience with junior 4-H'ers. Use your project record book to review average daily gains, costs, and other project milestones. Showcase your skills in the Swine Premier Exhibitor competition.

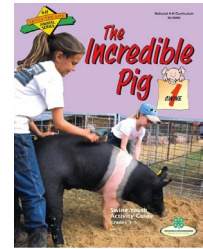


## Expand your experiences!

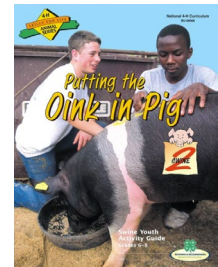


### Resources

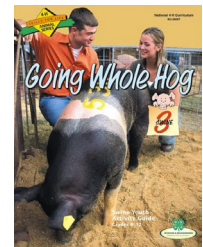
National 4-H currently offers three guides in their Swine Series.



**Book 1 – The Incredible Pig** introduces you to the swine project from hog selection, care, and showing to marketable end products.



**Book 2 – Putting the Oink in Pig** details judging, feeds, and careers in the industry.



**Book 3 – Going Whole Hog** focuses on planning a breeding program, piglet birth and care, and rations.

Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution. Discrimination in university employment, programs, or activities based on race, color, ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, status as a U.S. veteran, or any other status protected by applicable law is prohibited.

### Connections & Events

**For Juniors**

Project Achievement  
Day Contests

**For Seniors**

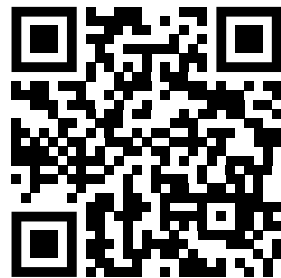
Club Congress Contests  
Premier Exhibitor  
Contest  
National Livestock &  
Meats Judging

**For Juniors & Seniors**

Pork Cookout  
State & District  
Livestock Judging

-----  
Contact your local  
Extension office to  
learn more.

### Curriculum



Scanning this code takes you to the National 4-H Curriculum webpage. From there you can browse the latest Beef Project curriculum options.

### 4-H Record Book

4-H members practice skills in data collection, organization, and analysis as they document their project activities and goals in their record books. The books provide practical information as well as highlight progress made toward goals.

Juniors and Seniors can enter the state record book competition. Seniors are eligible to win a trip to National 4-H Congress for Swine Project record books.