

The 4-H Veterinary Science Project offers 4-H members an opportunity to learn about the care and well-being of animals. The project also deals with the protection of human health, including food supply safeguards, meat, and poultry inspection, as well as factors that contribute to environmental health, public health, and consumer protection. A member does not have to own an animal but should have one to observe and work with. Opportunities are provided for participation in visual presentations, record and exhibit programs, and community animal health projects.

## CARING FOR ANIMALS

The “Caring for Animals” program was created to develop informed citizens who can make decisions using critical thinking skills and knowledge of the relationship between people, animals, and the environment.

Topics include:

- Preparation for careers related to animals (Head)
- Educational commitment and achievement in animal, human, and environmental health (Head)
- Understanding the human-animal bond (Heart)
- Developing a commitment to conservation (Heart)
- Pet ownership responsibility (Hands)
- Proper pet selection and care (Hands)
- Understanding animal’s role in public health (Health)
- Prevention of disease in animals and people (Health)

### Senior Individual State Competition (Ages 14 – 18): The contest will consist of 2 parts: Knowledge (Content) and Skills.

#### 1. Knowledge (25 points)

Completion of Activity Booklet prior to contest date

#### 2. Skills (75 points)

Test Stations (25 points) - Quiz and skillset activities will be taken from Caring for Animals curriculum.

Creative Communication Presentation (50 points) – participants will have 5-7 minutes (timed) to deliver a presentation on one of the topics of their choosing described below:

- How have humans benefitted from animals, including pets, wildlife, and livestock?
- How have pets, wildlife, and livestock benefitted from humans?
- Provide a general overview of how animals, people, and wildlife interact in the environment
- Describe some social concerns of maintaining pets and explain how they are being managed
- Describe some social concerns of raising livestock and explain how they are being managed
- Describe the costs associated with raising and caring for animals
- Describe the medical care needed to keep your animals healthy or treat illness

## 4-H Thrive

### Positive Youth Development

#### 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.

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an equal opportunity  
institution.***



## Expand your experiences!

### Guidelines for Creative Communication Presentations:

- 5-7 Minute (Timed) Presentation
- The individual will present a creative presentation of one topic chosen from list above
- PowerPoint presentations are not acceptable for use in the creative presentation.
- Suggested formats for the presentation may be presentation boards, whiteboards, flip charts, magnet boards, or role-playing narratives. Any one or a combination of formats and props is acceptable. Whiteboard will be available for use at the contest site; all other props and/ or contest aids must be brought to and taken from the contest site by participants.

### Creative Presentation Contest Possible Points Received (From F334 Visual Presentation Score Sheet)

<b>Introduction</b> - Gets audience's attention - Introduces topic	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Presentation</b> - Enthusiastic and friendly - Exhibits confidence - Makes eye contact with audience - Uses good posture - Speaks distinctly and loudly enough - Pronounces words correctly - Explains key points in logical order	<b>25 points</b>
<b>Subject</b> - Practical and interesting - Limited to one selected topic or theme - Gives supportive information - Suitable for presenter's age and ability	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Visual Aids</b> - Attractive, neat, easy to read - Illustrate or make clear main points being discussed	<b>5 points</b>
<b>Conclusion</b> - All steps or facts made clear - Review main points	<b>5 points</b>
<b>TOTAL PRESENTATION POINTS</b>	<b>50</b>

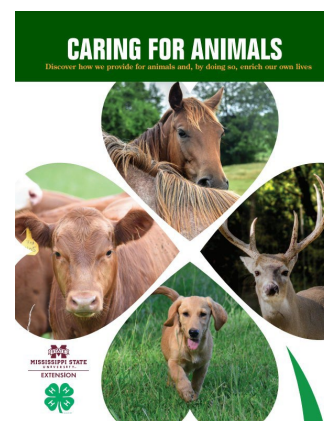
### Veterinary Science Contest Possible Points Received

<b>Senior Contest</b>	
*Activity Book	25
Quiz/Skill Stations	25
Communication Presentation	50
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>

\* Completed prior to contest day; turned into Vet Science judges on contest day.

## Resources

1. Caring for Animals, Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU-ES) P3528  
<http://extension.msstate.edu/publications/caring-for-animals>



2. American Veterinary Medical Association – Resources for pet owners  
<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/pet-owners>