

OTTAWA COUNTY 4-H DOG PROJECT NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS

A notebook is required in order to show the project animal in performance events at the fair for youth 8-19. Notebooks will be reviewed by the 4-H Dog Committee prior to the fair. 4-H members will not be allowed to participate in the project at the fair if a notebook is not submitted for review.

Non-Comp youth (age 5-7) are required to do a poster about the youth and their dog. Posters are to be submitted with the notebooks to the Dog Committee for judging.

General Notebook requirements and tips

- A project record sheet must be included with photograph of the project animal and current shot records.
- We recommend a three ring binder for your notebook
- The notebook should be neat and legible with dividers between years and the most recent year being on top.
- Include a table of contents and the requirements for the notebook in your notebook.
- Creative covers are not required, but do enhance the overall appearance of the notebook, however judging is based on contents of notebook.
- Notebooks always look best when they are printed. If the member doesn't have access to a computer and has to hand write their notebook it looks best in pen and on plain paper.
- While the Internet is a great tool for information, the information should be summarized. When the notebook consists of page after page of Internet information, we often wonder if the member even read what was included or just hit "Print." Some things such as breed standards or rules can be taken straight from the source but should be footnoted. Please make sure to cite your sources.
- Do not plagiarize

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1ST Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Major parts of the dog labeled (15-20 parts).
3. List responsibilities of dog ownership.
4. Written description of the breed type used as a project animal. In the case of a mixed breed, use the breed the dog most closely represents.
5. List basic (novice) obedience commands.
6. List equipment needed for care (3 items) and showing (3 items) of the dog to include different collars and leads.

2nd Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Detailed parts of the dog labeled (35-48) external parts or (25-32) internal parts.
3. List things to do to socialize a dog.
4. List internal and external parasites common to dogs.
5. List signs of a healthy dog including temperature, heart rate etc.
6. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

3rd Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Grooming- list the steps you do to get your dog ready for the show.
3. List and write short description of three different uses of dogs. How do dogs help man?
4. List the seven groups (recognized by A.K.C.) and give a brief description of each group. Name one breed in each group. Include a picture of each of the seven breeds.
5. Information of the history of dogs.
6. Preventative health care listed and described.
7. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

4th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Do in-depth description of two breeds of dogs.
3. Visit one dog related business and write a paragraph about what you experienced on your visit.
4. Compare and contrast proper winter care of dogs versus proper summer care of dogs.
5. Description of how to select the right dog.
6. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

5th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Describe the components of the Canine Good Citizenship Test.

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3. Describe and diagram the life cycle of one internal parasite of dogs.
4. Describe and diagram the life cycle of one external parasite of dogs.
5. Diagram (and label) the digestive system of the dog.
6. Report on a dog related industry.
7. Compare feed labels of at least three dog foods-puppy, adult and senior. List protein levels and differences in major ingredients.
8. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

6th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Select either: OFA, CERF, CHIC or another organization and tell what they are and how they benefit dogs.
3. Report on a dog event you don't participate in.
4. Select one disease of dogs and describe symptoms, diagnosis and treatment.
5. Select one dog sport (outside of conformation, obedience, rally, or agility) and report on what it is and how it works. (Cannot be the same as number 3)
Examples include: field trials, coon hunts, lure coursing, weight pulls, sled races, flyball & herding.
6. List the steps to one method of teaching retrieving.
7. List the exercises for the open obedience class and tell what jump heights your dog would have.
8. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

7th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Choose a breed rescue group and write a report on the group.
3. List the exercises for the utility class and give the jump heights your dog would do.
4. Select one dog disease not previously reported on and describe symptoms, diagnosis and treatment.
5. Report on either: Leader Dog training, Service Dog training, or Therapy Dog training and their programs for dog placement.
6. List and briefly explain the steps to teaching how the "clicker" method of training works.
7. Compare and contrast the difference between a service dog, emotional support dog and a therapy dog.
8. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

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8th Year and beyond

1. Current year project record sheet.

2. Independent individualized study that should be an essay in the member's own words, a minimum of three pages.

Here is a list of suggested topics you may write about something else that interest you as long as it is dog related.

a. Research one of the following: AKC, UKC, or CKC

b. Describe sound breeding practices including selecting breeding stock, screening for heritable diseases, and care and condition of bitch during whelping.

c. Describe care of puppies during whelping and after whelping.

d. You are interested in becoming a veterinarian or a veterinarian technician. Write about what things you can be doing before you get into vet school.

e. Describe how a dog becomes an Obedience Trail Champion and list the point schedule for it.

f. List the conformation classes held at an A.K.C. show.

g. Select either: OFA, CERF or another organization and tell what they are and how they benefit dogs. (choose one you didn't research in your 6th year)

3. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

Revised October 2, 2019

Approved December 17, 1996

Ottawa County 4-H Dog Committee