



Mini 4-H

PETS



**An Introduction to 4-H
for Youth in Grades K – 2**

Credit to Elkhart County Mini 4-H

Leaders

Anita Kelley	229-6383	radgal12@hotmail.com
Danielle Smethers	610-4049	dsmetherz@gmail.com
Martha Vance	229-2766	martha.vance67@gmail.com
Cheryl Stalter	229-8259	
Stacy Geiger	229-0909	tsgigeiger@yahoo.com
Erin Williamson	937-416-2380	williamsonbunch2006@gmail.com

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>		<u>Location</u>
January 23	10:00-11:00 AM	Enrollment & info to go	4-H Center
February 20	10:00-11:00 AM	Workshop	4-H Center
March 27		Workshop	4-H Center
April 24		Workshop	4-H Center
May 23		Workshop	TBA
June 12	10:30 AM-1:30 PM	Day Camp	4-H Center
July 3	10:00-11:00 AM	Project help	Extension Office
July 14	7:00-9:00 AM	Project Check In	4-H Center
July 14	10:00AM till done	Projects Judged Open Judging	4-H Center
July 17	5:30 PM	Lineup for Parade	North of Show Barn
TBA	TBA	Mini 4-H Extravaganza	TBA
TBA	TBA	Projects Released	4-H Center



4-H Facts



The 4-H Symbol: A four leaf clover with an “H” in each leaf.

4-H Colors: Green and White

The 4-H Motto: To make the best better!

The 4-H Pledge:

**I Pledge
My Head to clearer thinking
My Heart to greater loyalty
My Hands to larger service
My Health to better living
For my Club,
My Community,
My Country,
and my World.**



Mini 4-H



Welcome to *Mini 4-H*! You are now a member of the Whitley County 4-H family! We hope that you will have lots of fun learning new things in your 4-H career.

Mini 4-H is designed for youth in Kindergarten through Second grade. It will give you a taste of the 4-H program as well as help you to explore a variety of project areas.

This manual contains fun, age appropriate activities to complete throughout the 4-H year. These activities will help you to learn about the project you have chosen. Additionally, the manual contains all instructions for the exhibit you will be preparing for the Whitley County 4-H Fair in July.

There is no competition in the *Mini 4-H* program. Each child who completes a project for the Fair will receive the same completion ribbon. Leaders will give each project comment sheets, they are provided only as a way to help you do your very best on future projects.

Mini 4-H will meet January through June. Try to attend as many workshops as you can they are planned especially for YOU! These will give you a chance to meet the leaders, have some hands-on fun, and ask questions about your important Fair display. *Mini 4-H* is FUN! You will enjoy it.

Once you enter the third grade, you can join a regular 4-H club that meets monthly. You must enroll each year of your 4-H career.

If you have questions about the *Mini 4-H* program, please call the Purdue Cooperative Extension Office at 260-244-7615. We will be happy to answer your questions.

As a Mini 4-H parent, please help guide and encourage your child through the activities. Work with them to help them to “learn by doing”. Activities are designed to help your child learn about the project they have chosen. It is not required that they complete all the activities. Choose those that interest you and your child.



What is a Pet?

If a creature is four-footed or two-footed, if it crawls, flies, swims or hops, you can bet someone has it as a pet. Caring for a pet can be a lot of fun and also educational. To find out about your pet, get a good book from the library, book store, pet shop or talk to other people who raise them. This will help you get the detailed information you need to know about your special pet.



ACTIVITY 1 – CHOOSING A PET

Materials needed for this activity: none

What you will do:

1. Read the Helpful Hints for Selecting a Pet.
2. Think about these things before getting a pet.





Helpful Hints for Selecting a Pet

1. Before you select a pet, consider what kind is best for you and your family. Select a pet that can adapt to your home and to the people in it. Find out what kinds of pets are popular with your friends and neighbors.
2. It is easier to train a young pet rather than an older one. However, you can train a grown pet if you have patience and time.
3. If you live in a small house, apartment or trailer, small pets are best. You may be happier with a bird, small dog, cat, fish, turtle or hamster.
4. You can buy pets from breeders, dealers, pet shops, private owners or you may adopt a pet from the humane animal shelter.
5. If you get a pet and you decide you do not want it, give it to a good friend or take it to the animal shelter for adoption. Unwanted pets should never be turned loose as they will have nobody to care for them.
6. Be sure your pet is healthy. Have it examined by a **veterinarian** (a special doctor that cares for animals) as soon as possible. A veterinarian is your pet's best friend. It is important that you get one for your pet.

What did you learn?

What is the name of the special doctor that cares for your pet? _____

What should you do with a pet that you cannot keep? _____





ACTIVITY 2 – WHAT DOES YOUR PET NEED?

Pets are not *all fun*. They depend on you to give them the things they need to live. In this activity, you will learn the things you need to do for your pet.

Materials needed for this activity:

Activity sheets

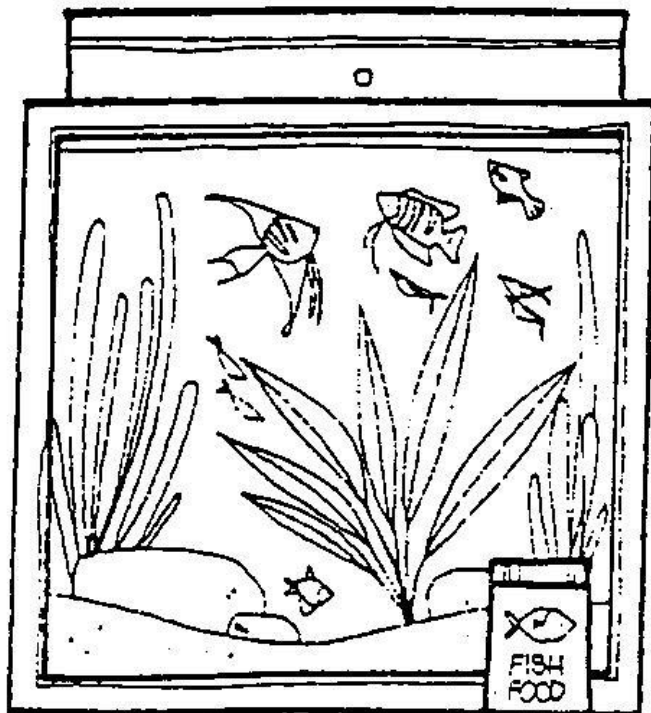
Crayons

What you will do:

1. Read about the things your pet needs every day.
2. Color the pictures.

Food

Animals are like you. They need good, clean food and they like to be fed on time.



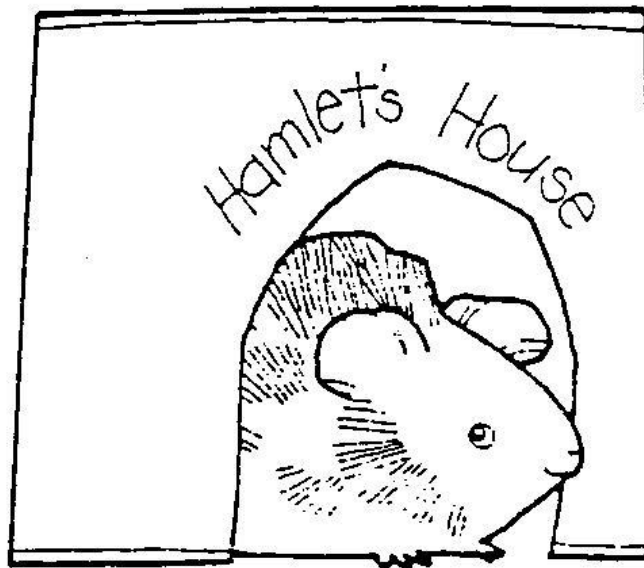
Water

Your pet needs to have clean, fresh water all the time.



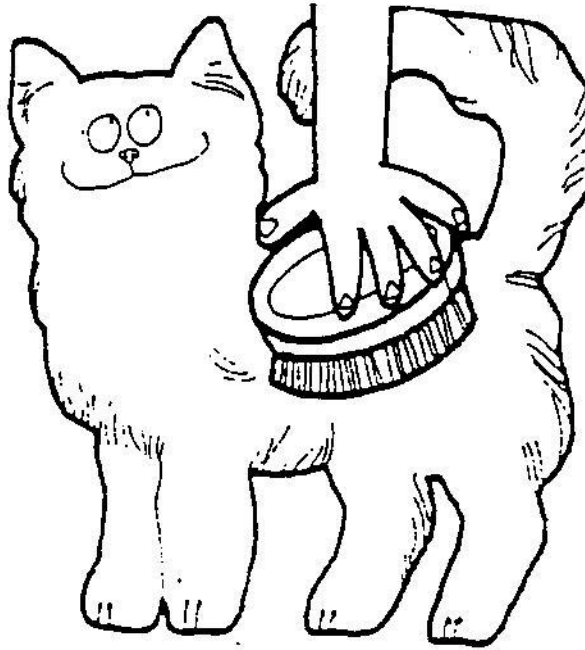
Shelter

Some pets need a special place to live and play. Your pet's cage needs to be kept clean and safe.



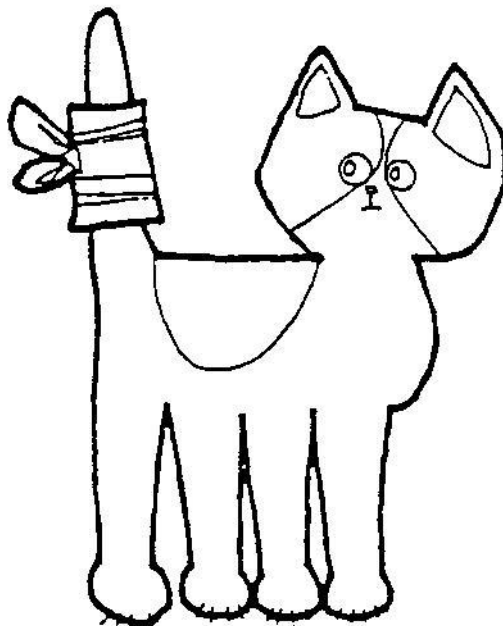
Grooming

Some pets need to have their fur cleaned and brushed for them.



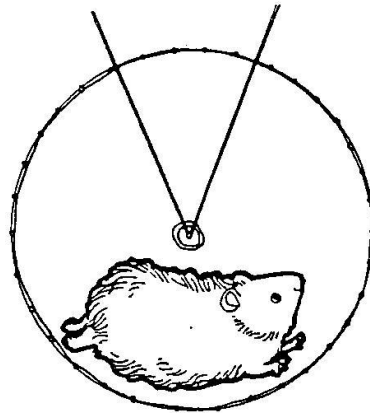
Health & Safety

Your pet needs to see the veterinarian if he is hurt or needs a shot to stay healthy. Keep your dog on a leash or inside a fence so they will not run into the street and get hurt.



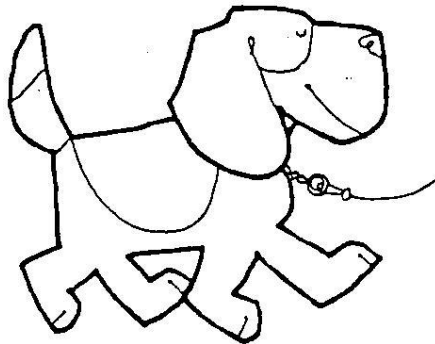
Exercise

It is important to exercise your pet. For some pets, this means taking them out for a walk. Others need special equipment.



Training

You will want to train your pet not to run into the street and to listen to your commands. Some pets can learn tricks.



Love

Pets give us friendship in return for our caring for them.



What did you learn?

What animal is your pet? _____

Do you take time to play with your pet each day? _____

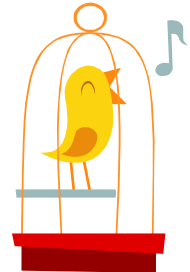
What does your pet like to eat? _____

Do you keep your pet in a safe place? _____

Where? _____



ACTIVITY 3 – DIFFERENT PETS



There are different kinds of pets. All pets need special care. Some pets need special places to live. For example, fish need a bowl or an aquarium with a filter; hamsters and birds need cages; and dogs need a fence or a leash.

All pets need responsible owners.

Materials needed for this activity: Word search Pencil

What you will do:

1. Look at the word search on the next page and find all the kinds of pets listed.
2. Think about what kind of pet you would like to care for.

H O D E L P Q P X D T S G

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

GOLDFISH
 DOG
 CAT
 GUPPY

GUINEA PIG
 HAMSTER
 PARAKEET
 CANARY

TURTLE
 MICE
 PARROT
 GERBIL

What did you learn?

Did you know there were so many kinds of pets? _____

What kind of pet would you like to have? _____

What kind of home does your pet need? _____

Do you have more than one pet at your house? _____

Who cares to this other pet? _____



ACTIVITY 4 – A HOME FOR YOUR PET

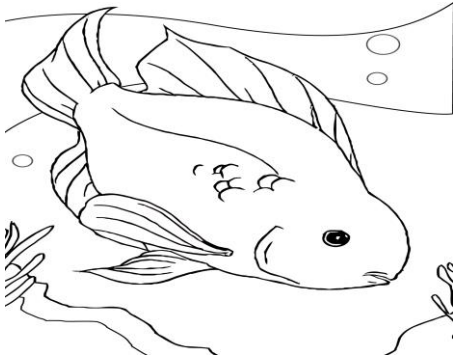
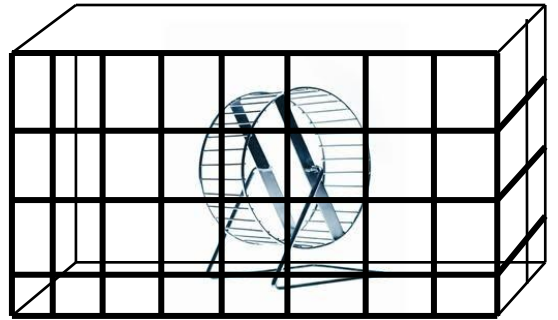
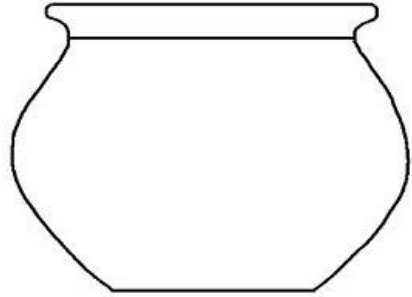
Materials needed for this activity: Activity sheet Pencil Crayons

What you will do:

1. Look at the right side of the Pet Homes activity sheet to see different kinds of homes for pets.
2. Look at the pets on the left side of the activity sheet.
3. Draw a line from the pet to their home. After you have matched the pets to their homes, color the pictures.

PET HOMES

Draw a line from the pet to their home.
Color the pictures when you are finished.



What did you learn?

Did you know there were so many kinds of pets? _____

Do you have a special home for your pet? _____

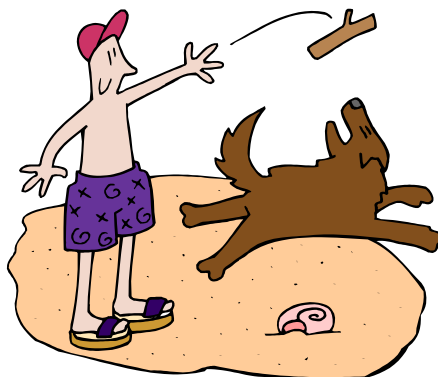
How often do you need to change the water for fish or clean your pet's cage?

Who helps you clean up after your pet? _____



Something to think about!

- 1- Check out the fair schedule and plan to attend some of the Dog or Cat club shows during the fair.
- 2- This will help you see what members of these special clubs do with their animals.
- 3- Dog club members train their dogs in obedience beginning in April and show off at the fair.
- 4- These clubs also have showmanship and costume class shows.



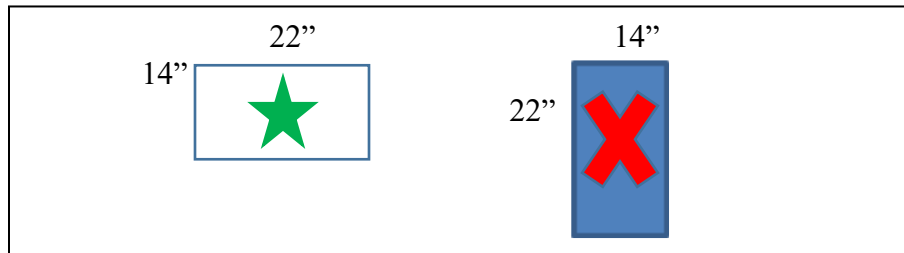


What to Exhibit

Pets

1. Make a Pets poster or notebook. Your poster must be exactly 14 x 22 inches, displayed horizontally (wider than it is tall) and attached to a stiff backing (like cardboard). You may use foam board. Foam board is already stiff and does not require additional backing. Your poster must be covered with clear plastic or a poster sleeve. Your poster must have a title.
2. Notebook can be a plastic report cover.

Poster Layout



No un-mounted items will be accepted for exhibition.

3. Your poster or notebook can be about you and your pet. You can use pictures of you and your pet. You must include a short story of what you do to care for your pet.

OR

4. You can use drawings or pictures cut from magazines of a pet you would like to own. You must include on your poster a short story telling what you would need to do to care for the pet you choose.

Mini 4-H

Exhibit Tag:

Name _____

Township _____

Grade _____

Pets

----- Cut here -----

Mini 4-H Pets Record Sheet

Name _____ Grade _____

My pet is a (*type of animal*). _____

My pet's name is _____

I chose this name because _____

How long have you had your pet? _____

What do you do to care for your pet? _____

