

# YEAR 2

Requirement: Complete this Record Book each time you take a small animal project.

## Why Keep Records?

### **Records help you learn about:**

- your animal's growth and development
- the feed your animal requires
- the cost of your animal's feed, equipment, etc.
- your animal's habits

**Records help you improve your management practices.**

**Records help you become prepared and responsible.**

**Records help you see personal growth and success.**

**Records help you plan future projects.**

**Records let you know how much money you spend on your animal.**

**Records let you figure profit or loss.**

**Records give you information about your project activities.**

### **If raising litters, records document:**

- number and sex of offspring
- health and behavior of offspring
- health and behavior of parent(s)
- costs of raising a litter
- profit or loss

## Beginning Project Picture(s)

Attach one or more pictures of your project animal(s) and include a caption.

## Project Animal Information

Species of Animal \_\_\_\_\_

Animal's name	Sex	Color/variety	Age when purchased	Date purchased	Purchase price or value* at start of year	Value* of animal at close of project year

\*Hint: To find the value of your pet, visit a pet shop to see how much a pet similar to yours costs.

## Housing, Equipment, and Supply Inventory

It is important to keep a record of the cages, cage accessories, and other supplies you have on hand or have purchased for your small animal project. This inventory includes grooming and medical supplies. List any items purchased, sold, or lost throughout the year.

Item	Number on hand	Value* at beginning of project	Value* when purchased during the year	Value* when sold or at end of project	Note if sold or lost
		\$	\$	\$	
<b>Totals</b>		\$	\$	\$	

\*Hint: To find the value of your cages, equipment, etc., visit a pet shop to see how much items similar to yours cost.

## Growth Records

It is important to keep a record of your small animal's growth. Record the weight and length of your pet when you purchase it. If you have purchased a young animal, record its growth in weight and length weekly. If your pet is mature, record its growth in weight monthly. Growth records help indicate the health of your pet, including the effects of its diet.

Date	Weight (g/oz./lb.)*	Length** (cm/in.)	Comments

\*Hint: Find a container to put your animal in to weigh it. First weigh the container, then the container and the animal. Subtract the weight of the container from the container and the animal to find the animal's weight. You may need to use a dietary gram scale (found in most houseware sections of department stores) to weigh your animal.  
 \*\*Length includes length of tail. Older members who are involved in a breeding project should weigh their female weekly after breeding to help determine if she is pregnant.

# Feeding Records

Use this chart to keep daily feeding records for the first fourteen days of your project.

Date	Times fed	Kind of food	Amount of food or no. of pieces of lab chow (g/oz./lb.)	Cost of food (g/oz./lb.)	Comments
<b>Total Costs</b>				<b>\$</b>	

## Labor Records

Record the time you spend cleaning your pet's cage and equipment, grooming, training, and playing with or exercising your animal. Not all areas may be applicable to your pet. If you do something else with your pet, record that in the "Other" column. Keep the records by the week throughout the project. Record in hours per week.

Beginning date per week	Time spent cleaning	Time spent grooming	Time spent training	Time spent playing or exercising	Other things you do with your pet
<b>Totals</b>	hrs.	hrs.	hrs.	hrs.	

## Record of Medical Expenses

Record any medical expenses you have for your project. This includes costs of medicine and veterinary service.

Date	Service or treatment	Name of vet or other person giving treatment	Reason for service or treatment	Cost
				\$
<b>Total Costs</b>				<b>\$</b>

## Record of Miscellaneous Expenses

Record below any expenses you have not previously recorded.

Date	Item or service	Reason for item or service	Cost
			\$
<b>Total Costs</b>			<b>\$</b>

## Caring for My Small Animal

Ask your 4-H advisor or parent/guardian to evaluate the care you are giving your pet using a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being poor, 5 being average, and 10 being excellent. Your animal should be inspected once a month for four months.

Points checked	Dates of inspections/rating				Comments
Condition of cage/accessories					
Condition of hair coat/skin					
Condition of eyes					
Condition of ears					
Condition of toenails					
Weight (thin/fat/ideal)					
Temperament (shy/friendly/aggressive)					
Initials of inspector					



**Attach a feed label from your commercial pet food below.**

### **Ending Project Picture(s)**

Attach one or more pictures of your project animal(s) and include a caption.