



# MINI 4-H GOATS

## Welcome to Mini 4-H!

You are now a member of the 4-H family. You are a special person.

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are lots of activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family.

Mom, Dad or another adult can help you with your project. Bring your project to the 4-H Fair and lots of people will be able to see what you have done. You will also get a ribbon made just for Mini 4-H'ers.

## Here are some things to know about 4-H.

- The 4-H Symbol:** A four-leaf clover with an “H” in each leaf
- 4-H Colors:** Green and White
- 4-H Motto:** To make the best, better.
- 4-H Pledge:** I pledge my Head to clearer thinking  
My Heart to greater loyalty  
My Hands to larger service, and  
My Health to better living, for my club, my  
community, my country, and my world.

## Display at the Fair:

Make a paper bag goat to bring to the fair. Don't forget to write your name on the bag!

## Some of the items you may need include:

- Pencil
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, or paint
- Paper bag
- White paper, colored paper
- Scissors
- Glue

# Great Things about Goats

We are excited that you want to learn more about goats in Mini 4-H. Goats are great animals to consider for a future 4-H project. We will learn some of things you will need to know if you ever decide to get a goat.

- Do you know what a goat eats?
- Do you know how to handle a goat?
- Do you know all of ways goats are used?

Here are some other reasons to raise and show goats.

- Goats are easy to handle.
- Goats are gentle animals.
- Goats are smart.
- Goats don't cost too much to feed.
- They don't need a large space to live.
- Goats do not need very much equipment.

Other facts about goats that you might need to know:

- Goats are mammals and are in the same family as sheep.
- A Female goat is called a "doe" or a "nanny". She can have 1 to 6 babies in a litter.
- A Male goat is called a "buck" or a "billy". A wether is a male goat that has been castrated. They are raised for market and usually weigh over 100 pounds.
- A Baby goat is called a "kid". Kids are born with or without horns. They can stand within minutes of being born and can almost immediately walk with its mom!
- Goats were the first animals that humans used for milk.
- There are over 250 breeds of goats. Some are wild and others are domesticated.
- Goats are very agile and can jump. They can jump as high as 5 feet when needed. They are great climbers, too. They can climb rocks, mountains, and rooftops!
- Goats live for 8 to 12 years. Some goats live as long as 15 years.

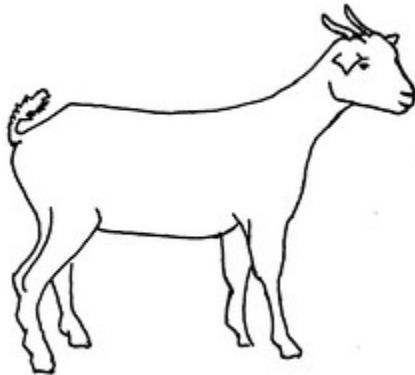
# Goats Word Search

p z y w o c t m d o h v  
v j q n w z a m t o d d  
k i d l n k o d v r e a  
w g b p i a g q e z h m  
a r v a a y n h i w v v  
z i g y l l i b n k u w

Words to find:

goat  
doe  
nanny

kid  
billy  
herd



## Do Goats Really Eat Everything?

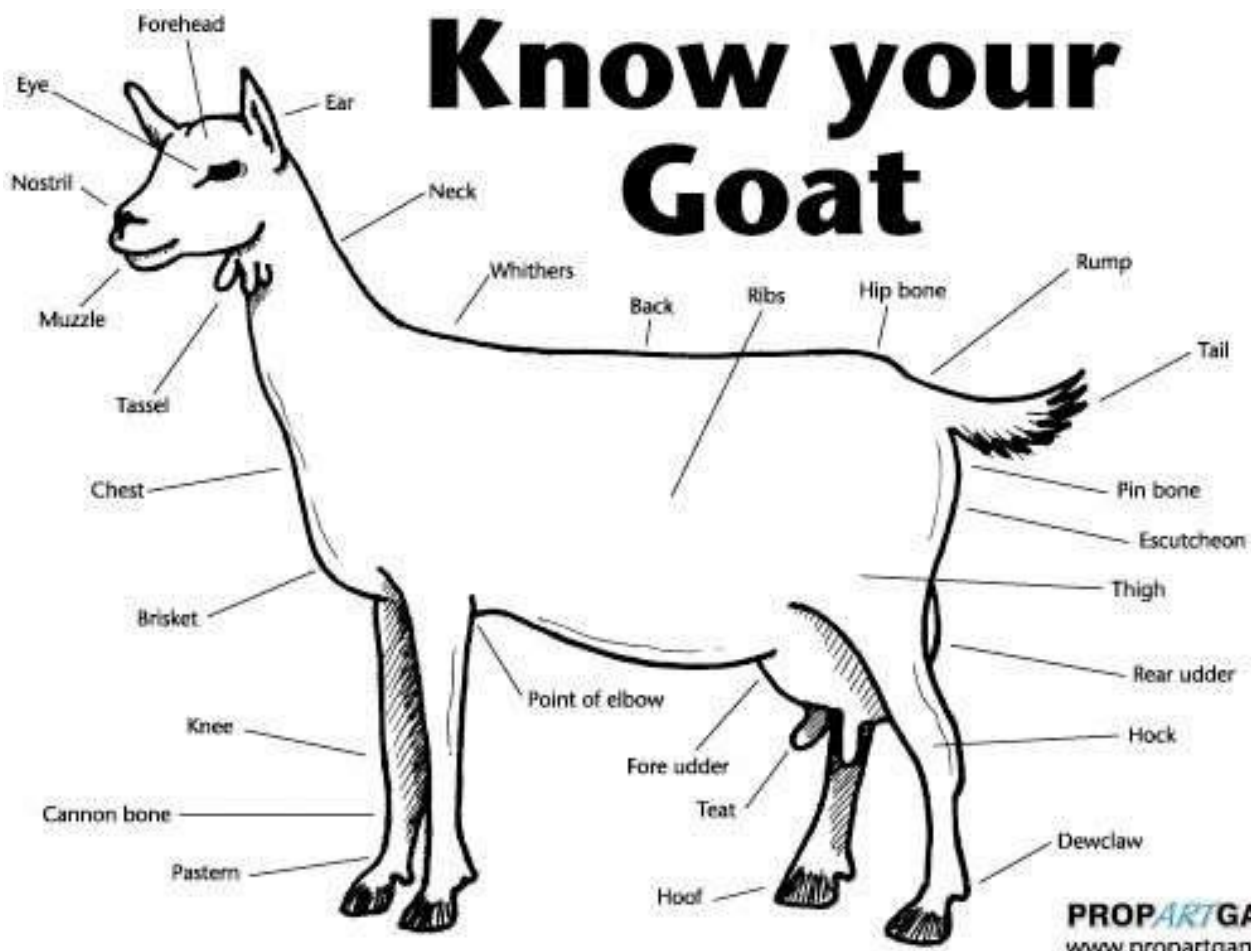
Actually, goats are herbivores and they prefer green, tender plants and grass. When they live on farms they eat hay and grain. They are really picky eaters.

The goats reputation that they will eat anything – is not entirely without merit, though. Sometimes goats have been spotted eating cardboard or labels from cans. This is not because they prefer the taste over grass – but because of their ability to digest anything!

Goats have a really interesting way of digesting their food. They chew their food a little bit, swallow it, and then spit it back up into their mouths to chew again! This helps them make sure they get all the energy they can from their food. Their stomachs also have 4 compartments that help with breaking down hay and other roughage.

## Do you Know the Parts of a Goat?

Color the Goat Below



# Why Do People Have Goats?

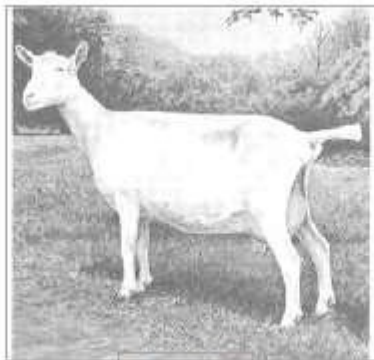
People began to domesticate and raise goats for milk and milk products. They are also used for meat.

Some goats are shaved for their hair which can be turned into carpets, scarves, winter hats, suits, sweaters, coats, socks and home furnishing! In some places in the world goats are used to pull carts and carry heavy loads.

## Do you Know the Breed of your Goat?



Toggenburg



Saanen



Nubian



LaMancha



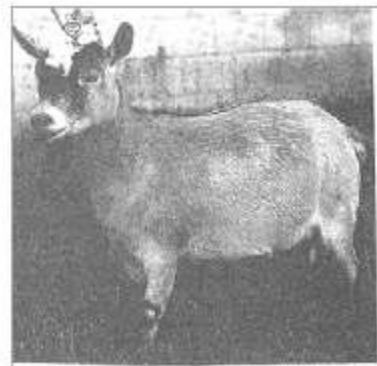
French Alpine



Oberhasli



Angora



Pygmy

# How do you Show a Goat?

## To show your goat:

1. Your goat will need to wear a collar. This will help you lead your goat.
2. Always watch the judge. They will guide what they need you to do and where you should lead your goat.
3. Hold your goat's head in a normal or slightly higher position. Try to keep your goat between you and the judge. This way the judge can see your goat and not just you. This takes practice.
4. Sometimes the judge might ask you questions about your goat.

## Know about your goat:

- How much it weighs
- Is it male or female
- What breed it is
- Where body parts are on your goat
- How old is your goat
- How you took care of your goat

## Make a Paper Bag Goat



## Make it your own!

- Start with a paper bag
- Draw or paint a face on your bag
- Cut ears and legs out of paper and glue or tape on