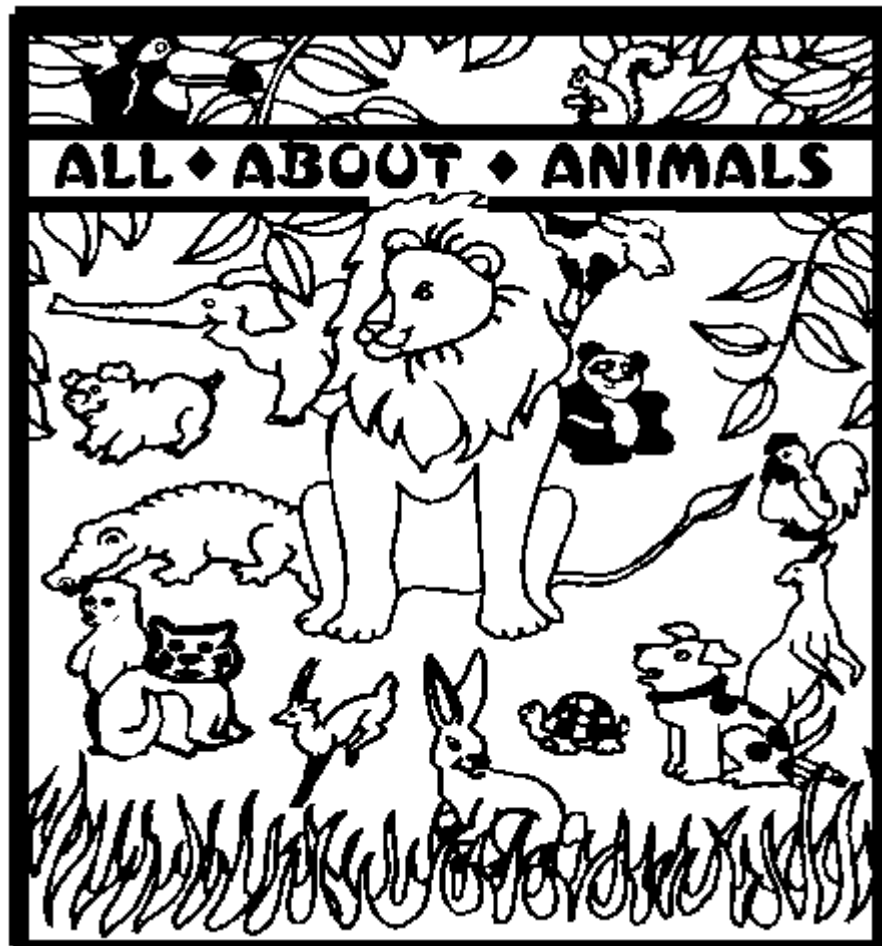




ALL ♦ ABOUT ♦ ANIMALS

LEADER'S GUIDE Florida 4-H Animal Science Program





An Animal Science Project



Produced by the Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences in cooperation with the Florida 4-H Youth Development Program, University of Florida Cooperative Extension, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, June, 1997; Reviewed June 2002.

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PREFACE

4-H ALL ABOUT ANIMALS

An Animal Science Curriculum for 5-8 year olds

The new Florida 4-H Animal Science curriculum, OUR LIVING WORLD, includes the basic premise that animals play a big part in children's lives and proper care and humane treatment are essential. The 4-H Animal Science program provides an opportunity for young people to practice a variety of life skills while learning subject matter.

ALL ABOUT ANIMALS

ALL ABOUT ANIMALS is the first level of the 4-H Animal Science Core Curricula that is designed to help 5-8 year old children understand the basics of the role animals play in our lives and how to be responsible caretakers. Additional curriculum packages are being designed for youth in other age ranges and for sequential advancement in the Animal Science program.

To the informed Florida citizen, it is not surprising that animal science commands a priority within the total Florida 4-H education curriculum. An investment in young people's knowledge, understanding and attitudes about animals affects their lives and cannot be ignored now or in the future. Below, you see the framework for the 4-H animal science curricula. It charts the direction for development, review and revision.

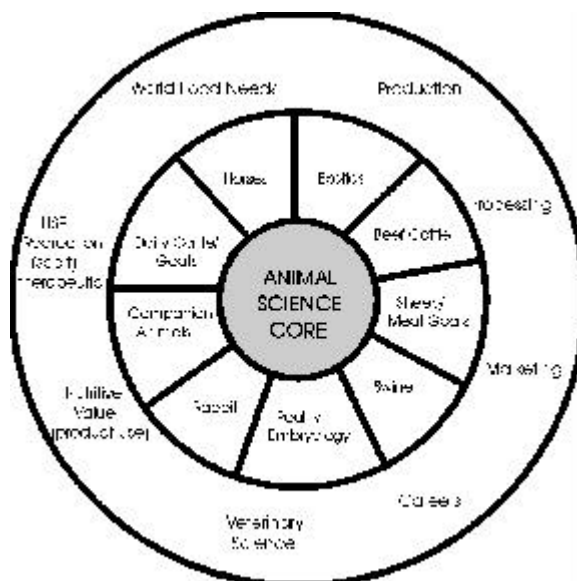


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All About Animals...

The development of this 4-H Animal Science Project Kit was driven by two basic principles:

1. Learning about animals can be fun! The project guide provides simple and inexpensive, yet fun activities that teach youth about major animal science concepts including What is an Animal?, How animals Serve Humans, Care, Health, Nutrition, Welfare, Understanding Production Animals, and the Environment.
2. 4-H volunteer teaching activities must be ready-to-use. This project includes materials needed to conduct animal science activities in an easy-to-use format. It was designed to be teacher friendly and takes much of the guesswork out of teaching this subject.

AGE OR GRADE LEVELS

This project was developed for youth ages 5-8. Both group and individual activities encourage participation and action in all aspects of animal science education. Teachers and volunteers are encouraged to select learning activities that are most suitable to their youth. The overall intent is to facilitate learning and to spark creativity in both teachers and youth.

CONTENTS

The following resources are components of the 4-H Animal Science Program:

- ! **LEADER'S GUIDE** - This three-ring notebook contains a complete, easy-to-read outline for lessons. Each lesson provides a variety of activities that can be conducted depending upon the time frame devoted to this project. Each lesson is prefaced with a lesson outline and the **BACKGROUND BASICS** that help you focus on the overall concepts and the desired outcomes. The lesson concludes with discussion questions for youth to **REFLECT** and **APPLY** the knowledge and skills they have gained.
- ! **ALL ABOUT ANIMALS Activities** - creative projects, experiments, flashcards, gameboards, and coloring sheets are just a few of the activities found in the leader's guide.
- ! **THE ALL ABOUT ANIMALS WORKBOOK** - contains activity sheets for youth that correspond to each lesson. A variety of activities including simple projects, puzzles, word searches, mobile, and other instructional activities make up this fun booklet.

LESSON PROFILES

A brief description of the eight ALL ABOUT ANIMALS Lessons:

! LESSON 1: WHAT IS AN ANIMAL?

Determining the difference between living and non-living and distinguishing between plants and animals is the key concept of Lesson 1. A foundation in recognizing the difference between wild and domestic are mentioned as well as the definitions of the following terms: extinct, endangered and threatened. Youth will also be exposed to the appropriate names of male and female animals and to the five classes of vertebrates.

! LESSON 2: HOW ANIMALS SERVE HUMANS

The many ways animals provide for humans is extensively covered in Lesson 2. The types of animals that we get food from will be learned, in addition to its source. Beyond that, Lesson 2 describes the fiber and clothing that is made available thanks to animals. Not overlooked are the many other advancements and amenities animals have contributed to the United States and the world.

! LESSON 3: ANIMAL CARE

Animal care is a major concern and in Lesson 3 a detailed look at production and companion animals are taken. What are their differences and how should they be cared for? In this Lesson animal care encompasses protection from the environment, disease and illness, handling, grooming and transportation. Also covered is a recommended health care program.

! LESSON 4: ANIMAL HEALTH

Healthy animals are those that are free from disease and illness. Recognizing good health as well as symptoms of illness and what to do about them are emphasized. The difference between a disease and an injury are made known, plus introduction of a veterinarian and his/her responsibilities are given.

! LESSON 5: ANIMAL NUTRITION

Like humans, animals need proper nutrition. What do animals eat? How much do they eat? How is the food digested and do all animals digest the same way? All of these questions and more are revealed in Lesson 5. Plus, a distinction is made between herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.

! LESSON 6: ANIMAL WELFARE

Animal Welfare - an important topic thoroughly addressed. Lesson 6 defines animal welfare and humane treatment of animals. It is designed to allow youth to form their own opinion about this sensitive subject. This lesson also encourages youth to be responsible owners and caretakers of animals.

! LESSON 7: UNDERSTANDING PRODUCTION ANIMALS

Lesson 7 ties it all together with the harvesting and processing procedures. Food and non-food products that we get from production animals is explored. The difference between production and companion animals is also explained.

! LESSON 8: ANIMALS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Understanding the responsibility of animal care is further explored in Lesson 8. The impact that animals and their waste can have on the environment plays a large role in owning an animal.