



Dog Evaluation Book

PROJECT AGREEMENT

I _____ (the 4-H member) will be responsible for the primary care of my animal project. I will keep accurate records throughout the project year and agree to finish this record as part of completing my 4-H small animal project.

Signed _____ (Member) Date _____

I _____ (4-H parent) will be responsible for helping my child in the care of their project. I agree to make this an educational experience and do all I can to teach my child ethical principles of care, treatment, training and record keeping related to this project.

Signed _____ (Parent/Guardian) Date _____

DOG PROJECT HUMANE TREATMENT POLICY

I, _____, am responsible for the care, welfare, and training of my 4-H animals. I promise to care for and train them in a humane and ethical way.

I know that a healthy animal needs the proper kind and amount of food, water, shelter and health care. I understand that proper administration of vaccinations and medicine is important. I know that it is my responsibility to provide that care.

It is my duty to see that my animals are cared for properly.

I know that training by me is required and that my dog must behave in an acceptable manner. I understand that if my dog does not follow these standards and acts aggressively or harmful against another animal or person that they will no longer be welcomed in the program. I understand that cruel or excessively harsh training practices are not to be used in the 4-H program.

I will be honest and consistent in my care and training of my project animal.

Member Signature

Date

IMPORTANT NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

4-H Leader	Phone:
Veterinarian Office:	Phone:
Project Leader	Phone:
Local Extension Office	Phone:
Other:	Phone:
Other:	Phone:

Dog Identification Page

Dog Name: _____

Dog Breed: (If mixed, please choose the breed your dog most resembles).

When did you get your dog? How old were they?

Describe your dog's favorite activities:

Describe your dog's appearance (how they look):

How does your dog learn best? (Treat, Toy, or Praise motivation, etc.)

BODY CONDITION SCORE

A helpful tool to use when assessing the overall health of an animal is body condition scoring. Body condition scoring is used to assign a value, 1-5 based on defined criteria. Evaluation of an animal's body condition involves both visual examination and palpation of the bone structure, especially the ribs, vertebrae and pelvis. Specific criteria for scoring the body condition of the dog is described below.

Body condition scores:

- 1.) Emaciated, poor
- 2.) Under-conditioned, thin
- 3.) Well-conditioned, optimal
- 4.) Over-conditioned, fat
- 5.) Obese, grossly fat

- 1.) The ribs, vertebrae and pelvic bones are prominent. The abdomen is extremely concave. Muscle loss is apparent.
- 2.) The ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones are easily seen. The abdomen is concave.
- 3.) The ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones are easily palpable with a slight fat cover. There is an apparent indentation at the abdomen, visible from above and from the side.
- 4.) The ribs and lumbar vertebrae are difficult to palpate. Pelvic bones can be palpated with moderate fat/ tissue cover. The abdomen is not indented.
- 5.) The ribs and lumbar vertebrae are extremely difficult or impossible to palpate. The pelvic bones are difficult to palpate. The abdomen is bulging.

(Photo to reference on the next page)

What is your dog's score?

What does the score tell you about the health of your dog?



BODY CONDITION SYSTEM

TOO THIN

1

Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass.

2

Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible. No palpable fat. Some evidence of other bony prominence. Minimal loss of muscle mass.

3

Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones becoming prominent. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.

IDEAL

4

Ribs easily palpable, with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted, viewed from above. Abdominal tuck evident.

5

Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from side.

TOO HEAVY

6

Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering. Waist is discernible viewed from above but is not prominent. Abdominal tuck apparent.

7

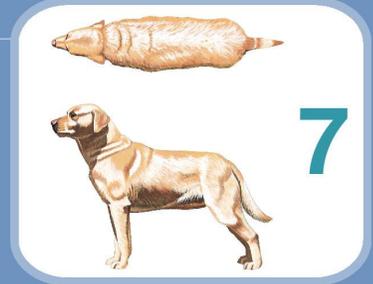
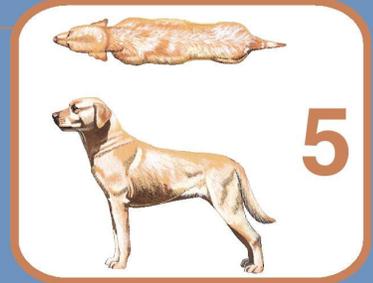
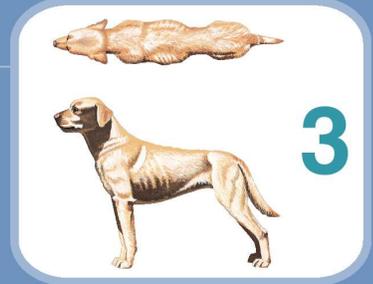
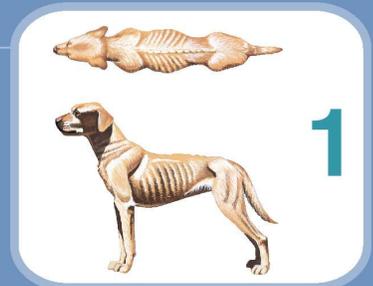
Ribs palpable with difficulty; heavy fat cover. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be present.

8

Ribs not palpable under very heavy fat cover, or palpable only with significant pressure. Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent. No abdominal tuck. Obvious abdominal distention may be present.

9

Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Obvious abdominal distention.



The **BODY CONDITION SYSTEM** was developed at the Nestlé Purina Pet Care Center and has been validated as documented in the following publications:

Mawby D, Bartges JW, Moyers T, et. al. *Comparison of body fat estimates by dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry and deuterium oxide dilution in client owned dogs.* *Compendium* 2001; 23 (9A): 70

Lafamme DP. *Development and Validation of a Body Condition Score System for Dogs.* *Canine Practice* July/August 1997; 22:10-15

Kealy, et. al. *Effects of Diet Restriction on Life Span and Age-Related Changes in Dogs.* *JAVMA* 2002; 220:1315-1320

Call 1-800-222-VETS (8387), weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT



NUTRITION/FEEDING RECORD

Answers to the following questions should reflect age and knowledge; older members should give more complete and detailed answers.

(Beginners Age Division are only required to fill out the first three questions)

What do feed your animal? Please include any nutritional supplements that are being given. (Example: brand name and how much).

What is the main ingredient of the food?

Why is this ingredient a good choice for your dog?

How do you know this is a complete and balanced dog food for the maintenance of your dog?

Why is protein a requirement for dogs?

Why is it important to have quality animal based protein verses plant based protein?

Why is fat important in a dogs diet?

List at least three foods that should be avoided when feeding your dog?

What other snacks or treats do give your dog?

HEALTH CARE RECORD

Your dog's health is maintained by regular exercise, good nutrition, care and grooming. Your veterinarian can give vaccinations to prevent disease and can help with sickness, accidents or special problems. Your dog should have the locally required vaccinations, and any other required vaccinations for participating in shows. NOTE: Rabies Vaccination paper as required by State must be attached herein. If your dog(s) do not have current Rabies vaccinations, a written statement from your veterinarian stating why not, MUST be included herein if Rabies vaccination is not current. Be sure vet costs are recorded on the "Expense Report" section so that you may properly access your project. It is important for the members to understand the costs endured in canine care and ownership.

Health Care Report: (record all vet visits, accidents, sickness, treatments and heartworm prevention) these costs should be reported under expenses. Attach vet records into your book, as a part of record keeping it is important to keep proof of vaccinations, this includes stickers from self-administered vaccinations.

(Beginners Should list any visits; however, do not need extensive detail).

Date	Reason for health report	Description of treatment or name of medication

(Add additional pages as needed.)

VACCINATIONS

Dog Name _____

Breed _____

Age of Dog _____

Fill in the chart below with the vaccinations that your dog has received and the dates they were administered. If your dog does not receive the vaccine write N/A. (This sheet should be updated either yearly with new vaccination records).

(Beginners may choose to simply add vaccination records from their veterinary office).

Vaccines	Date Received
Rabies	
Distemper	
Hepatitis	
Leptospirosis	
Parainfluenza	
Parvovirus	
Coronavirus	
Adenovirus	
Lyme Disease	
Influenza	
Bordetella (Kennel Cough)	

Which Vaccines Are Required for Fair? _____
(You may abbreviate the combination vaccine).

INCOME

Record all income that is earned by member and used in the care of equipment needed for their project dog(s). Include any show/award premiums at local County Dog Shows. Write: No Income if there were no earnings. List chores for family or others that you do to help pay back for the cost of care for your dog. If money is earned doing any chore, that amount needs to be listed. If no money is earned for doing any chore, be sure to write "N/A" on the space under "Amount".

Date	Describe income source or chores	Amount
Total		

(Add additional pages as needed.)

GOAL EVALUATION

Goals help you to achieve more when you review them each year. At the End of the year, answer the following questions. Please list steps you can use to accomplish goals. You may write these on an additional page.

Project Goal # 1

Did you accomplish this goal?

Did you use the steps you listed to accomplish this goal? If you used more steps than you listed, please detail those below

If you did accomplish your goal, how will it help you in the future?

If you did not, what can you do differently to accomplish this?

Personal Goal #1

Did you accomplish this goal?

Did you use the steps you listed to accomplish this goal? If you used more steps than you listed, please detail those below

If you did accomplish your goal, how will it help you in the future?

If you did not, what can you do differently to accomplish this?

Service Goal #1

Did you accomplish this goal?

Did you use the steps you listed to accomplish this goal? If you used more steps than you listed, please detail those below

If you did accomplish your goal, how will it help you in the future?

If you did not, what can you do differently to accomplish this?

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM YOUR 4-H PROJECT

A minimum of one photo of you and your dog is required. Additional pages may be added, scrapbook format is acceptable but not required.

LIMIT PHOTOS TO THE DOG PROJECT OR ACTIVITIES ONLY

4-H STORY

This story is meant to be fluid; this means that you may add to it each year or every three years as you move up in age division. Please keep old stories, as all information in this book, it shows you and your dogs' progress.

This story is NOT restricted to the Dog Program, your 4-H Story will appear on many scholarship and award applications, here is your chance to draft your story in advanced!

Length and Format Guidelines

You can type or hand-write your story. If you hand-write the story, use ink on lined white notebook paper. If typed use plain white paper 12 point font and Times New Roman or Similar font.

Leave wide enough margins so the story can be read if inserted into a report cover.

Length of Story: minimum of 2 page. (One paragraph for beginners).

Story can be single or double-spaced as long as it does not exceed three pages.

Be sure to use proper grammar and sentence structure. Edit your story when finished and use spell check if available. Have someone else read your story to help in your editing process.

Please use these questions to help write your story:

Why did you choose this project?

What did you learn?

Did you learn what you had hoped to learn?

Did anyone help you and how did they help you?

What did you like the best about your project?

What would you do differently if you were to do it again?

What is your favorite thing about this project or being a 4-H member

RESEARCH TOPIC

Chose one topic from below and write a research essay exhibiting the knowledge learned in your study.

It is your choice to type or hand-write your essay. If you hand-write the essay, use ink on lined white notebook paper. If typed, use plain white paper 12-point font and Times New Roman or similar font, single or double spaced.

Leave wide enough margins so the story can be read if inserted into a report cover.

Beginner minimum required: 250 words

Junior/Intermediate: 500 words

Senior minimum required: 750 words

Ages 13 and over: Be sure to use proper grammar and sentence structure and MLA format. Use the following websites for format information:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

<http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/>

Edit your essay when finished and use spell check if available. Have someone else read your essay to help in your editing process or read your essay out loud to yourself to catch anything you may have overlooked.

At the end of your essay, include a Works Cited/Bibliography of book, websites or people that were interviewed. The bibliography will not be included in your word count. You must use your own words, no plagiarizing will be allowed, just as with school papers.

Each age group includes example choices; you must write a NEW essay each year on a NEW topic, please keep the old essays in the book each year as well. You may choose a topic outside of the recommended; however, remember to choose a topic that reflects your age and capabilities.

<u>Beginners</u>	<u>Juniors/Intermediates</u>	<u>Seniors</u>
Breed (pick a dog breed to write about)	Vaccinations (Pick one vaccine or a class of vaccines to write on)	Disease (Pick one disease or type of disease to write on)
Grooming	Training equipment	Inherited disorders
Feeding (how/when/what)	Agility Equipment	Obedience showing (beyond the leash & Novice)
Ear care	AKC Titles Available to non-members/alterd & mixed breed dogs	Service work & Dogs

PROJECT COMPLETION

I declare that the information in this book is correct and all 4-H requirements have been completed to the best of my knowledge

Member Signature

Date

Leader Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

NOTE: Include this as the very last page of your record book, after your story, research topic and pictures.