4-H Explorer Rabbit Project Record Book
Kent County 4-H Program

Place a photo of you and your rabbit here

Name: ____________________________________________________________

4-H Age (age on Jan 1 of current year): _______ Number of years in project: _______

4-H Club: _______________________________________________________

4-H Mentor: _____________________________________________________

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Welcome to the 4-H rabbit project. The 4-H rabbit project is a wonderful project to learn about the care and maintenance of having a backyard pet while gaining valuable life skills. Keeping good records is an important part of your 4-H work. Accurate records will tell others about your work and progress and will also help guide learning about the project.

As part of this project youth will be required to fill out the project book pages for their 4-H age (your age on January 1 of the current year—see the top right of each page) prior to participating at the Kent County Youth Fair. This record book will also help youth prepare for questions that will be asked during rabbit showmanship. Parents are encouraged to help their child read and process the questions and activities throughout this book.

If your family has any questions about the 4-H rabbit project or completing this record book:

- Ask your 4-H club project or teen leaders/mentors
- Visit a local rabbit show to speak with experienced breeders and other youth involved in the project
- Contact the Kent County MSU Extension/4-H staff
- Call the rabbit/cavy superintendent for the Kent County Youth Fair
- Read e-mail updates from the Kent County 4-H Developmental Committee
- Borrow resources such as rabbit books, CD-ROMs, or rabbit Learning Lab from Kent/MSU Extension
- Visit websites such as the American Rabbit Breeders Association or other reputable websites pertaining to your area of interest

4-H parent information:

Parent/Guardian Name(s):

Street Address:

City: Zip:

Phone Number:

E-mail:
Explorer Rabbit Project Summary

My rabbit’s name is: _____________________________________

My rabbit’s favorite thing to do is: ___________________________

My rabbit’s breed is: ______________________________________

A boy rabbit is called a buck. My rabbit is a: (Check One)
A girl rabbit is called a doe.

_______ Buck
_______ Doe
_______ I’m not sure

5. My favorite part about my 4-H rabbit project was: _______________________

__________________________________________________________________

6. My least favorite part about my 4-H rabbit project was: _______________________

__________________________________________________________________

Draw a picture of your rabbit
Color the Parts of a Rabbit

Nose—Red
Hock—Blue
Ear—Yellow
Toes—Green
Mouth—Orange
Dewlap—Purple
Eye—Brown
Belly—Black

Age: 5 & 6
Label the Parts of a Rabbit

Word Bank:

Hock   Ear   Eye   Loin   Shoulder
Belly  Dewlap  Nose  Tail
Rabbit Snacks

What does your rabbit eat?
Circle and color the foods your rabbit can eat.
Put an X through the foods rabbits may not eat.

Hints:
- Avoid feeding your rabbit grains, starchy foods, and sugary foods.
- Rabbits are vegetarians.
- Rabbits need lots of fiber to help their stomachs process food.
- Leafy greens can be offered daily but should not exceed 1 cup per 5 pounds of body weight of your rabbit.
Rabbit Health and Care

What does not belong? In each sentence a word does not belong. Can you figure it out? Cross out the word that does not fit.

Example: Rabbits are . . . quiet, loud, and fun.

1. Rabbits have . . . fur, ears, beaks, and teeth.
2. Rabbits eat . . . carrots, metal, rabbit pellets, and alfalfa.
3. My rabbit’s diet needs . . . grain, alfalfa, water and rubber.
4. All rabbits have . . . ears, whiskers, fur and fingers.
5. My rabbit shouldn't eat . . . cheese, Timothy Hay or vegetables.

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word.

1. My rabbit always needs clean, fresh ____________ to drink.
2. I make sure my rabbit has ______________ and water every day .
3. Rabbits are used for show, fur/wool, laboratory, breeding and ____________.
4. I clean my rabbit’s cage _________ times per ________________.

Cut and paste pictures or draw the equipment that you use for your rabbit. Add labels to each piece of equipment. You may add additional pages.
A pedigree is a record of a rabbit family. We sometimes call this a family tree. Rabbit breeders use charts like these to track which rabbit belongs to which family. A rabbit’s pedigree may also include:

1. Ear Tattoo
2. Weight
3. Placings in rabbit shows
4. Cage Number
5. Birthdate
6. ARBA registration number

What do the letters A.R.B.A. stand for?

Color and label the five rabbit eye colors:
Rabbit Health and Nutrition

To keep my rabbit healthy, I need to make sure that I…
(Put an X next to all that apply).

____ Give fresh water daily
____ Provide Timothy hay
____ Provide clean bedding and clean cage space
____ Check for signs of disease
____ Check for and treat sore hocks
____ Give pregnant/nursing does more water
____ Provide shelter from the wind in winter months
____ Block the cage from fresh air
____ Keep the cage free of pests
____ Brush my molting rabbit

True or False: Circle the best answers.

1. Rabbits cannot get parasites. True False
2. A rabbit’s water bottle needs to be washed weekly. True False
3. A rabbit’s teeth will continue to grow. True False
4. A rabbit’s grain dish does not have to be cleaned. True False
5. It is not important for a rabbit to eat hay. True False
6. It is safe to feed wet or moldy grain to my rabbit. True False
7. Rabbits do not need exercise. True False
8. A doe and litter will drink a gallon of water per day. True False
9. Identification tattoos are permanent. True False
10. White toenails on a black rabbit are a disqualification. True False

List 3 reasons why domestic rabbits live in cages.

1. ___________________________________________________________
2. ___________________________________________________________
3. ___________________________________________________________
Tell about the most important thing you learned during your rabbit project this year (5 sentence minimum):

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

Tell what you want to learn more about in the rabbit project and why (5 sentence minimum):

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________