



4-H SHEEP ACTIVITY PAGE

Developed by **Dr. Dwight Loveday**, Associate Professor, 4-H Youth Development

Beginning

Your 4-H ANIMAL SCIENCE-SHEEP Project

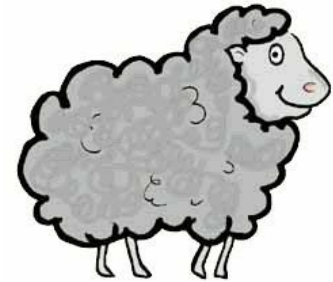
When you have a sheep project, you must provide daily care for the lamb. You provide clean and safe housing, fresh and clean water, nutritious animal foods and health care. You learn responsibility when you have to provide the daily care for your sheep project.



Life Skill
Responsibility

Some of the skills you can learn and activities you can do this year are listed below. Check your favorites. Then, work with your 4-H leaders and parents to make a 4-H project plan for what you want to do and learn this year.

- Learn about the breeds of sheep
- Learn the parts of a sheep
- Learn what a sheep eats
- Show your lamb at a 4-H show or fair
- Learn about the products that come from sheep
- Complete a service project using something you have learned about sheep
- Other _____



Ewe will have fun with your 4-H sheep project

Types of Sheep

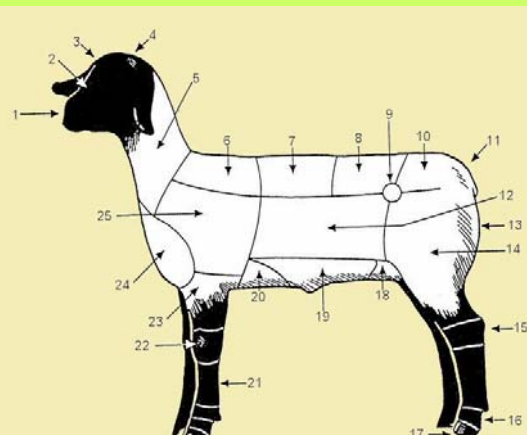
There are more than 40 breeds of sheep in the U.S. A breed is a group of animals that have common ancestry. They will look similar and have similar production traits. Some sheep are large and some are smaller; some have black legs and heads, while others are white. Sheep breeds can also be grouped based upon their primary use in the sheep industry. Some sheep are raised to produce meat and others are raised to produce wool. Some breeds are "ewe" breeds because they make good mothers and some are "ram" or "meat" breeds because they grow fast. Some sheep (dairy) are raised to produce milk for making cheese. Sheep breeds can also be grouped based on the type of fiber they produce. Some sheep produce a fine, high-quality wool while other breeds produce a medium or coarse fiber wool. Some breeds have hair and do not need shearing like the wool breeds. Some breeds are classed as "dual purpose" because they are acceptable for either meat or wool production. To learn more about sheep breeds, check out the Website: www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds. Can you find an example of a

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) meat breed? _____ | 5) ewe breed? _____ |
| 2) fine wool breed? _____ | 6) black-faced breed? _____ |
| 3) coarse wool breed? _____ | 7) dairy breed? _____ |
| 4) hair breed? _____ | 8) dual-purpose breed? _____ |

Identify the Parts of a Sheep

Identify the body parts of a sheep by placing the number location in the blank.

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| ____ a. Belly | ____ j. Hock | ____ r. Pastern |
| ____ b. Breast | ____ k. Hoof | ____ s. Poll |
| ____ c. Cannon | ____ l. Knee | ____ t. Rear Flank |
| ____ d. Dock | ____ m. Leg | ____ u. Rib |
| ____ e. Face | ____ n. Loin | ____ v. Rump |
| ____ f. Forearm | ____ o. Middle | ____ w. Shoulder |
| ____ g. Fore Flank | ____ p. Muzzle | ____ x. Twist |
| ____ h. Forehead | ____ q. Neck | ____ y. Top of Shoulder |
| ____ i. Hip | | |

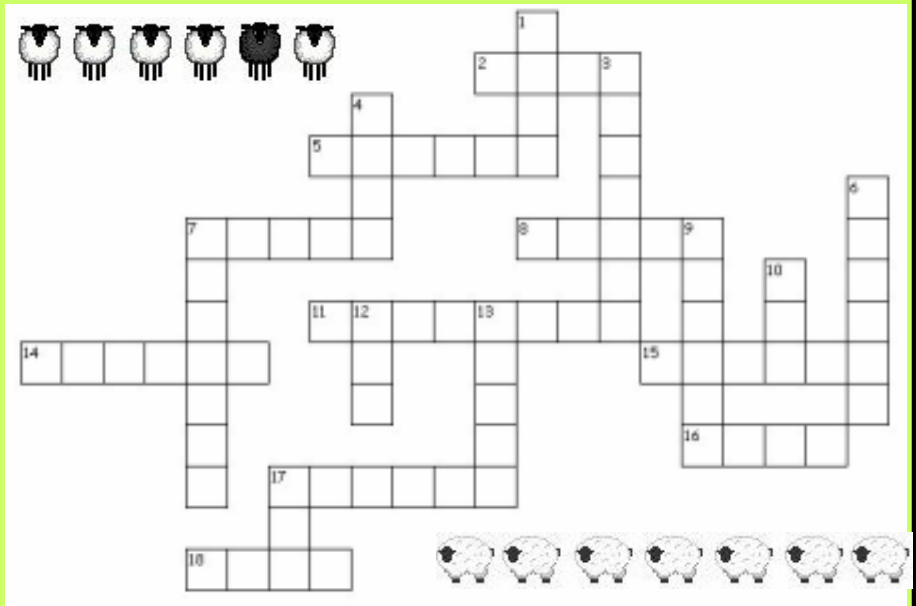


4-H SHEEP ACTIVITY PAGE

Talk Like a Shepherd *Fill in the puzzle using the clues provided.*

Clues Across:

- Natural fiber produced by sheep
- Meat from sheep over 1 year old
- A group of sheep
- Waves or kinks in a wool fiber
- Process of removing wool from sheep
- Major food source for sheep
- Wool taken from sheep at one time
- To remove or shorten the tail
- Amount of feed given in one day
- Meat from young sheep or sheep under 1 year of age



Clues Down:

- Major grain fed to sheep
- Naturally hornless
- Giving birth to sheep
- A female sheep
- Another name for a ram
- Dried grass of plants fed to sheep
- A castrated male sheep
- Type of stomach that a sheep has
- A disease that causes a sheep to limp



Service Ideas

- Make a craft with wool for a gift.
- Take your sheep to schools and churches for programs.
- Make a poster or exhibit to share ideas with others.

For more ideas,
contact your
4-H office.

Other 4-H Sheep Project Activities

4-H Sheep Conference
TN Jr. Sheep Producers
Winter Leadership Retreat
4-H Jr. High Academic
Conference
Sheep EXPO
Make It Yourself With
Wool
Fair Sheep Shows
Wool & Woolies

Additional Resources

Taking care of a sheep project is an important responsibility. This activity sheet has given you the opportunity to learn about sheep and wool. However, there is much more to learn about sheep care. Use the resources listed below to continue learning about sheep.

- School & public libraries
- Local sheep producers
- 4-H project groups
- Internet sites such as American Sheep Industry Association and Maryland Small Ruminant Page's Sheep101
- The 4-H sheep Web page:

<http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/sheep.htm>

Don't forget
to submit your
project report to
your 4-H leader.

*Reviewed by Steve Sutton, Extension Specialist
Edited by Amy Willis, Extension Program Assistant, and Wanda Russell, Publications Editor*