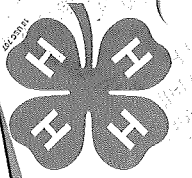
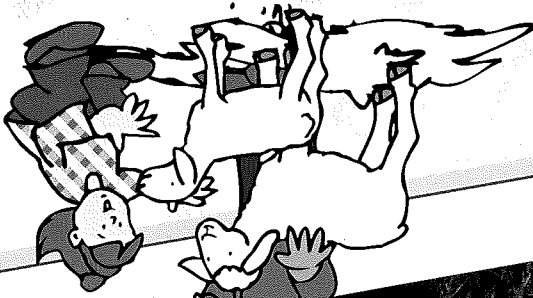


Sheep Project Activity Guide

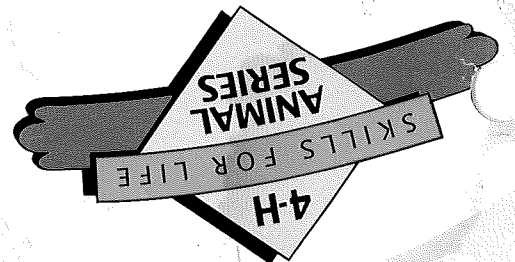


REVIEWED & RECOMMENDED
National 4-H Curriculum



1
Sheep

Rams, Lambs & You



Note to the Project Helper

Congratulations! A young person has asked you to be his/her sheep project helper. As a helper you are in a great position to help youth grow and develop in positive ways as they learn about sheep and about themselves. You can nurture and cultivate their interest in this project by guiding their planning, helping them carry out their projects and recognizing them for a job well done.

Your Role

- Become familiar with the material in this activity guide and the Helper's Guide
- Support youth in their efforts to set goals and complete each achievement program
- Date and initial the activities on the Sheep Achievement Program as the youth completes them and the two of you discuss them
- Help youth get to know themselves, including their strengths and weaknesses
- Encourage the use of the experiential learning cycle described on this page

The "Sheep Skills for Life" Series

This guide, *Rams, Lambs and You* is the first in the series of three for youth, which also includes *Sheep 2 Shear Delight*, *Sheep 3 Leading the Flock* and the *Sheep Helper's Guide*. The three youth guides have been designed to be developmentally appropriate for grades 3-4, 5-7 and 6-9 respectively, but may be used by youth in any grade based on their project skills and expertise.

All activities in the guides have several parts: A description of the skills to be practiced; discussion questions, suggestions for additional activities and additional helpful information. The "Show of Success" listed for each activity is an excellent way to evaluate the youth's success. Each of the guides also includes an achievement program to encourage youth to learn more about sheep while developing important life skills.

Acknowledgements

Revision Team: This revision of the four sheep activity guides was accomplished by the Sheep Design Team comprised of Joe D. Camarillo, California, Chair; Marvin Dehle, Washington; C. J. McCabe, Wyoming; Marc Horney, California; Jim Mueller, Nebraska; Rosie Noid, Nebraska; Lisa Rothenburger, New Jersey; M. J. Wylie, Wisconsin; and Tom Zurcher, Director and Editor.

Design Illustration and Production: Northern Design Group, White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Word Processing: Nancy Hatmaker, Michigan.

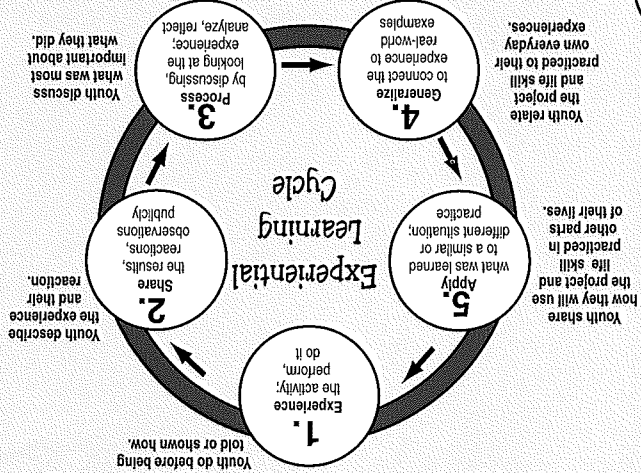
Original Series Writing Team: Doyle Wolverton, Nebraska; LaMar Garaffi, Iowa; Gary Wilson, Ohio; Roger Haugen, North Dakota; Kris Tolman, Nebraska; and Tom Zurcher, Project Coordinator and Editor.

Sheep Group Activity Guide

In the *Helper's Guide* you will find another evaluation piece titled "Evaluating the Impact." Use this before beginning each level and after the youth has completed each level. Each activity is designed so the young person has an opportunity to learn by doing before being told or shown how. Your challenge is to "sit on your hands" while the youth explores the activity and learns from the experience, even when it doesn't work the way it's expected to. You can help with the learning most effectively by listening as the young person considers the questions and draws conclusions. At times the activity may call for you to be a resource person for content or ideas.

Experiential Learning Model

This five-step model is included in each activity in this series



Pfeiffer, J.W., & Jones, J.E., "Reference Guide to Handbooks and Annals" © 1983 John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Reprinted with permission of John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

As you can see, the youth first attempt the activity on their own. After the youth do as much as they can meet together and discuss: What they did? What was important about what they did? How does what they did relate to their lives? And finally, how might they use the life and project skills practiced in the future? Sample questions are included following each experience. Your ability to ask additional thought-provoking questions and to clarify and expand the youth's ideas will add to the educational experience.

Good luck in your role as Project Helper!

For more on
sheep... look for
these other guides
in this set.

What's Inside?



Rams, Lambs and You

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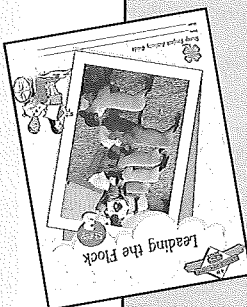
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Shear Delight



Leading the Flock



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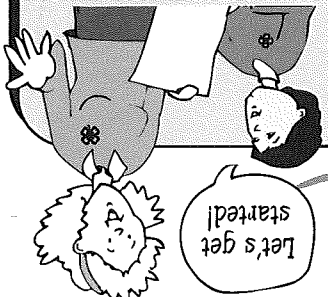
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Having Fun with the Sheep Project



Sheep 1 Project Guidelines

- Set your goals and record project highlights
- Do a minimum of seven activities in Level 1 of the Sheep Achievement Program each year and complete the Program within three years
- Participate in a minimum of three of the learning experiences listed on the Planning Guide each year
- Practice and develop the life skills of relating to others, making decisions, learning to learn and communicating with others
- Increase your sheep knowledge and skills

Sheep 1 Achievement Program

While you are having fun doing the activities, you'll also be completing Level 1 of the Sheep Achievement Program. There are three levels of this program. One is included in each of the sheep project activity guides. This program will help you set goals, record your successes and be recognized for your good work.

Your Project Helper

Supporting you along the way and making learning more fun is your project helper. This person may be a parent, sheep breeder, project leader or advisor, a neighbor or an older friend who knows about sheep. The choice is yours. As you do the activities, you'll discuss with your helper what you did and the questions in the Talk It Over part of each activity. Sometimes your helper will need to work with you to find resources, including people, organizations, events, magazines and books necessary to complete an activity. Once you have successfully completed each activity, your helper will date and initial your achievement program. Write the name and phone number of your project helper here:

My Project Helper _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Good Luck with Sheep 1 - Rams, Lambs and You

Are you ready to learn more about A sheep?

Through the activities in this guide, you will have many interesting and exciting challenges. You'll learn about sheep parts, breeds, cost of raising sheep, how to care for your sheep and much, much more. If you don't already have sheep, some of the activities will help you decide whether or not you want to take sheep as a 4-H project.

Each activity asks you to do something. Don't be afraid to jump right in, and don't give up if the activity doesn't work out the first time. You're still learning, right? The most important thing is to try. Once you try, then think or talk about what happened or didn't happen and why.

Learning about sheep isn't all you will be doing. You'll also be learning about yourself, too. In addition to learning about sheep many of the things you'll learn are skills you'll use in other areas of your life such as decision making, communicating with others and being an effective leader. Here are some things you'll get to do in Sheep 1:

- Identify at least 25 parts of a sheep's body
- Compare and describe differences between two sheep
- Demonstrate one or more fitting techniques
- Practice sheep showmanship techniques
- Set a daily animal care schedule
- Examine a normal lamb
- Identify and locate seven meat cuts on a sheep carcass
- Identify at last six sheep by-products
- Identify signs of health and sickness

Sheep 1 Planning Guide

Sheep Project Highlights

Date and list the exciting things you do and learn.

My Sheep Project Goals

Name _____
 My Animal's Name _____
 Breed _____

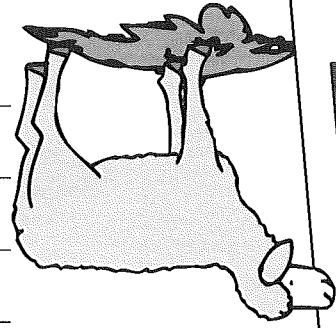
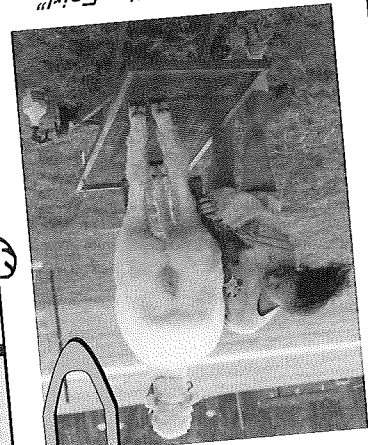
What I want to do and learn in Sheep 1:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Learning Experiences

Complete at least three of these activities each year.

Activity	Year		
	Year	Year	Year
Give a demonstration			
Tour a sheep operation			
Attend a sheep project meeting			
Attend a sheep show			
Exhibit at a fair			
Participate in a sheep skillathon			
Be a member of a livestock quiz bowl or judging team			
Participate in sheep showmanship			
My choice			



Sheep 1 Rams, Lambs and You

Achievement Program



I certify that

_____ has completed all requirements
in the *Rams, Lambs and You* Achievement Program
of the National 4-H Curriculum Sheep "Skills for Life" Series.

_____ Helper's Signature

_____ Date

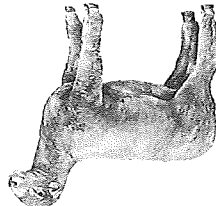
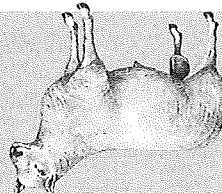
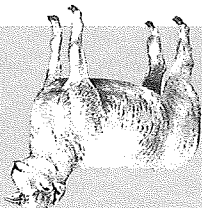
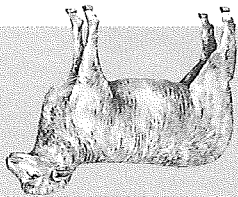
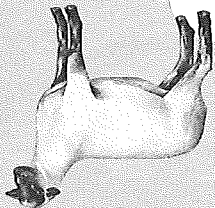
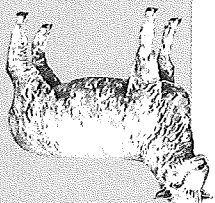
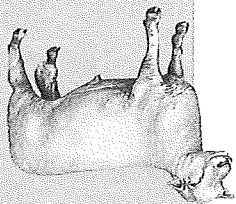
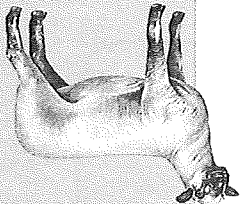
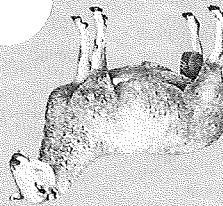
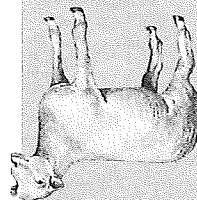
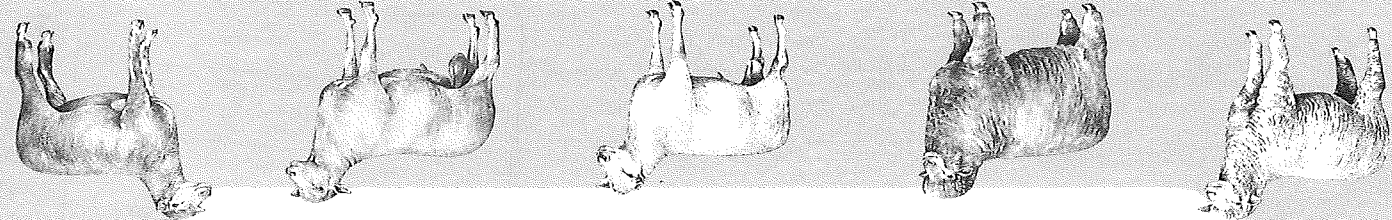
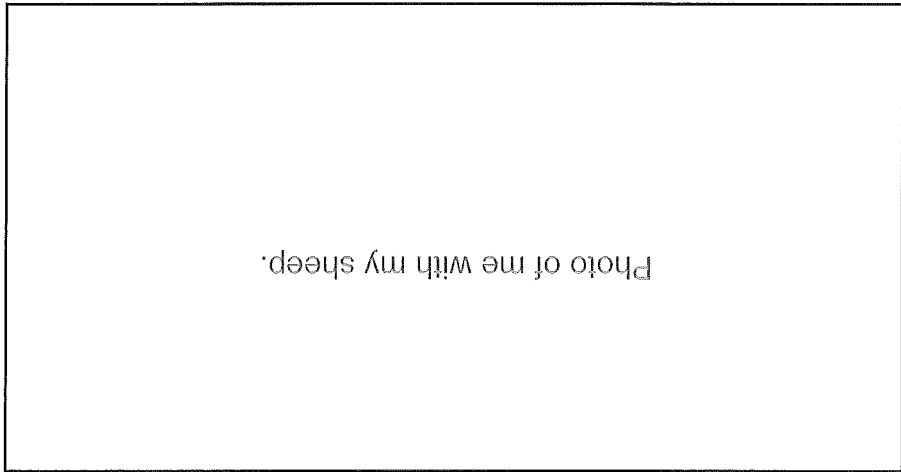
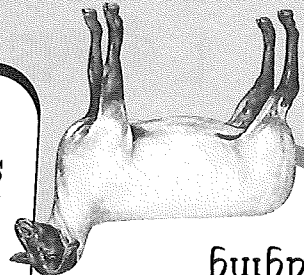


Photo of me with my sheep.



Selection and Judging

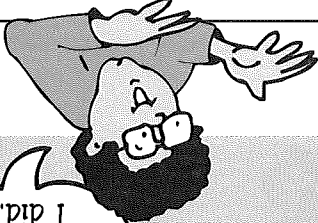
Sheep Sense



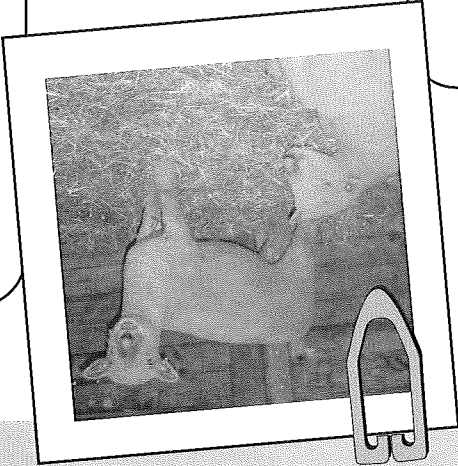
Sheep Project Skill: Exploring the sheep project
Life Skill: Learning to learn
Show of Success: Answers questions about sheep.

Do you know the difference between a ram, a wether and a ewe? What to feed sheep? How to get them ready for show? What diseases sheep get and what can be done to prevent them? These are just some of the things you'll learn in the sheep project. In this activity you'll begin by discovering what you know about sheep. If you already know the answers, then you can have fun helping someone else. If you don't, you'll have fun finding the answers as you complete Sheep Achievement Level 1.

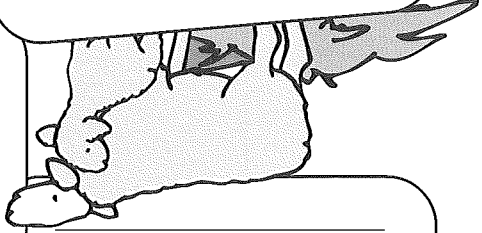
I know more than I thought I did.



Your Challenge
 See if you can answer each of the seven questions. Discuss each one with your project helper.



Name three breeds of sheep.



What are three breeds of sheep?

What are three ways to cook lamb?

What are five body parts of sheep?

What are three uses of wool?

What do sheep eat?

What are three kinds of lamb retail meat cuts?

What are three by-products other than meat or wool that come from sheep?



Sheep are my favorite animals.

Imagine what's next
How can learning all about sheep help you decide if you'd like to raise them?

Explore what you learned
Where can you find information when you want to know something?

Tell what's important
What new things would you like to learn about sheep?
Share with your helper
● What part of raising sheep do you know a lot about?
● Where or how did you find answers to the questions?

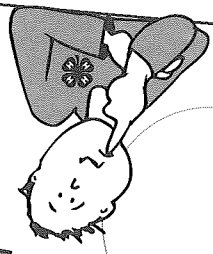
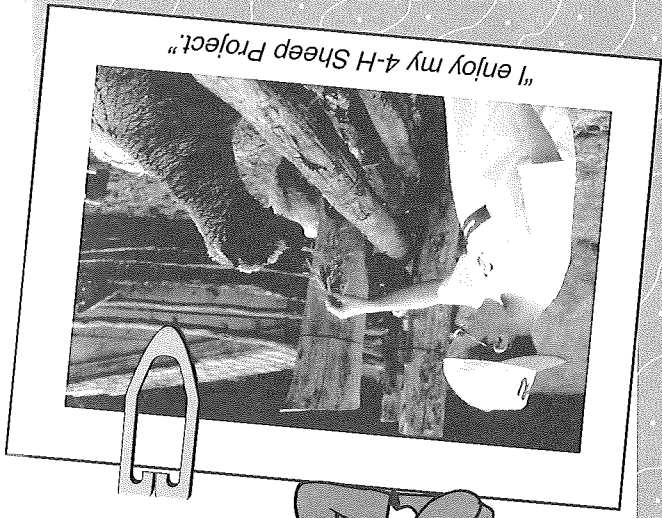


Talk It Over

2. Read about taking care of newborn lambs. Share what you discover with your helper.

1. Visit a farm or ranch that raises sheep and talk to the owner about what skills are needed to be successful.

More Challenges



Fairly inexpensive for beginners

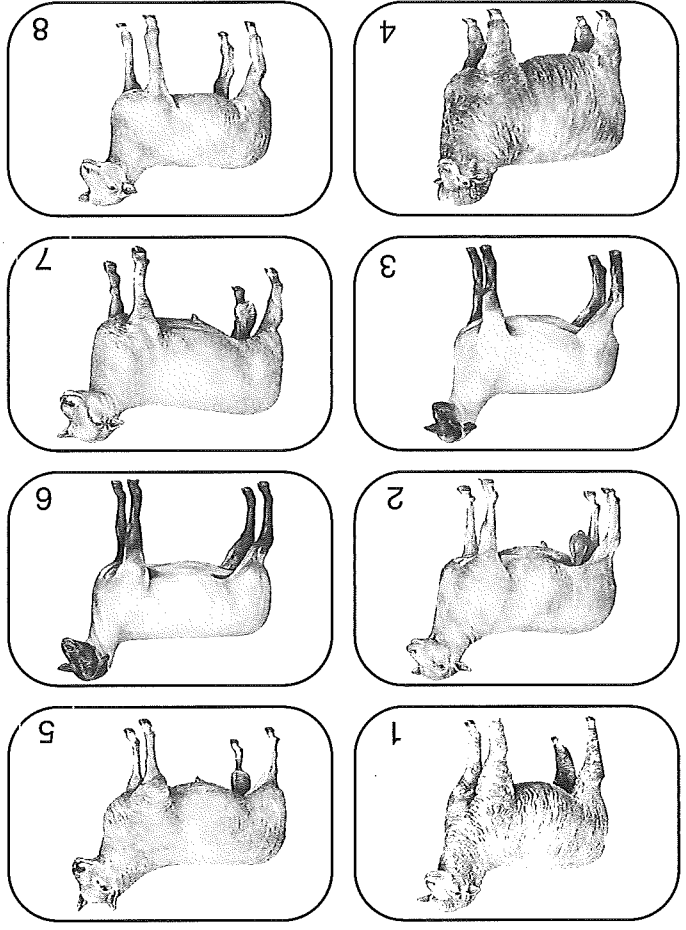
Can be trained to follow

Why Raise Sheep?



Facts

Acknowledgement: Breed pictures adapted from Wool Council, Wool Education Center. Who's Who in U.S. Sheep Breeds chart from American

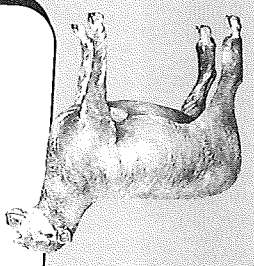


Below are the pictures of eight breeds of sheep and some information about each of these breeds. Your challenge is to look at the information given, decide what breed it describes and complete the missing information. Use any resources including the Internet or write to the breed associations or the American Wool Council listed on page 36. As a fun activity, see if

Your Challenge

Did you know there are over 200 breeds of sheep in the world today? About 15 of them are commonly found in the United States. How many breeds do you know? Where did they come from? What special qualities do they

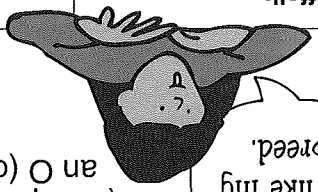
In Black and White



Sheep Project Skill: Recognizing breeds of sheep
Life Skill: Locating and using resources
Show of Success: Identifies eight sheep breeds and completes the description of each.

have? Here is your chance to learn more about sheep breeds as you discover new resources.

You can find the names of the 23 breeds in the Breed Word Find. Then indicate the primary use of each breed with a W (wool breed, an M (meat breed), DP (dual purpose breed) or an O (other use breed).
 I like my _____ breed.



<p># Suffolk Originated: 250-350 pounds Ram weight: 113-159 kg Fleece: 3/8-1/4 blood, 6-7 pounds Special qualities: Sire breed, growth rate</p>	<p># Southdown Originated: 190-230 pounds Ram weight: 86-104 kg Fleece: 3/8-1/2 blood, 5-8 pounds Special qualities: _____</p>
<p># Hampshire Originated: _____ Ram weight: _____ Fleece: 3/8-1/4 blood, 7-8 pounds Special qualities: Sturdy, flocking instinct, finest wool</p>	<p># Finnsheep Originated: 150-200 pounds Ram weight: 55-86 kg Fleece: _____ Special qualities: 250-400% lamb crop</p>
<p># Columbia Originated: 225-350 pounds Ram weight: 102-136 kg Fleece: 3/8-1/4 blood, 11-12 pounds Special qualities: Rugged, meat and wool breed</p>	<p># Merino Originated: 175-225 pounds Ram weight: 59-73 kg Fleece: _____ Special qualities: Sturdy, flocking instinct, finest wool</p>

1. Give a presentation to a sheep group or school class on your favorite breed of sheep. Include the history of the breed, prominent breeders, strengths, etc.
2. Attend a local or state fair sheep show. Talk with owners of at least five breeds of sheep. Share your findings with your helper.

More Challenges

Word Find

Word Bank

Sheep Breed

Word Find

Word Bank

Breeding Use
 W = Wool Breed
 M = Meat Breed
 DP = Dual-Purpose
 O = Other Breed



Sheep Breed Word Bank

- ___ Corriedale
- ___ Cotswold
- ___ Dorper
- ___ Dorset
- ___ Friesian
- ___ Hampshire
- ___ Icelandic
- ___ Jacob
- ___ Katahdin
- ___ Leicester
- ___ Lincoln
- ___ Montadale
- ___ Navajo-Churro
- ___ North Country
- ___ Cheviot
- ___ Oxford
- ___ Panama
- ___ Perendale
- ___ Polypay
- ___ Rambouillet
- ___ Romney
- ___ Shropshire
- ___ Suffolk
- ___ Targhee
- ___ Texel
- ___ Tunis

Imagine what's next
 How might you use the resources you used in this activity in the future?

Explore what you learned
 Why is it important to know where to find the information you need?

White-faced breeds are often known as "ewe breeds" because they are used as ewes for crossbred flocks. These breeds usually produce more wool and more milk. Black-faced breeds are sometimes called "ram breeds" because they are used as sires in commercial flocks to produce market (meat) lambs. Dual purpose breeds can be used as either ewe or ram breeds.



Ewe, Ram and Dual-Purpose Breeds

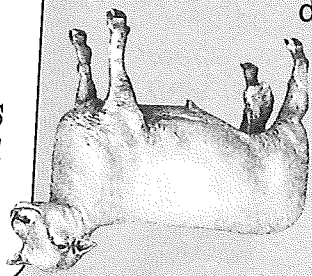
Facts

- Share with your helper
- What did you learn as you did this activity?
 - What is your favorite breed? Why?
 - What resources did you use to complete the breed information?
- Tell what's important
 Why do different sheep raisers choose different breeds?

Talk It Over

Hock, Dock and Twist

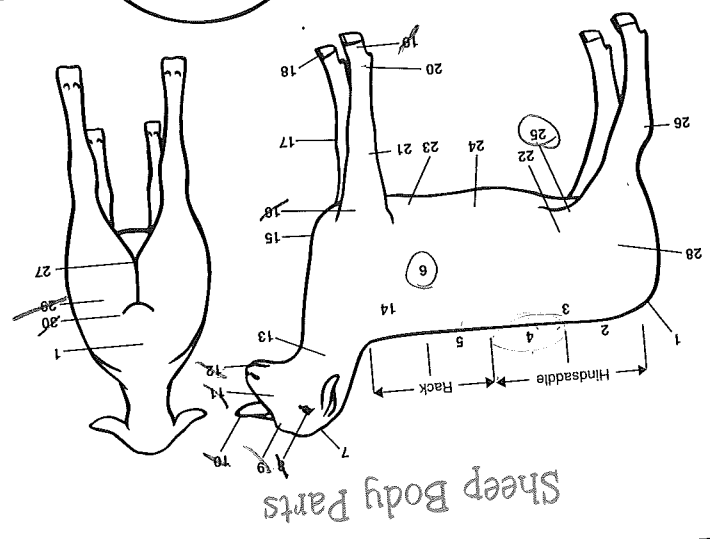
Hock? Twist? Poll? Are these sheep body parts familiar to you? Knowing the parts will help you select top animals and be able to give good reasons for your selection.



Sheep Project Skill: Identifying body parts of sheep
Life Skill: Learning to learn
Show of Success: Completes the crossword puzzle and describes the ideal shape of each part.

Your Challenge

Thirty body parts are numbered on the sheep drawing. Use the word bank to help you complete the crossword puzzle and word find. Invite someone to help you learn the ideal shape of each part of a sheep.



Sheep Body Parts

Whats the difference between a dewlap and a dewclaw?



Sheep Parts Crossword

A crossword puzzle grid with the following words filled in:

- Across: 1. RACK, 2. BELLY, 3. FOREARM, 4. FOREFLANK, 5. FOREHEAD, 6. HIP, 7. HOCK, 8. HOOF, 9. KNEE, 10. LEG OF LAMB, 11. JOIN, 12. MOUTH, 13. NECK, 14. PASTER, 15. POLL, 16. REARFLANK, 17. TAIL, 18. TWIST, 19. DEWLAP, 20. DEWCLAW, 21. RUMP, 22. SHOULDER, 23. STIFLE, 24. THIGH, 25. TWIST.

Sheep Parts Word Bank

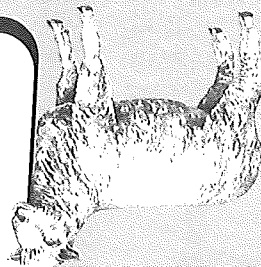
- back
- belly
- breast or brisket
- dock
- ear
- eye
- face
- forearm
- foreflank
- forehead
- hip
- hock
- hoof
- knee
- leg of lamb
- join
- mouth
- neck
- pastern
- poll
- rearflank
- ribs
- rump
- shank
- shoulder
- stifle
- tail
- thigh
- twist

Making the Right Choice

People decide which sheep is best using different reasons. Some prefer cute sheep, some like big sheep, and for others how much a sheep costs is important. To make a good decision you need to know what your goals for your sheep project are. Do you want to produce high quality meat lambs? Then learn how to recognize good meat

animals. Do you want a flock that produces many twins and triplets? Then study twinning records for the parents and grandparents of the animals you are considering. Do you want to make money? Then learn to find good animals at a low price.

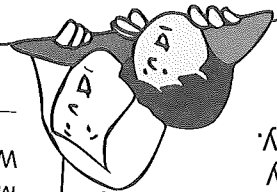
Sheep Project Skill: Selecting a project lamb
Life Skill: Making decisions
Show of Success: Selects a ewe lamb based on the information provided.



Your Challenge

Compare the information and photos for the three lambs below. With your helper, describe a production goal to improve in your flock (meat quality, growth rate, wool, mothering ability) then choose one lamb to buy and tell why.

Which one would you choose?



12

92 Days Pre-Fair Fair

Lamb A

92 Days Pre-Fair Fair

Lamb B

92 Days Pre-Fair Fair

Lamb C

Birth date	Price	Frame Size	Present health	Birth type	Dam's lambing percentage	90 Day weaning wt.	Sire's dam's fleece wt.	Sire's muscling	Sire's frame size	Sire's average daily gain	My Sheep Project Goal	My Choice	Why?
January 12	\$100	Medium	Excellent	Single	160%	67 lbs.	8 lbs.	Heavy	Medium	0.65 lbs./day			
January 1	\$95	Large	Excellent	Twin	130%	80 lbs.	9 lbs.	Medium	Medium	0.92 lbs./day			
January 15	\$85	Medium	Fair	Twin	175%	65 lbs.	11 lbs.	Medium	Medium	0.86 lbs./day			

Share with your helper

- Which lamb did you choose?
- Why did you pick that lamb?

What information was most important in making your decision?

Tell what's important

What other information would you like to have had?

Explore what you learned

Why should you gather and compare information before making a decision?

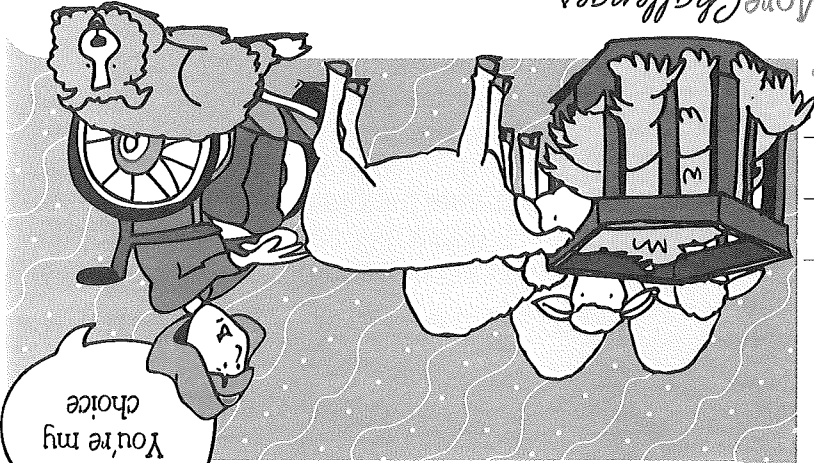
Imagine what's next

What other kinds of decisions do you make where you need to compare several things at once?

1. Look at a group of ewe lambs about the same age. Gather information and inspect each one. Rank order them and discuss with your helper how important size, apparent health, birth type, body type of sire, fleece weight of dam and price each were in your decision.

2. Attend a sale of project market lambs. See if you can select those that will sell for the best prices. Discuss with your helper what you looked for to make your decisions.

More Challenges



per day depending on lamb genetics and how well they are fed and managed. To decide how much your lambs should weigh when you purchase them, multiply 0.6 lbs per day by the number of days between the date of purchase and the fair. Then subtract that number from the target finished weight you have set for each of the lambs. Remember that sickness, hot and humid weather, stress, and providing too little water, or water that is dirty or very warm will all reduce the amount of feed your lambs will eat—and their

Making Plans

- Check your fair's ownership requirements first. Most fairs require at least 60 days ownership before the show.
- Research what the weight restrictions will be for your lamb. Many fairs have minimum and/or maximum weight limits for market classes.

- Before you begin looking for market lambs, know what your fair's weight requirements are. Then calculate how much your project lamb should weigh at the time you purchase it. As a rule of thumb, plan for your market lambs to gain about 0.6 lbs per day at the last 60–90 days before the fair. Actual growth rates can range from 0.4 to 1 lb

per day depending on lamb genetics and how well they are fed and managed. To decide how much your lambs should weigh when you purchase them, multiply 0.6 lbs per day by the number of days between the date of purchase and the fair. Then subtract that number from the target finished weight you have set for each of the lambs. Remember that sickness, hot and humid weather, stress, and providing too little water, or water that is dirty or very warm will all reduce the amount of feed your lambs will eat—and their

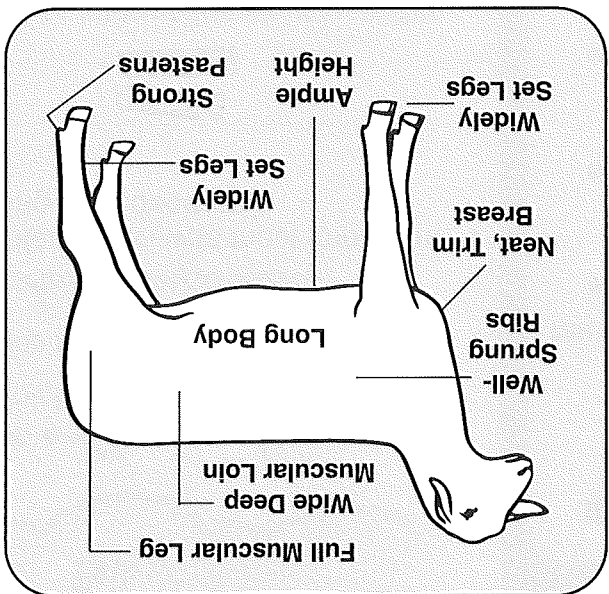


Selecting and Feeding a Project Lamb

Picking Your Market Lamb

- Besides weight, you need to consider what your lamb will be like when it reaches its market weight. Does the person you purchase your lambs from have any older sheep that are related to the one(s) you are thinking of buying? How do they look? Do they have good conformation? Are they fat or lean? Do they appear well-muscled? Has the owner kept records on growth rates or carcass characteristics of his/her flock? That information can be very helpful.

- Things to look for in a market lamb:
 - Desirable size (about 60 lbs. at 60 days)
 - Long, tall and not fat
 - Strong, straight back, straight, level rump and trim middle
 - Muscling through the hind legs and loin (top)
 - Squarely set, muscular legs with strong pasterns
 - Levelness over the rump and dock
- As a tip, look at how far apart the lamb's front and rear legs are when it stands naturally. This can be a helpful tool for telling well-muscled lambs from light-muscled lambs. Lambs with better muscling will tend to stand with their legs further apart.
- It is often easier to sort through groups of lambs in a small pen, rather than looking at single lambs or lambs that are spread out in a large pen or pasture.



- Look at the side, front and rear views from a distance of 10 to 20 feet
- From the side view observe height, length, balance, strength of back, levelness of rump, trimness of underline, correctness of legs and strength of pasterns, size of loin, style and breed type
- From the front view observe shapeliness of head, breed and sex character, brisket, width of chest and set of front legs
- From the rear observe inner and outer leg muscling and width between the hind legs
- Check your observations by handling the sheep

Judging Tips



Feeding Your Market Lamb

- After weaning the lambs are fed through a growing and a finishing phase. During the growing phase lambs are fed more protein and less energy to allow their skeletal structure and organ systems to fully develop. During the finishing phase lambs are fed less protein and more energy to promote rapid muscle growth until they approach their mature weight and begin to put on fat.
- Growing diets typically have from 15% to 17% crude protein. Finishing diets have from 12% to 14% crude protein.
- Be careful! Smaller-framed lambs will begin fattening and be ready for market at a lighter weight than larger framed lambs. Make sure you know at about what weight your lamb will be ready for market, and select a lamb that will reach that weight on full feed just in time for the fair.
- Some project members use pelleted feeds purchased from local feed stores. If you do this, ask the salespeople at the feed store for directions on how to use the feed. Follow their instructions. Commercial feeds are balanced to provide just the right amounts of nutrients

40

Example of Grower Ration

Feed Ingredients	
Cracked corn	59
Chopped alfalfa hay (15% crude protein)	23
Soybean meal (44% crude protein)	17
Feed grade limestone (for calcium)	1
Vitamin premix	See premix tag
Pounds in 100 lbs.	

Example of Finishing Ration

Feed Ingredients	
Cracked corn	64
Chopped alfalfa hay (15% crude protein)	28
Soybean meal (44% crude protein)	7
Feed grade limestone (for calcium)	1
Vitamin premix	See premix tag
Pounds in 100 lbs.	

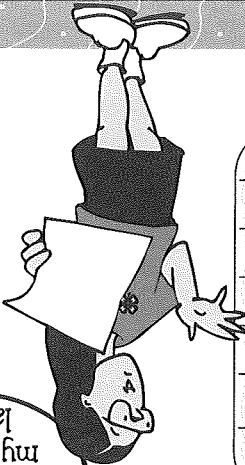
Revised by Lisa Rothenburger and Marc Horney.

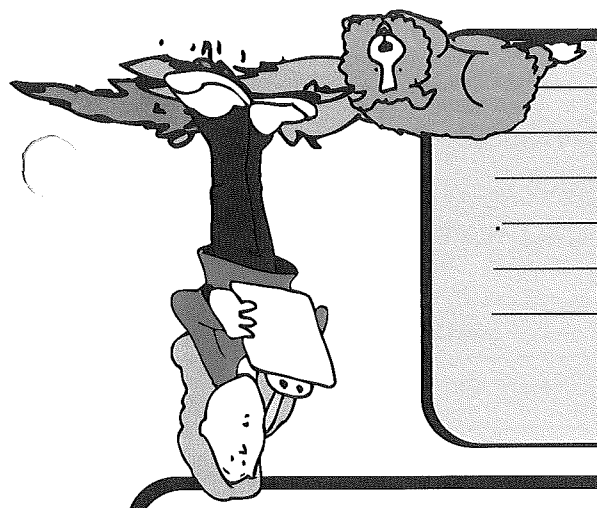
Market Time

- If you are mixing your own ration, seek the help of a leader, veterinarian, feed dealer or Extension Educator. Although using your own feeds can be less expensive than pelleted mixes, there are a number of problems that can be caused by using the wrong feeds or feeds in the wrong proportions.
- If you use a trace mineral mix or salt block, be sure it is formulated for sheep. Trace minerals formulated for other animals sometimes contain levels of copper that can be toxic to sheep.

At market time a meat lamb should weigh between 115 and 135 lbs., with 0.15 and 0.25 inches of back fat and a loin eye 2.5 square inches in size or greater. With good care, a market lamb should gain between 0.6 and 1.0 lbs. per day for its last 60-90 days on feed (on a concentrate ration). Lambs raised on pasture may gain 0.4 to 0.8 lbs. per day. The ideal market lamb will also have good conformation and sound feet, legs and mouth.

This is the ration I feed my market lambs.



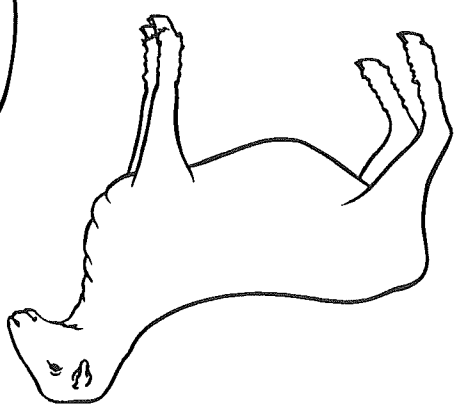


My Reasons

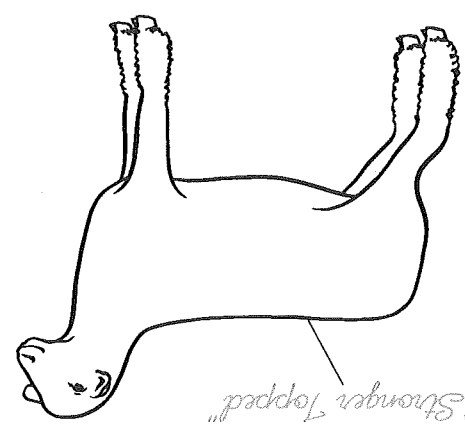
I placed _____ over _____ because _____

I placed _____ second because _____ than _____

No problem placing these two sheep.



B



A

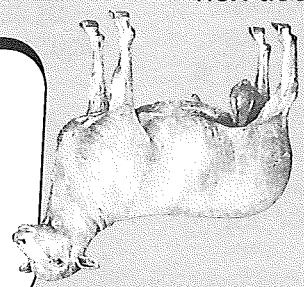
body. The words in italics mean the opposite of the words in bold letters. Then write the reasons you liked one of the sheep more than the other in "My Reasons."

Shown below are two sheep. One is a lamb with good muscling and the other a less desirable lamb. Working with your helper, select from the judging terms and write those that best describe each sheep next to that area of the sheep's

Your Challenge

What's Ideal?

What does an "ideal" sheep look like? Would you know one if you saw it? To be a good judge of sheep you need to know what to look for. In this activity you'll learn some things about an



Sheep Project Skill: Judging lambs
Life Skill: Making decision
Show of Success: Matches the judging terms with the correct lamb and writes reasons.

ideal meat type sheep as you practice your decision-making skills.

Share with your helper

- What differences did you see between the two sheep?
- What judging terms were new to you?
- Why should anyone who is interested in sheep know what a good one looks like?

Tell what's important

Why is one sheep better than the other?

Why should anyone who is interested in sheep know what a good one looks like?

Explore what you learned

How did you decide what terms best fit each animal?

Imagine what's next

What's one thing you can do to make better decisions in the future?

Let's practice our sheep judging terms.



Revised by Lisa Rothenburger and Joe Camarillo.



Choosing an Ideal Lamb

Ideal Wool Lamb

An ideal wool lamb has put its energy into producing wool. It is still young looking at 60 days and takes a longer time to grow larger. The lamb should still have desirable height and length for its breed type. The conformation and muscling should be similar to the ideal meat lamb. The crimp of the wool should be uniform throughout the body. Look for a lamb that does not lose the crimp in the wool through the leg and hindquarters. Remember, wool quality is most important in wool breeds of sheep.

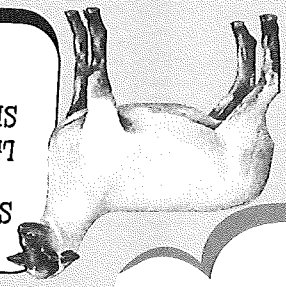
Sheep Judging Terms

- Stronger topped weaker
- Neater and leaner in the fore and rear flanks fatter
- Trimmer through the throat, chest region, along the underline fatter
- Trimmer in the leg and crotch (twist) areas fatter, waster
- Longer through the loin shorter
- Longer from hip to dock shorter
- Stronger topped weaker
- Fuller and more level over the dock more slope
- Slimmer, cleaner neck that blends more gently into the shoulder thicker, coarser
- Longer and more level top line shorter, weaker
- Trimmer middle waster
- Growthier general appearance shorter
- Stronger pasterns weaker

More Challenges

1. Attend a sheep show and see how your judging skill compares with the official judge's.
2. Judge four or more sheep and tell your helper why you placed them as you did.
3. Develop a judging guide handout to be used by the public attending a fair or sheep show.

Check the Chart



Sheep Project Skill: Determining the health of a sheep
Life Skill: Making decisions
Show of Success: Completes a sheep examination chart.

When a sheep gets sick, it will not eat well and will not grow as fast as it should. Being able to notice early signs of sickness is important in deciding what to do.

It is important to keep your project animal(s) healthy. Every sheep needs nutritious food, fresh water and a clean, dry and draft-free living space. A sheep that does not have these things may get sick.

Your Challenge

Get together with a friend or your helper and carefully examine a healthy sheep. Record what you



observe on the examination chart and then tell what you think a sick sheep might show for each part of the exam.

Sheep Examination Chart

Sheep Identification _____ Date Born _____ Breed _____
 Age _____ Weight _____ Weight/Days Old _____ Single _____ Twin _____ Triplet _____
 General State of Health _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor _____

General Condition	Healthy Sheep	Sick Sheep
Teeth		
Jaw		
Eyes		
Feet		
Body condition		
Udder		
Breathing		
Respiration rate		
Heart rate		
Body temperature		
Skin color		
Fleece		
Feces		
External parasites		

Management Practices (check if done)

Tail docked _____ Dewormed _____
 Castrated if male _____ Vaccinated for enterotoxemia _____

Talk It Over

Share with your helper

- What did you find when you examined the sheep?
- What did you learn about sheep that you didn't know before?

Tell what's important

What happens if you ignore signs of illness in your sheep flock?

Explore what you learned

How does making a checklist help you make decisions?

Imagine what's next

How will noticing when something is not normal help you make better decisions in the future?

Farm Animal Vital Signs

Animal	Average Temperature	Pulse Rate	Normal Breathing Rate
Sheep	102.3 °F	39.1 (rate/minute)	12-20
Cattle	101.5 °F	38.6 (rate/minute)	10-30
Goats	102.3 °F	39.1 (rate/minute)	12-20
Horses	100.5 °F	38.0 (rate/minute)	12-20
Swine	102.6 °F	39.2 (rate/minute)	12-20

Lamb Diseases



Navel Ill (Joint Ill)

Cause: Bacteria enter via the umbilical cord after birth.

Symptoms: Abscesses in the liver and leg joint. Lameness in the affected joint that will be hot, swollen and painful.

Prevention:

- (1) Immediately after birth, dip the navel stump in 7 percent tincture of iodine to dry the navel cord and kill any bacteria present.
- (2) Disinfect lambing pens between births.

Pneumonia

Cause: A virus, combined with stress, causes the initial damage. Bacteria invade secondarily.

Symptoms: Animal becomes lethargic, has a high fever and may have labored breathing and a nasal discharge.

Prevention: Provide adequate ventilation, prevent drafts and reduce stress.

Scours

Cause: Bacteria (salmonella, escherichia) or virus. The lining of the intestines becomes irritated and fluid is lost in the feces instead of being absorbed from the intestines into the body.

Symptoms: Diarrhea (loose stool) leading to dehydration.

Treatment:

Immediately separate from other animals and administer fluids. Clean and disinfect between births.

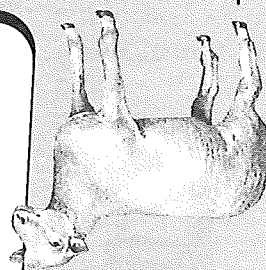
Prevention: Be sure lambs receive at least 4 ounces of colostrum immediately after birth.



More Challenges

1. Give a presentation to your family or youth group on something about sheep health. Ideas include a sheep disease, giving medication, storing medication or examining a sheep.
2. Talk with a veterinarian or someone with experience raising lambs. What are special things they watch for to tell if a lamb is getting sick? What do they do when they notice early signs of illness?

Vacation Time



- Sheep Project Skill: Making a management plan
- Life Skill: Planning and organizing
- Show of Success: Develops a one-week sheep care plan.

activity will help you develop a plan so everyone can enjoy the vacation and not worry about the animals at home.

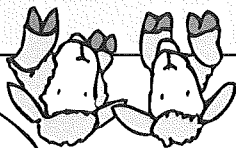
Everyone needs a vacation now and then. Right? What happens when the whole family takes a one-week vacation? Who will care for the sheep and possibly other livestock? This

Your Challenge

Pretend you and the rest of your family have won a one-week all-expense paid vacation the first week in March. No one who normally takes care of the sheep when you leave for a few days will be home. You have a flock of thirty ewes with lambs plus six yearling ewes and a ram. Your challenge is to outline all the information that

someone will need to take care of the sheep for your family's seven-day vacation. Then have someone else read your instructions to see if they are clear.

Who will take care of the sheep while we are away camping?

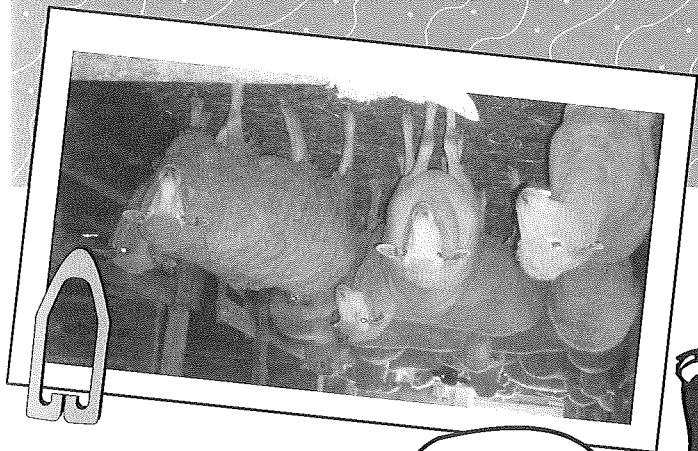


Directions:

Large lined writing area for student response.

1. Work with a friend and list at least 20 activities you need to do to care for a lamb or a breeding flock. Tell your helper which activities need to be done daily, weekly, monthly and yearly. If you plan to show a sheep, include those types of activities too.
2. Discuss with a parent or neighbor how long and short range plans are used to guide the work they do.

More Challenges



Have we included everything in our sheep care plan?



- _____ Arrange a date and time during your absence to make contact with the care givers
- _____ Dates to care for sheep
- _____ Who to contact in case of emergency
- _____ Where supplies and equipment are located
- _____ Feed, water, minerals for each group of sheep
- _____ Resources to check (books, etc.)
- _____ How much authority the person will be given to make decisions

Vacation Care Plan Checklist



What other times might you have to write a detailed plan of action to help you or someone else be successful?

Imagine what's next

What might happen if you plan for another person to do something for you and you forget to tell him/her something or don't give enough details?

Explore what you learned

Why is a good set of instructions or written plan important?

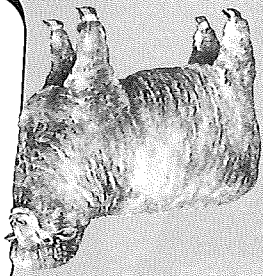
Tell what's important

- What did you include in your directions?
- If you were taking care of someone's flock what else would you like to know?
- How would you feel if someone took care of your sheep for a week? Why?
- Why is it important to have a regular outline to care for sheep?

Share with your helper

Talk It Over

Lambs on the Way



Lambing time is the most important time of the year for anyone who raises sheep. A whole year of taking good care of the ewe—breeding, feeding, tagging, shearing, housing, vaccinating—is to prepare her for newborn lambs. Whether you are just

thinking about raising sheep or already have them, this activity will help you know more about lambing and planning.

Sheep Project Skill: Caring for newborn lambs

Life Skill: Planning and organizing

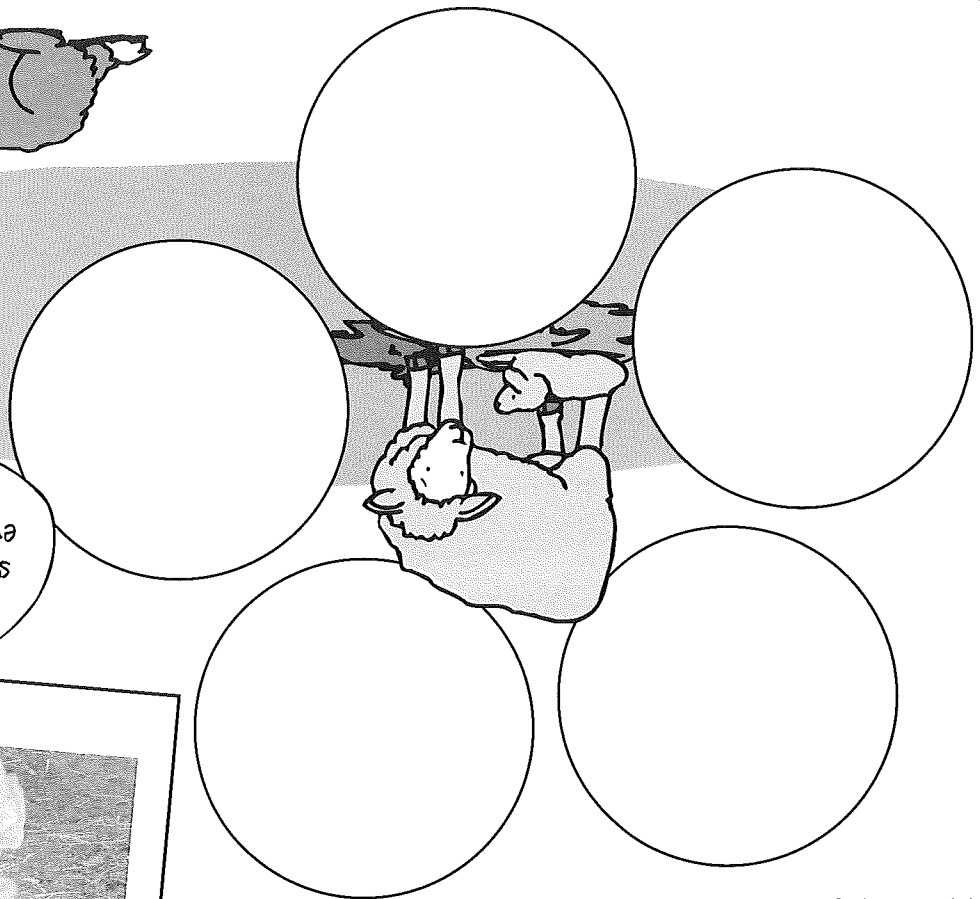
Show of Success: Plans and demonstrates what to do when lambs are born.

Your Challenge

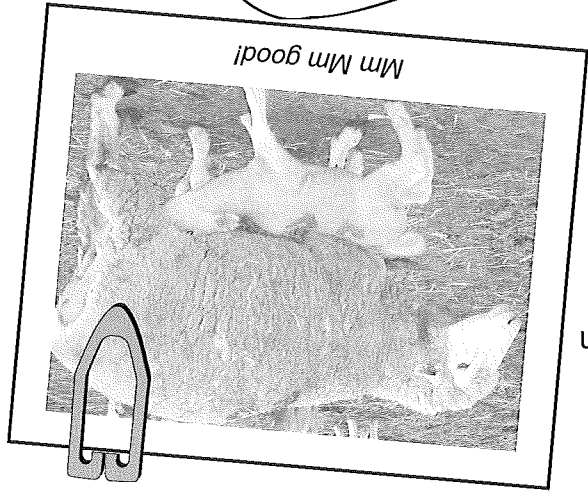
First collect as many of the pieces of equipment listed under lambing supplies as you can. Then read the situation that follows and act out what you would do.

Situation: Pretend you own five ewes. One of the ewes has just started giving birth to a lamb. Role play what you would do to make sure that when the lamb is born it: 1) breathes 2) is dried off 3) the umbilical cord is clipped and dipped 4) gets colostrum and 5) is

things you would do. Put one item per circle.



accepted by its mother or dam. You can use a model lamb or a real lamb to role play for your helper and family. Complete the activity by writing in the circles the five most important



I'll make sure you have everything you need.





Lambing Time

Share with your helper

• What special things do you need to know at lambing time?

• How do you make sure the ewe's teats are open so the lamb can get colostrum?

Tell what's important
Why is it important to check the ewes often when they are lambing?

Explore what you learned
How does practicing and planning ahead help you when an actual event happens?

Imagine what's next
What steps can you take now to be ready for lambing?

Lambing Supplies

- Heat lamp
- Towels
- Water pail
- 6 x 6 foot pens
- Iodine
- Scissors
- Colostrum
- Esophageal feeder
- Lamb nipples
- 60cc syringe
- Antibiotic uterine boluses
- Detergent

Lambing Losses

Be prepared to avoid losing lambs to these 10 causes:

- Starvation
- Pneumonia
- Scours (Diarrhea)
- Navel Ill
- Entropion (Inverted eyelids)
- Urinary Calculi (Water Belly)
- White Muscle Disease
- (Stiff Lamb)
- Enteroxemia
- (Overeating)
- Disease
- Parasites
- Coccidiosis

Revised by Lisa Rothenburger

Getting Ready to Lamb

Ewes should either be sheared or crocheted prior to lambing. If you shear, it should be done about three or four weeks before lambing. This will allow for cleaner lambing and no dirty tags for lambs to suck. Handle the ewes gently. In tagging (crocheting or crutching), the ewe's wool is trimmed from the crotch and udder and a few inches forward of the udder on the stomach. (see photo)

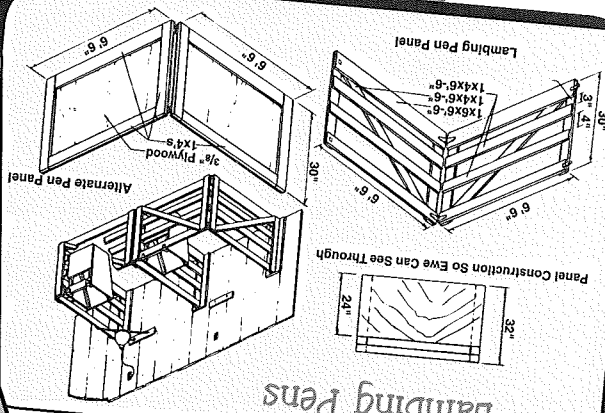
Lambing Pens

Lambing pens or "jugs" 6' x 6' should be ready for the newborn lamb and its mother. A jug allows a better opportunity to observe their bonding behavior and fix any problems that may arise during the first week following birth. The jugs should have clean bedding, a small feeder and a container of water that cannot be spilled or stepped in by the newborn lamb. Barns should be clean, dry, and free of draft—but not too warm. A warm, damp barn is conducive to bacterial growth, which may lead to pneumonia and other disease problems.

After Lambing

Ewes are often thirsty after giving birth. It is a good idea to offer the ewe a bucket of warm water containing about half a cup of stock molasses. Offer good hay but no grain the first day as it could promote more milk than a tiny lamb could use. If the ewe has twins or more, grain feeding should start that first day.

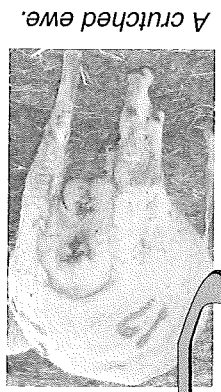
Lambing Pens



More Challenges

1. Visit a sheep operation during lambing time and help take care of newborn lambs.

2. Demonstrate what to do if a lamb is not breathing when born or is very cold and weak when found.



A crutched ewe.

Adapted From "Sheep Management - Lambing Time", 1988 J. J. Dahmen, Ed Duren and Pete South, University of Idaho, College of Agriculture.

- Clean the nostrils of mucus and uterine membranes
- If the lamb is having breathing difficulties, use a veterinary aspirator to stimulate normal breathing
- Apply iodine to the navel as soon after birth as possible to avoid navel infection. A wide-mouth (size of a silver dollar) container of iodine and scissors are helpful in applying iodine properly
- Milk both of the ewe's teats to break the wax and check for udder problems.
- Help weak lambs to nurse. The first milk (colostrum) is important to the lamb because it has a laxative effect and contains antibodies providing immediate protection against many diseases
- Revive any lamb you find that is chilled, weak and refuses to nurse. One method is to rub the lamb until it is dry and warm it, under a heat lamp, but do not overheat it. Then feed colostrum milk. Another method to warm a chilled lamb is immersing its entire body, except the head, in warm water (100 to 120 F) or put milk directly into its stomach with a catheter tube connected to a syringe.

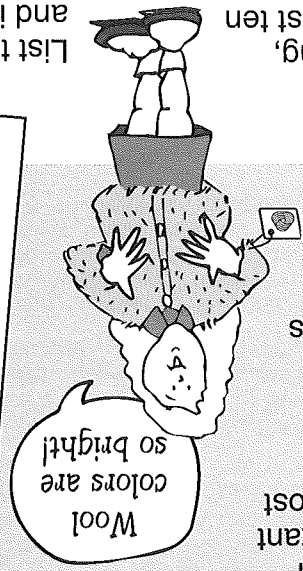
Wool Products	Fabric	% Wool	Price

Your Challenge

Visit a department, clothing, camping, fabric or carpet store and find at least ten different kinds of items that contain wool.

List the item, percent wool it contains and its price. Also look in your own home for items.

Are some of your clothes made with wool? Wool is just one of the important products sheep produce. Meat is most important in the United States but wool is a close second. In most of the world, however, wool is more important than meat. In this activity you'll discover how wool fiber and its properties influence your life. Don't forget wool is one of the three natural fibers.



Checking Out the Fiber



Sheep Project Skill: Identifying wool properties and uses
Life Skill: Learning to learn
Show of Success: Finds items or products made from wool.

Share with your helper

- What did you discover in your search for items containing wool?

- How did garments containing wool compare in price with those using synthetic fibers?
- How could you tell if an item used real wool?

Tell what's important

Why is wool used instead of other fabrics for many items?

Explore what you learned
Why is it helpful for you to know from what an item such as clothing is made?

Imagine what's next

What else might you learn by visiting a department store?

Wool Word Bank

- Scouring
- Sorting
- Staple
- Length
- Count
- Crimp
- Tagging
- Felt
- Tags
- Fiber
- Virgin
- Wool
- Grease
- Wool
- Kemp
- Keratin
- Loom

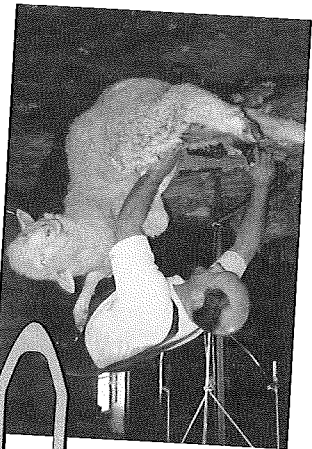
K A S C O U R I N G B C
E D G R E A S E W O L
M S K I R T I N G T R F
P G T M B K H I L J K L
S T A P L E L E N G T H
O A G C O R F M R O M G
R G G O O A Q E R O N B
T S I U M T B T O I L R
I V N N Y I E L D O W A
I X G T F N Y A O Z A I
G B C D C A R D I N G D
E R V I R G I N W O O L

Wool Word Find

Facts

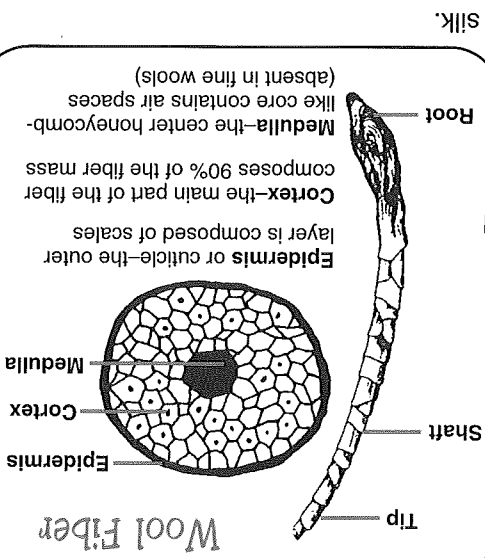
Wool fiber is a molecular coiled spring. This allows each fiber to bounce back to its original shape when stretched up to 50% when wet or up to 30% when dry. The flexibility of the wool also makes it more durable.

A wool fiber can be bent back on itself more than 20,000 times without breaking compared to about 3,000 times for cotton and 2,000 times for silk.



Shearing a sheep.

Characteristics of Wool



Wool Fiber

Resistance To Flame
Because wool contains moisture in each fiber, it resists flame without chemical treatment. Instead of burning freely when touched by flame, wool chars and stops burning when it is removed from the source of fire. Wool is self-extinguishing.

Fiber Absorbency
Wool takes up moisture in vapor form. Wool can easily absorb up to 30% of its moisture without feeling damp or clammy. The capacity to absorb makes wool a "temperature regulator" because it can protect the body in both cold and warm climates by keeping a layer of dry air next to the skin. This is why wool clothing is worn throughout the desert region of the world where it's hot during the day and cool at night.

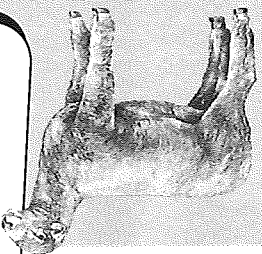
Takes Dye Beautifully
Wool absorbs many different dyes deeply, uniformly and directly without the use of combining chemicals.

More Challenges

1. Get five or more samples of wool, both natural colored and white, from different breeds of sheep. Examine each sample under a microscope and identify the differences.
2. Interview someone who sews. Discuss why wool is often a favorite fabric when making clothing. Share what you discover with your family.
3. Interview someone who is involved with fire prevention, a hospital, a hospice or works in cosmetics to see why wool is important. Share what you find with your helper.

Acknowledgment: Adapted with approval of American Sheep Industry 6911 So. Yosemite St. Englewood, Colorado 80112. www.sheepusa.org

More Than Meat and Wool



Sheep Project Skill: Recognizing sheep by-products
Life Skill: Learning to learn
Show of Success: Identifies at least six sheep by-products.

Meat, milk and wool are not the only products we get from sheep. Everyday you come in contact with items made from "by-products". By-products are things of value that are made from the parts of the animal that do not become meat.

By-products come from parts such as bones, skin, hair, fat, hooves and organs. In this activity you will practice recognizing sheep by-products that are located throughout your home.

Your Challenge

Each of the sheep by-products listed is used to produce one or more of the manufactured products. Can you match the by-products with the manufactured products? Next, look at the list of words in the word bank and check those that are sheep by-products. To check if you've selected the correct ones, find these products in the word search puzzle. Then, identify and list at least six different sheep by-products in your home.

Sheep Byproducts

- A. Sheep milk _____ 6.
- B. Sheep pelts (skin with wool) _____
- C. Hides _____ 4, 25
- D. Fats _____ 37.
- E. Variety meats _____
- F. Blood _____
- G. Meat scraps _____ 11.
- H. Bones _____
- I. Intestines _____
- J. Glands (Pituitary, Thyroid, Ovary, Pancreas) _____
- K. Collagen (Gelatin) _____
- L. Stomach contents _____

Manufactured Products

- 1. Animal feeds
- 2. Blood sausage
- 3. Buttons
- 4. Candles
- 5. Capsules
- 6. Cheese
- 7. Cheese casings
- 8. Coating for pills
- 9. Coats
- 10. Crochet needles
- 11. Dice
- 12. Diploma covers
- 13. Fertilizer
- 14. Glue
- 15. Hearts
- 16. Ice cream making strings
- 17. Kidneys
- 18. Leather dressing
- 19. Leather goods
- 20. Liver
- 21. Lubricants
- 22. Matches
- 23. Margarine
- 24. Meat meal
- 25. Medicines
- 26. Milk products
- 27. Pelts
- 28. Photographic film
- 29. Robes
- 30. Rugs
- 31. Sausage casings
- 32. Shoe polish
- 33. Slippers
- 34. Soaps
- 35. Surgical sutures
- 36. Tennis racket
- 37. Tongue strings
- 38. Tripe
- 39. Violin strings

Sheep Products Word Search



F I L M A B S H O E S
 C E D P L Y W O O D N
 M A R G A R I N E E O
 C L O T H E S E C U T
 E F H G I E F H H S T
 D I C E L L I V E R U
 I J U D A D I C E K B
 L L N M P R M Z S N O
 G A I A P O T R E S T
 C N O M A T C H U R V
 A S E A T C O V E R S

Sheep by-products I found in my home:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Word Bank

- _____ Animal feeds
- _____ Buttons
- _____ Candles
- _____ Cheese
- _____ Clothes
- _____ Computer
- _____ Dice
- _____ Fertilizer
- _____ Film
- _____ Glue
- _____ Heart
- _____ Liver
- _____ Margarine
- _____ Match
- _____ Orange Juice
- _____ Plywood
- _____ Seat Cover
- _____ Shoes
- _____ Soap
- _____ Suede

Share with your helper

- What did you discover in your search for items containing wool?

- How did garments containing wool compare in price with those using synthetic fibers?
- How could you tell if an item used real wool?

Tell what's important

Why is wool used instead of other fabrics for many items?

Explore what you learned

Why is it helpful for you to know from what an item such as clothing is made?

Imagine what's next

What else might you learn by visiting a department store?

K A S C O U R I N G B C
E D G R E A S E W O L
M S K I R T I N G T R F
P G T M B K H I L J K L
S T A P L E L E N G T H
O A G C O R F M R O M G
R G G O A Q E R O N B
T S I U M T B T O I L R
I V N N Y I E L D O W A
N X G T F N Y A O Z A I
G B C D C A R D I N G D
E R V I R G I N W O O L

Wool Word Bank

- Scouring
- Bloom
- Skirting
- Braid
- Sorting
- Carding
- Count
- Crimp
- Tagging
- Tags
- Fiber
- Virgin
- Wool
- Grease
- Kemp
- Keratin
- Loom

Characteristics of Wool

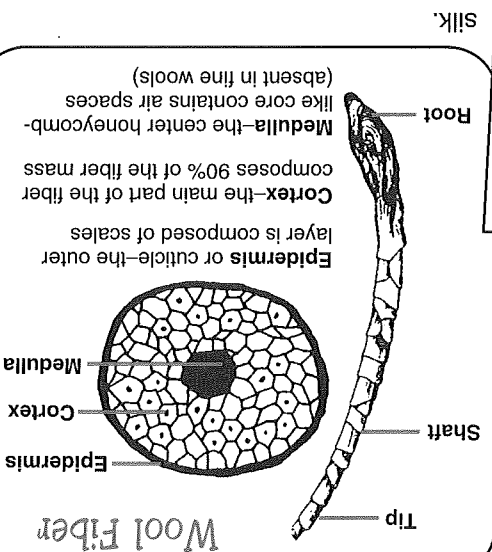


Wool fiber is a molecular coilspring. This allows each fiber to bounce back to its original shape when stretched up to 50% when wet or up to 30% when dry. The flexibility of the wool also makes it more durable.

A wool fiber can be bent back on itself more than 20,000 times without breaking compared to about 3,000 times for cotton and 2,000 times for silk.



Shearing a sheep.



Resistance To Flame
Because wool contains moisture in each fiber, it resists flame without chemical treatment. Instead of burning freely when touched by flame, wool chars and stops burning when it is removed from the source of fire. Wool is self-extinguishing.

Fiber Absorbency
Wool takes up moisture in vapor form. Wool can easily absorb up to 30% of its moisture without feeling damp or clammy. The capacity to absorb makes wool a "temperature regulator" because it can protect the body in both cold and warm climates by keeping a layer of dry air next to the skin. This is why wool clothing is worn throughout the desert region of the world where it's hot during the day and cool at night.

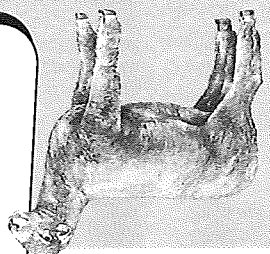
Takes Dye Beautifully
Wool absorbs many different dyes deeply, uniformly and directly without the use of combining chemicals.

More Challenges

- Get five or more samples of wool, both natural colored and white, from different breeds of sheep. Examine each sample under a microscope and identify the differences.
- Interview someone who sews. Discuss why wool is often a favorite fabric when making clothing. Share what you discover with your family.
- Interview someone who is involved with fire prevention, a hospital, a hospice or works in cosmetics to see why wool is important. Share what you find with your helper.

Acknowledgment: Adapted with approval of American Sheep Industry 6911 So. Yosemite St. Englewood, Colorado 80112. www.sheepusa.org

More Than Meat and Wool



Sheep Project Skill: Recognizing sheep by-products
Life Skill: Learning to learn by-products
Show of Success: Identifies at least six sheep by-products.

Meat, milk and wool are not the only products we get from sheep. Everyday you come in contact with items made from "by-products". By-products are things of value that are made from the parts of the animal that do not become meat.

By-products come from parts such as bones, skin, hair, fat, hooves and organs. In this activity you will practice recognizing sheep by-products that are located throughout your home.

Your Challenge

Each of the sheep by-products listed is used to produce one or more of the manufactured products. Can you match the by-products with the manufactured products? Next, look at the list of words in the word bank and check those that are sheep by-products. To check if you've selected the correct ones, find these products in the word search puzzle. Then, identify and list at least six different sheep by-products in your home.

Sheep Byproducts

- A. Sheep milk _____ 6.
- B. Sheep pelts (skin with wool) _____
- C. Hides _____ 4, 25
- D. Fats _____ 37.
- E. Variety meats _____
- F. Blood _____
- G. Meat scraps _____
- H. Bones _____ 11.
- I. Intestines _____
- J. Glands (Pituitary, Thyroid, Ovary, Pancreas) _____
- K. Collagen (Gelatin) _____
- L. Stomach contents _____

Manufactured Products

- 1. Animal feeds
- 2. Blood sausage
- 3. Buttons
- 4. Candles
- 5. Capsules
- 6. Cheese
- 7. Cheese casings
- 8. Coating for pills
- 9. Coats
- 10. Crochet needles
- 11. Dice
- 12. Diploma covers
- 13. Fertilizer
- 14. Glue
- 15. Hearts
- 16. Ice cream making
- 17. Kidneys
- 18. Leather dressing
- 19. Leather goods
- 20. Liver
- 21. Lubricants
- 22. Matches
- 23. Margarine
- 24. Meat meal
- 25. Medicines
- 26. Milk products
- 27. Pelts
- 28. Photographic film
- 29. Robes
- 30. Rugs
- 31. Sausage casings
- 32. Shoe polish
- 33. Slippers
- 34. Soaps
- 35. Surgical sutures
- 36. Tennis racket strings
- 37. Tongue
- 38. Tripe
- 39. Violin strings

Sheep Products Word Search



F I L M A B S H O E S
 C E D P L Y W O O D N
 M A R G A R I N E E O
 C L O T H E S E C U T
 E F H G I E F H H S T
 D I C E L L I V E R U
 I J U D A D I C E K B
 L L N M P R M Z S N O
 G A I A P Q T R E S T
 C N O M A T C H U R V
 A S E A T C O V E R S

Sheep by-products I found in my home:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Word Bank

- _____ Animal feeds
- _____ Buttons
- _____ Candles
- _____ Cheese
- _____ Clothes
- _____ Computer
- _____ Dice
- _____ Fertilizer
- _____ Film
- _____ Glue
- _____ Heart
- _____ Liver
- _____ Margarine
- _____ Match
- _____ Orange Juice
- _____ Plywood
- _____ Seat Cover
- _____ Shoes
- _____ Soap
- _____ Suede



you.

1. Collect as many sheep by-products as you can and make a display for a fair or exhibit.
2. Visit a dairy sheep farm if one is close to you.

More Challenges



Intestines. These are used to make surgical sutures and natural casings for sausages.

Hide. The hides from sheep are called sheep pelts, and are the most valuable by-product from sheep. Some pelts are processed with the wool on and become coat and boot linings, rugs and seat covers. On other pelts, the wool is removed from the skin and is used in a wide variety of ways. The skin then becomes leather and is used for shoes, suede and clothing.

Glue. Glue can be produced from hide, bones, heads and hooves. It is used in the manufacture of plywood, paper, matches, toys, picture frames, billiard balls, bookbinding and many other products.

Gelatin. Gelatin can be produced from bones and hides. It is used in making ice cream, and wine, beer and vinegar, as well as medicine capsules and photography.

Fats. Some fats are edible and are used in margarine and shortening. Other fat is considered inedible and is used in soaps, oils and greases.

Edible by-products. Some by-products are edible, and are a major food source in some parts of the world, including Europe and Japan. Edible by-products are also called "variety meats" and include organs such as livers, hearts and tongues.

Bone. Can be used to make crochet needles, dice, chess pieces, buttons, electrical insulators, and is also used in feed and fertilizer.

Blood. Used in cancer research, hair conditioners, fertilizers, animal feeds, and buttons.

Today, animal by-products are used to manufacture many household items. About one-third, or 33% of the live weight of a lamb becomes boneless lamb meat. The rest, or 67% of the live weight, is made into other things such as those listed.

Throughout history, animals have been used as a food source. History shows that early peoples also used many other animal products, such as skins for clothing and shelter; bones and horns for tools; and stomachs for containers.

Through out history, animals have been used as a food source.

Sheep By-products



Talk Words. By-products • Variety meats • Sheep pelts

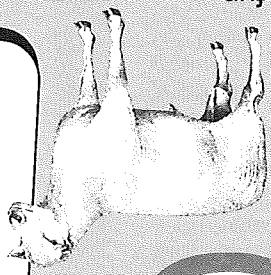
Imagine what's next
What would you tell someone who says that lambs aren't of much value, because hardly anyone eats lamb meat?

Explore what you learned
How does seeing, feeling, smelling and/or hearing products help you remember them more than just reading about them? Why?

- Tell what's important*
How do by-products add to the value of a sheep when marketed?
- Which products were you surprised to learn came from sheep?
 - What by-products have you used today?
- Share with your helper*

Talk It Over

The Complete Package



Sheep Project Skill: Fitting a sheep for show

Life Skill: Communicating with others

Show of Success: Demonstrates how to fit a sheep for show.

beautiful animal with a little soap and water, careful shearing, carding and clipping.

Fitting a sheep for show is one of the fun and rewarding things you can do in the sheep project. A lamb or ewe that looks dark and dirty can be changed into a

Your Challenge

You may do this activity in one of two ways, depending if you do or do not have sheep:

1. *If you have sheep*, prepare and present a demonstration either on washing or trimming a sheep.

2. *If you don't have sheep*,

demonstrate with the help of someone who knows about fitting a sheep the proper use of a round curry comb, wool hand card and hand shears. List below the key points you included in your demonstration.

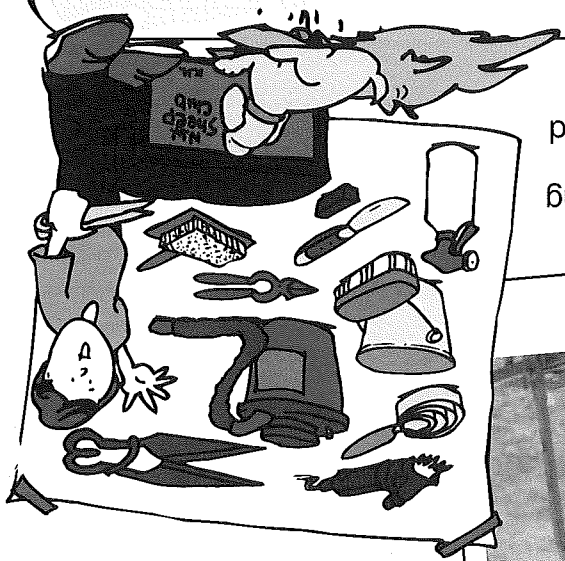
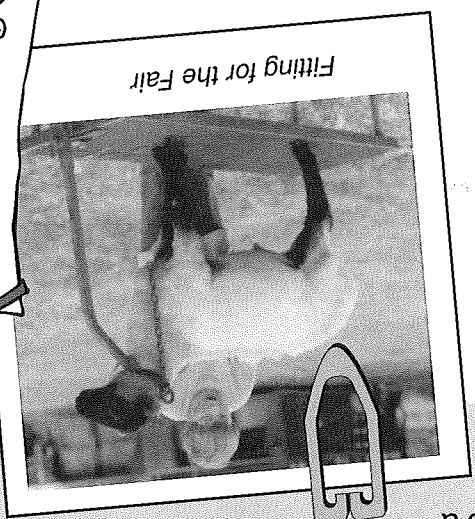
Demonstration Highlights

Title

Introduction

Major points

Conclusion

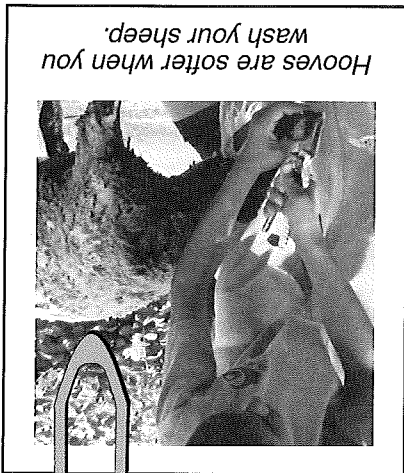




Sheep Fitting Hints

Wool Breeds are judged 60% for their wool and 40% for their conformation. Here are some fitting tips:

- Shear so the fleece has grown to about 4" in length prior to the show
- Clean, curry or comb (without taking out the curl)
- If possible don't wash a wool sheep so the luster is not removed. Keep the bedding clean and pastures free of brambles
- Cut or "tip" the ends of the wool to emphasize a straight back and rounded rump area



- Trim the hooves and clean the udder and the tail area
- Putting a blanket or hood on a wool sheep is NOT recommended as it will pack the fleece.

Meat Breeds

Meat breeds are judged primarily on conformation. The following suggestions will help you prepare a meat breed for a breed show:

- Obtain a #2 or #3 wool card, a circular curry comb, a stiff brush, clean rags, stock dip or detergent, a water pail and fitting stand
- Check your local guidelines for the best time to shear before the show to meet any wool length requirements.
- Wash using a mild detergent within two to three weeks before showing
- Trim the wool close to the body with a sharp sheep shears
- Comb the entire fleece with a circular currycomb to break up the fleece
- Trim the ends until you have a smooth surface
- Use the wool card to straighten the fibers and bring them together
- Trim the ends with the shears being careful to clip with only the upper blade and keeping the lower blade still
- Repeat the carding and trimming until the sheep's fleece is smooth and compact
- Fit to emphasize a straight back and rounded rump area
- Provide bedding and place a clean blanket on the sheep
- Trim the hooves

Market Lambs

Market lambs should be "slick shorn" within a few days of the show. This means they should have the least amount of fleece possible. At the show, they are judged on size, conformation and how muscular they are. Any amount of wool will distract the judge. The sheep should be washed after shearing and hooves trimmed.

Share with your helper

- What did you include in your demonstration?
- Who was your audience?
- How did it feel to share with others?

Tell what's important

What did you do to make sure you were understood?

Explore what you learned

Why is learning how to speak clearly important to you?

Imagine what's next

What are some things you know about sheep you could teach others by giving a presentation?

1. Participate in a sheep fitting contest.

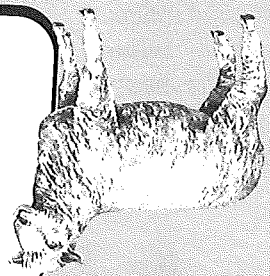
More Challenges



2. Demonstrate how to prepare the fleece of a wool breed for show.

It's Show Time

Let's show sheep! Here is your chance to see not only what you know about showing sheep, but also to practice showing and help someone else show a sheep. Learning how to show a sheep so it looks its best isn't always easy. Several

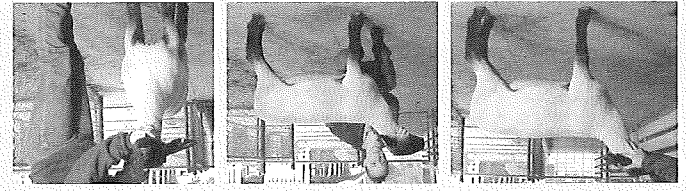


Sheep Project Skill: Showing a sheep
Life Skill: Communicating with others
Show of Success: Evaluates youth showing sheep and practices showing a sheep.

hours of work are needed before the sheep looks its best and responds to your directions.

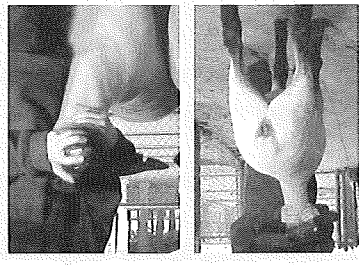
Your Challenge

Shown below are two show persons. Use the information in the Showmanship Scorecard on page 33 plus your own experiences to note all the good and poor showmanship practices you see. Record at least five good



Good Showmanship Practices

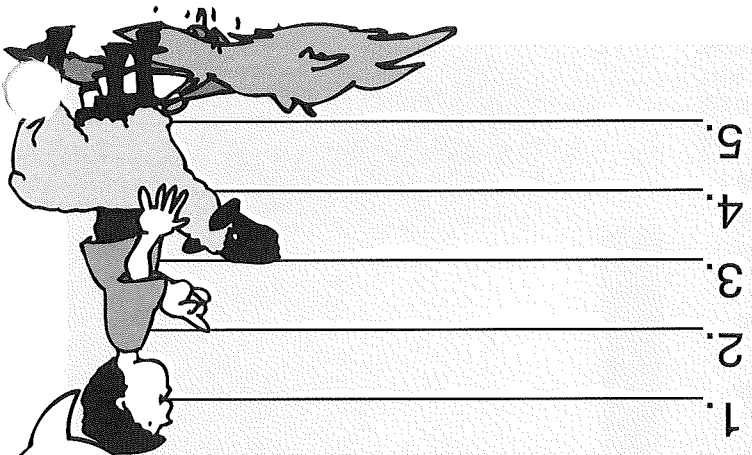
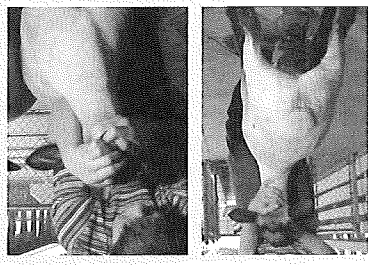
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Poor Showmanship Practices



and five poor practices for each person. Next, with a friend practice showing a sheep. Take turns being the judge. Practice moving, setting up, bracing, turning and answering



I can't wait to show a sheep.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Sheep Showmanship Score Card



Exhibitor Appearance and Merits20

- ____ Appearance (10)
- ____ Well groomed
- ____ Clothes neat and clean

Merits (10)

- ____ Brings sheep promptly into ring
- ____ Works quickly but not abruptly
- ____ Keeps attention on sheep and judge
- ____ Quickly corrects faults of sheep
- ____ Shows animal, not self
- ____ Gives prompt answers to questions
- ____ Displays courteous sportsmanlike attitude

Sheep's Appearance40

- ____ Cleanliness (15)
- ____ Wool clean and free of foreign matter
- ____ Head, flanks and legs clean
- ____ Clean ears, nose and feet

Fitting (25)

- ____ Market lamb fleece 1/4 inch or less
- ____ Breeding ewe fleece 3/8 to 3/4 inch
- ____ maximum for meat breeds
- ____ Feet trimmed

Showing Lamb40

- ____ Sheep properly set up at all times
- ____ Responds to handling and under control
- ____ Shown from front when judge views
- ____ from rear or left side; otherwise shown from left side only
- ____ Shown from a standing or a bent knee position
- ____ Led into the showing on the left side with the left hand under the jaw and the right hand behind the head
- ____ Braced by extending fingers and applying slight pressure to muscles on side of neck or jaw

Cooperation with Judge10

- ____ Keeps body from obstructing view of own sheep and others'
- ____ Shows awareness of judge's position and hand signals
- ____ Moves sheep upon direction of judge

Talk It Over



Share with your helper

- How did it feel to show a sheep?
- What challenges did you have the first time you tried?

Tell what's important

What's most important about showing a sheep?

Explore what you learned

What did you discover by being the judge?

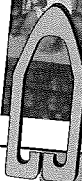
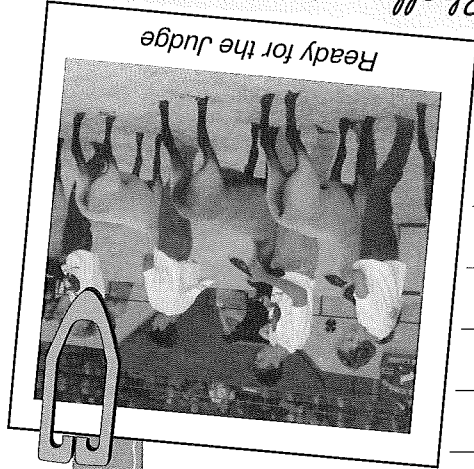
Imagine what's next

How can you be even more helpful to someone you are teaching in the future?

More Challenges



1. Participate in a sheep showmanship activity with your project group or at a fair.
2. Video tape yourself and/or others in a showmanship class or activity. Use the Sheep Showmanship Score Card to critique the class.



Sheep Talk 1



This is the first of three Sheep Talk glossaries for you to use to increase your "sheep" vocabulary. See how many of these words your family knows.

Average daily gain (ADG) - The amount of weight a lamb gains each day. Calculated by dividing the total weight gained in a period by the number of days in the period. Example: 60 lbs. gained in 90 days = $60 \div 90 = 0.67$ lbs. per day.

Balanced ration - A ration with feed ingredients combined in amounts and proportions that will meet an animal's daily nutritional requirements.

Bracing - Method used to tighten the loin muscles of a lamb's back to make them feel firmer when handled.

Breed - A group of sheep that look alike and have the same ancestors.

Broken mouth - A condition in which a sheep has lost some, but not all, of its teeth.

By-product - Anything used from a sheep to produce something besides fiber, meat or milk products.

C

Castration - Removing testicles from male animals.

Colostrum - The first milk, high in antibodies, produced by a female mammal after it gives birth.

Commercial flock - A sheep flock that is used to produce traditional lamb and wool products for sale to commercial markets.

Conformation - The shape and design of an animal.

Creep feeding - Giving lambs extra feed when they are still nursing.

Crossbred - An animal whose parents are of two different breeds.

Cud - Regurgitated food.

Culling - The act of eliminating animals from the flock in order to improve its genetic purity or quality.

Dam - The female parent, the mother.

Diet - What is fed to an animal daily; ration.

Docking - Cutting the tails short on baby lambs. Performed for sanitary reasons where flies are a problem.

Dual purpose breeds - Breeds that have both acceptable wool and meat characteristics.

E

Estrus - Period of time when a female is sexually receptive to a male (known as heat).

Ewe - A female sheep.

Ewe breeds - Breeds that excel in prolificacy, mothering, milk production, and often times wool production and quality. Usually white-faced breeds of fine-wool type.

Ewe lamb - Female sheep that is less than one year-old and is usually not bred.

F

Feed - What sheep eat.

Feeder lamb - A weaned lamb that has opportunity to grow for at least 30–60 days before being ready for market.

Feedlot - A facility where large numbers of feeder lambs are grown and finished for market.

Feedstuff - Material used for feed.

Fetus - A young unborn animal as it develops in the uterus of a mammal.

Fitting - The clipping, washing and grooming of animals for show.

Flock - A small group of sheep.

Frame size - An estimate of an animal's relative skeletal size, which can predict the weight at which it will begin fattening or reach its mature size.

G

Get - The offspring of a male animal.

Grade - An animal that looks like a purebred, but is not.

Grain - Feeds like corn, wheat and barley that are high in energy.

Gummer - A sheep with all the incisor teeth missing—a sign of age.

Silage - A forage crop that has been preserved by fermentation through a process that keeps out oxygen.

Single - One lamb born with no brothers or sisters.

Sire - The male parent; the father.

T

Tagging - Practice of shearing wool from udder and dock region. Also called crutching or crochng.

Tags - Dung locks, floor sweepings or stained pieces of wool.

Testes - Male reproductive glands.

Trait - Any observable or measurable characteristic of an animal.

Triplets - Three lambs born to a ewe at the same time.

Twins - Two lambs born to a ewe at the same time.

U

Udder - The mammary glands, including the teats or nipples of farm animals.

W

Weaning - Removing lamb from the ewe to stop nursing.

Wether - A male sheep that has been castrated.

Wholesale cut - The portion of a carcass from which a group of retail cuts are taken. The shoulder, rack, loin and leg are the major wholesale cuts of lamb.

Y

Yearling - An animal between one and two years of age.

Pastern - The region of the foot or leg between the hoof and the dewclaw.

Pasture - A plot of land where plants are cultivated for grazing.

Poll - The forehead of a sheep.

Polled - An animal that is born without horns in a species that sometimes has them.

Progeny - Offspring.

Prolific - Capable of having many offspring.

Processing - Slaughter or butchering of market animals.

Puberty - The time when an animal becomes sexually mature. The female can get pregnant and the male can produce viable sperm.

Purebred - An animal descended from a line of ancestors of the same breed; may or may not be registered.

R

Ram - A male sheep, also known as a "buck."

Ram breeds - Meat-type breeds used mainly as sires for market lamb production.

Ration - The amount of feed eaten or provided within a 24-hour period.

Registered - Purebred animals whose pedigrees are recorded in the breed registry.

Retail cut - Cuts of meat the consumer purchases.

S

Scrotum - The sack or skin that contains the testes.

Scurs - Small, rounded portions of horn tissue attached to the skin at the horn pits of polled animals.

Showmanship - Presenting an animal at a show including proper fitting of the animal, showing and exhibitor appearance.

H

Hay - Livestock feed made from grasses that have been cut and dried so they can be stored without molding.

Horned - An animal that has horns.

L

Lamb - A sheep under one year of age or the meat from young sheep.

Lambing percentage -

Number of lambs born in the flock as compared to the number of ewes exposed to the ram. For example: 150 lambs born to 100 ewes exposed to the ram x 100 = 150 percent.

Livestock - Farm animals raised for milk, meat, work and wool; includes beef and dairy cattle, swine, sheep, horses and goats; may also include poultry.

M

Mammal - An animal that gives milk, nurses its young and grows hair on its body.

Market weight - The weight of the animal when sold for processing.

Mouthing - Estimating a sheep's age by looking at its teeth.

Mutton - The meat from mature sheep.

Muzzle - The nose of a sheep.

O

Offspring - Animals born to a parent, or later generations of the same family.

Sheep Resources

The following are examples of resources to help you complete the activities and learn more about this exciting project. The Extension Service does not endorse any non-extension resources or web sites.

4-H Sheep Internet Site
<http://members.aol.com/culhamb/>
 Sheep on the Web
<http://members.aol.com/culhamb/>
 Sheepweb.htm

Sheep Publications
National 4-H Curriculum Materials
 BU-06367
 Sheep 1 Rams, Lambs and You
 BU-06368
 Sheep 2 *Shear Delight*
 BU-06369
 Sheep 3 *Leading the Flock*
 BU-06370
Sheep Helper's Guide

Books
Beginning Shepherd's Manual
 Barbara Smith et al.
 Paperback — 160 pages 2nd edition (January 1997)
 Iowa State university Press;
 ISBN: 081382799X
Raising Sheep the Modern Way
 1991
 by Paula Simmons
 Storey Communications, Inc.
 Pownal, VT 05261
Sheep & Goat Science
 M.E. Ensminger
 Interstate Printers & Pub;
 ISBN: 0813431666
Sheep Production Handbook
 Sheep Industry Development Program, Inc.
 Rt 1, Box 100
 Clarks Hill, IN 47930-9726
 PO Box 272
 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351-0000
 740-482-2748
Am Corriedale Assn
 www.sheepmagazine.com
Sheep Magazines
Sheep!
 www.sheepmagazine.com
The Shepherd's Journal
<http://www.shepherdjournal.com/index.htm>

Sheep Associations
Am Sheep Industry Association
 6911 South Yosemite Street,
 Englewood, CO 80112-1414
 303-771-3500 ext. 46
www.sheepusa.org
 Sheep Breeds
 Sheep Breed Associations
 Industry Efforts
 Product Information
 Make It Yourself with Wool
 Contest
 Sheep Diseases
 Wool Production
 Lamb and Wool Marketing
 Financial Budgets
National Lamb Feeders Association
www.wlcs.com/~nlfa-sheep/
National Meat Association
www.nmaonline.org/links.htm
 17 W Main, PO Box 256
 Newton, UT 84327-0256
 435-563-6105 H
 435-563-9356 F
www.u-s-s-a.org

Breeds and Breed Associations
<http://www.ansl.okstate.edu/BREEDS/S/SHEEP/>
Am Cheviot Sheep Society
 Rt 1, Box 100
 Clarks Hill, IN 47930-9726
 PO Box 272
 Upper Sandusky, OH 43351-0000
 740-482-2748
Am Corriedale Assn
 PO Box 391
 Clay City, IL 62824-0391
 618-676-1046
Am & Delaine Merino Record Assn
 1026 CR 1175
 Ashland, OH 44805-9523
 419-281-5786
Am Hampshire Sheep Assn
 1557 173rd Ave # 8
 Milo, IA 50166-9667
 515-942-6402

Government
USDA National Sheep Database Project
<http://www.reusda.gov/ag/syst/dds/lives/tok/sheep/nshd.htm>
University and Cooperative Extension Service Sites
Cooperative Extension Service
Sheep Links
<http://www.msue.msu.edu/lac/agni/c/igrnts/lanimshee.htm>
Cornell University Sheep Program
<http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/sheep/sheep.htm>
Michigan State University Sheep Extension Programs
<http://www.canr.msu.edu/dep/ans/sheext.htm>
Oklahoma State University Virtual Livestock Library - Sheep LIBRARY/sheep.htm
<http://www.ansl.okstate.edu/>
Purdue University Extension Sheep Publications
<http://ag.ansc.purdue.edu/>
<http://www.agcom.purdue.edu/AGCom/Pubs/ansci.htm#6>

Am N Country Cheviot Sheep Assn
 8708 S CR 500 W
 Reelsville, IN 46171-0000
 765-672-8205 H
 yuccaff@ccrc.com

Am Rambouillet Breeders Assn
 2709 Sherwood Wy
 San Angelo, TX 76901
 915-947-3660

Am Shropshire Reg Assn
 24905 Streit Rd, PO Box 635
 Harvard, IL 60033-0635
 815-943-2034

Am Southdown Breeders Assn
 HC 13, Box 220
 Fredonia, TX 76842-9702
 915-429-6226
 southdown@ctesc.net

Natl Suffolk Sheep Assn
 1120 Wilkes Blvd
 Columbia, MO 65201-7605
 573-442-4103
www.dkiostra@socket.net

United Suffolk Sheep Assn
 17 W Main, PO Box 256
 Newton, UT 84327-0256
 435-563-6105 H
 435-563-9356 F
www.u-s-s-a.org

Quality Assurance
Western Fairs Association Livestock Quality Assurance Pages
www.fairsnet.org/quality/index.htm

Marketing
Lamb Markets
www.mtsheep.org/lamb.htm

Wool
Montana Wool Growers Association
www.mtsheep.org/
Woolmark (US)
<http://www.woolmark.com>
Wool.com (Australia)
www.wool.com.au
Wool WW Virtual Library
 (Australia)
<http://www.dpte.gov.au/agfor/wool/sho/me.htm>

Feeds and Feeding
Feeding Sheep
<http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/sheep/410-853/410-853.htm>
Feeding the Ewe Flock
<http://ag.ansc.purdue.edu/sheep/articles/FEEDING.htm>
Nutrient Requirements of Sheep
<http://asnet.tamu.edu/www/kids/sheep.htm>

Judging
Utah State University 4-H Cyber Livestock Judging
<http://uiahreach.usu.edu/boxelder/ex4/>
<http://cyberfdq/cyberpg.htm>

Virginia Cooperative Extension Sheep Publications
<http://mcdowell.ces.state.nc.us/stat/fmde/ica/pages/sheep&goats.shtml>

University of Illinois SheepNet
<http://www.ansci.uiuc.edu/>

Sheep & Goat Publications
<http://agpublications.tamu.edu/pub/seanim/#SHEEFGOATS>

Shearing Guide
<http://agweek.tamu.edu/agweek99/animal/sheep.htm>

Texas A & M University Extension

Find more about Sheep and other projects online at:

Science, Engineering and Technology

Agricultural Science
• After-school Agriculture

Animal Science

- Beef
- Cat
- Dairy Cattle
- Dairy Goat
- Dog
- Embryology
- Entomology
- Exploring Farm Animals
- Meat Goat
- Pets
- Poultry
- Rabbit
- Sheep
- Swine
- Veterinary Science
- Horse

Engineering and Technology

• Aerospace Adventures

• Electric Excitement

• Computer

• Exploring 4-H Robotics

• Geospatial

• Sewing Expressions

• Small Engines

• Woodworking Wonders

Environmental Science

• Exploring Your Environment

• Forestry—Forests of Fun

• Fishing for Adventure

• Outdoor Adventures

Plant Science

• Down-to-Earth—Gardening in the Classroom

• Gardening

Science Discovery

• Science Discovery Series

Healthy Living

Health and Fitness

• Bicycle Adventures

• Child Development—Kids on the Grow

• Keeping Fit and Healthy

Nutrition

• Foods

• Microwave Magic

Citizenship

Communication and Expressive Arts

• A Palette of Fun

• Communications—Express Yourself!

• Photography

• Que Rico! Latino Cultural Arts

• Theatre Arts

• Visual Arts

Community Action

• Citizenship—Public Adventures

• Service Learning

Leadership

• Exploring 4-H

• Step Up To Leadership

Personal Development

• Consumer Savvy

• Financial Champions

• Be the E—Entrepreneurship

• Get in the Act!

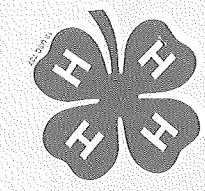
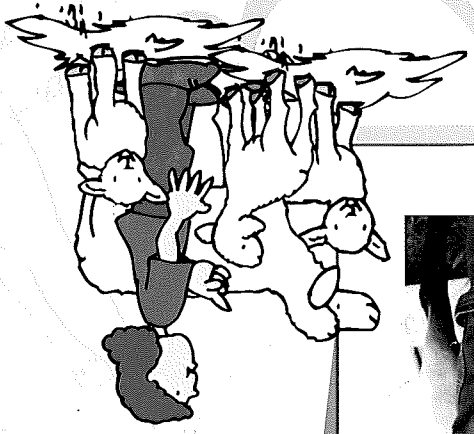
Resources

• Experiential Learning Video

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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.

The 4-H Pledge