

Using the *Dog Project and Record Book*

The *Dog Project and Record Book* is used as one book for all the projects and all the dogs you take during a 4-H project year. This is the first year that the dog projects include a project and record book. To help you better understand how to use it, please read the following explanations.

Page 5 – Your Project Level. The three project levels are Beginner, a youth who is new to dog projects or who is age 8, 9, or 10 years old; Intermediate, a youth who has some dog project experience or who is youth age 11, 12, or 13 years old; and Advanced, a youth who has experience taking dog projects or who is 14, 15, 16, 17, or 18 years old. These are the experience and age guidelines for completing the *Dog Project and Record Book* only, and they are *different* from the age divisions for showing your dog. You should complete the appropriate level in the project and record book, regardless of the age division you show in. The age divisions for showing your dog are Junior, ages 8-11; Intermediate, ages 12-14; and Senior, ages 15-18.

When books are used as a part of the interview, such as in *You and Your Dog*, the judges will review what you have completed in the project and record book according to your *project* level. For example, Chris Clover is 11 years old. She completed the intermediate level of the *Dog Project and Record Book*, but will be judged in the junior *You and Your Dog* Class. The intermediate level of the project book is reviewed, but Chris is asked questions from the junior set of questions.

Page 10 – Learning Activities. Each project level requires that you select five learning activities for your project year, regardless of the number of projects and/or dogs you are taking. Examples are given on page 10. Other examples can be found online at <http://www.ohio4h.org/publications>. You may select from the activities at your level or from another level if that topic interests you. You also are encouraged to look through your *Dog Resource Handbook*, select subjects you want to learn more about, and come up with your own learning activities. Your 4-H club may even decide to complete some learning activities as a group.

Animal Care and Welfare

Page 15 – My Dog’s Care. Complete only one My Dog’s Care activity for all of your project dogs, regardless of whether you have one, two, or more. Complete this at the beginning of your project for all project levels.

Page 17 – Dog Personality Questionnaire. If you have more than one dog, copy this questionnaire before completing it, as you should fill out one questionnaire for each of your project dogs. Do this at the beginning of your project for all project levels.

Page 20 – Reading Dog Food Labels. Complete this activity if you are in the intermediate or advanced project level. If you have more than one dog on different types of feed, select one dog’s food to do the activity on page 21.

Page 23 – Be a Good Neighbor: AKC Canine Good Citizen® Program. We hope that all 4-H dogs eventually become AKC Canine Good Citizens. This activity explains how to train your dog to become a Canine Good Citizen. **Pages 25-26** provide a chart for tracking your dog's progress. *Your dog is not required to take the test or to pass the test for your records to be complete.* If you have more than one project dog, copy **pages 25 and 26** so you have a record for each dog.

Page 27 – Dog Overpopulation. Complete this activity if you are in the intermediate or advanced project level.

Page 28 – Dog Population Myths. Complete this activity if you are in the intermediate or advanced project level.

Page 30 – Dog Bite Prevention. Complete this activity if you are in the beginner or intermediate project level.

Animal Records

Pages 32 to 34 – Project Animal Information and Project Pictures. Complete this information and provide project pictures for each of your dogs. If you have more than one dog, copy the Project Animal Information pages before filling them out.

Pages 35 (Project Inventory Record), 37 (Feed Expense Record), 38 (Equipment Expense Record, 39 (Veterinary, Medical, and Health Expense Record), 40 (Miscellaneous Expense Record), 43 (Vaccination Record), 44 (Labor Record), 45 (Evaluating Your Goals), and 46 (4-H Participation Record). Complete all of these records, regardless of your project level. If you have more than one dog project, you can combine all of the requested information OR copy the blank records and complete a set for each dog. You also may attach printouts of computerized records in place of filling out the sections.

Pages 36 (Estimated Budget), 41 (Income Record), and 42 (Project Cost or Profit Statement). Complete these pages if you are at the intermediate or advanced project level. Youth at these project levels complete the entire Animal Records Section.

Complete this *Dog Project and Record Book* to the best of your ability. Your age 4 is taken into consideration when the record book is evaluated. If you are adding pages for multiple dogs or using computerized records, check with your 4-H advisor or county Extension educator to see if it is okay to disassemble the project and record book and put the pages in a 3-ring binder, so pages can easily be added. It is okay to do this for State Fair *You and Your Dog* judging.