

Objectives

1. Utilize career oriented resource materials that provide lessons, questions, and activities.
2. Help students gain the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue a career in veterinary medicine (veterinary assistant, veterinary technician, or veterinarian), human medicine (paraprofessional or physician), or allied health fields (diagnostics or therapeutics).
3. Prepare students interested in pursuing an associate, undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree following high school graduation and provide them the opportunity to gain the experience, knowledge, and motivation they will need to pursue their educational goals.



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Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

4-H Veterinary Science Program



Gain the Knowledge and Skills Necessary
to Become a Veterinary Assistant

4-H Veterinary Science Program

The 4-H Veterinary Science Program is a 5 year curriculum-based program that includes 100 lessons and 50 activities that give young people interested in veterinary medicine the opportunity to work with professionals in the field. The program is career-oriented and provides on-the-job training for students to prepare them for a career in veterinary medicine.

Students who participate in this program work closely with licensed veterinarians in their veterinary practices for a minimum of 500 clinical skills hours. This hands-on training provides them with an opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become a veterinary assistant. This

training and experience is a valuable addition to a student's resume and will help them prepare for a professional degree program at an accredited university. The program follows an established curriculum that allows students and adults to work together to achieve success.

The curriculum (*Veterinary Science: Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant*) introduces students to the professional field of veterinary medicine, along with human medicine and other allied health fields. The material includes a concise summary of techniques utilized by veterinary paraprofessionals and is an invaluable reference book for 4-Hers. A Curriculum Guide and Teacher Key are also available to assist the instructor.

Starting the Program in My County

During a county Extension orientation workshop, Extension faculty guide 4-H volunteer leaders and students in the development of a personalized curriculum. Participants learn how to use the curriculum, identify goals and objectives, and develop a plan of action for the educational course. The county Extension agent establishes the program for 4-H enrollment.



Program Goals

1. Develop personalized curriculum for students in veterinary science.
2. Provide students with career opportunities in veterinary medicine.
3. Assist students with hands-on instruction.
4. Provide students with an opportunity to work in a veterinary practice under the supervision of a veterinarian to develop the knowledge and skills required to become a competent veterinary aide.



Veterinary Science

Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant

Floron C. Faries, Jr., DVM, MS

