

Owyhee County 4-H Cavy Checklist

Member's Name: _____ 4-H Club: _____

Current Year: 20__ Number of years in Project _____ Age (as of January 1): _____

Age Division (circle one): Junior (8-10) Intermediate (11-13) Senior (14-18)

All members (regardless of age) should begin with Level 1. Youth must complete at least 5 skills/year. A minimum of 10 different skills should be completed before advancing to the next level. Older youth just entering the project are encouraged to move through Levels at an accelerated rate to enhance their overall 4-H career learning experience.

See "Idaho 4-H Project Requirements Handbook" for more information about state requirements for this project. Submit this checklist annually with your animal project record book. This page will be new each year.

√	Requirement	Details	Date Completed	Leader Initials
	Enroll in 4-H and pay necessary dues.	Enroll at https://4h.zsuite.org/ & pay enrollment fee to your 4-H leader before March 1.		
	Attend six or more club/project meetings.	Each member must attend six or more meetings to be eligible to participate in Fair.		
	Complete a community service project.	The project must be completed in Owyhee County.		
	Complete annual ethics training.	Each member must complete an ethics activity each year.		
	Give an oral presentation related to this project area.	Must be completed at a <input type="checkbox"/> Club or <input type="checkbox"/> County level. Topic: _____		
	Complete an Involvement Report.	Submit via ZSuite before Fair.		
	Complete a 4-H Breeding/Pet Animal Project Record Book.	Submit via ZSuite before Fair. Start a new record each year.		
	Submit Fair entries.	Entries are open June 15-July 15. Entries are required to exhibit at Fair. Late entries will not be accepted.		
	Complete this Checklist and submit to your leader before Fair.	Must be signed by member, parent, and leader to be considered complete.		
	Own and provide primary care of animal(s).	Own and provide proper housing, feed, and primary care for your cavy or cavies for at least 90 days prior to Fair.		

I agree that the above requirements have been satisfactorily completed:

Member Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Leader Name _____

Leader Signature _____ Date _____

LEVEL 1 SKILLS	Date Completed	Leader's Initials
Identify, describe, and tell the important characteristics of three breeds of cavies.		
Name, point out, and spell the following parts: shoulders, buck, rump, hip, nose, crown, chest, toes, and teeth.		
Describe the following undesirable characteristics of cavies: pointy head, excessive flab, pear-shaped body, flat crown, buck teeth, and broken teeth.		
Describe the following: registered, purebred, crossbred, parasite, pedigree, and wean.		
Explain what feeds are important for cavies. What fresh vegetables should you not give cavies? Why?		
Demonstrate that you are willing to provide fresh water, feed, vitamin C, and daily care for your cavy.		
Describe a suitable cage for your cavy and how to set it up for use.		
Describe what you might do for your cavy's protection during extremely hot or cold weather.		
Describe what a baby cavy looks like and acts like when it is first born.		
Show and describe how to lift, hold, and carry a cavy.		
Make a report of your breed of cavy.		
Serve as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, table superintendent, clerk, or show secretary at a cavy show.		
Work with some younger members of the club in improving or constructing cages or cavy equipment.		
Participate in a cavy show other than one at your county fair.		

LEVEL 2 SKILLS	Date Completed	Leader's Initials
Name and describe three additional breeds of cavies.		
Build a suitable cage, feeder, or some other cavy equipment.		
Demonstrate how to tell the sex of a young cavy at less than 3 months of age.		
Explain how to breed a boar and sow (length of time together, whether to remove boar during kindling, etc.)		
Describe the following disease/ailments and their remedies: lice, mites, colds, bumblefoot, diarrhea, salmonella, and broken teeth.		
Describe the following undesirable conditions in a cavy: malocclusion, pea eye, coat faults, torn ears, eye circles, non-matching color in ears, feet, and toes.		
Describe the desirable characteristics of a cavy's ears, type, crown, head, and eyes.		
Start a library on cavy literature: books, magazines, bulletins, and 4-H material.		
Explain the three major uses of a cavy.		
Do a report on the history of the cavy.		
Serve as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, table superintendent, clerk, or show secretary at a cavy show.		
Work with some younger members of the club in improving or constructing cages or cavy equipment.		
Participate in a cavy show other than one at your county fair.		

LEVEL 3 SKILLS	Date Completed	Leader's Initials
Keep a sow production record through at least three litters.		
Explain breeding, heat period, conception, gestation, and parturition.		
Explain why cavies need fresh vitamin C, and how much they need daily. Name at least five different sources of vitamin C for cavies. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of each source.		
What are several measures you can take to avoid problems in pregnancy and birth?		
What is the difference between fur and hair?		
Invite and introduce a guest speaker to one of your club meetings - a local cavy breeder, a feed dealer, a judge, a veterinarian, etc.		
Explain or describe three more diseases of cavies and their treatment.		
Describe fully "type" in a cavy.		
What are "angel wings"? Where and how do they show up?		
What is "condition" in a cavy? Tell what measures you can take to improve it in your cavies.		
Cavies belong to the order Rodentia (rodents). Draw a picture or write a report on the cavy's relationship to it's rodent relatives.		
Serve as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, table superintendent, clerk, or show secretary at a cavy show.		
Work with some younger members of the club in improving or constructing cages or cavy equipment.		
Participate in a cavy show other than one at your county fair.		

LEVEL 4 SKILLS	Date Completed	Leader's Initials
Do a demonstration at your club on how to prepare and enter a cavy at an ACBA Open Show.		
Attend, and if possible, enter your cavy in an ACBA Open Show.		
Name and explain three characteristics or conditions of cavies due to inheritance and three due to environment (feed/management).		
Make a bibliography of your cavy library. Add names and address of local and national cavy support groups to it.		
What are the symptoms of toxemia? What is toxemia and what causes it? How is it prevented?		
Give three examples of breed characteristics that are genetically dominant. Give three that are recessive.		
Report to your club on the uses of cavies in laboratory work.		
Explain Mendel's Basic Law of Genetics using diagrams.		
Keep a one- or two-year written and pictorial record of your cavy's development. A monthly diary is encouraged.		
Explain the range of colors in cavies due to genetic dominance. Explain "dilution" of color and give examples.		
Ear tag a cavy.		
Do a report on the marketing of cavies. Include financial reports		
Design an educational game.		
Serve as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, table superintendent, clerk, or show secretary at a cavy show.		
Work with some younger members of the club in improving or constructing cages or cavy equipment.		
Participate in a cavy show other than one at your county fair.		

LEVEL 5 SKILLS	Date Completed	Leader's Initials
Learn how to register a cavy. Explain the advantages of belonging to the ACBA and ARBA.		
Do a report on the breeding of cavies with lethal genetic factors and talk about the potential outcomes.		
Select a breed or variety of cavy that requires precise or preferred markings for ACBA showing. Keep accurate written and pictorial records on the breeding stock for three generations as to their markings.		
Make a written and pictorial account of your cavy's strengths and weaknesses. Choose a mate for your cavy whose strengths may genetically offset the weaknesses of your cavy. Record the results of their breeding in at least two litters. Compare and contrast the two litters.		
Select three different brands of feed for three groups of cavies for a specific period of time (i.e. three months). Keep records of the weight and condition of flesh, hair, eyes, etc., of each cavy. Keep notes of your observations as to activity and general health during this program.		
<p>Study, prepare a paper (300 words or more), and give an oral report on one or more of the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The results of options 2, 3, 4, and/or 5. b. General management of cavies. c. Genetics involved in breeding cavies. d. Breeding, pregnancy, and kindling. e. Cavy diseases, prevention and control, general sanitation. f. The kinds of bedding available, advantages & disadvantages of each. g. Keeping and using records as a basis for improving your 4-H Cavy project. 		
Work on a developing breed or variety. Keep written and pictorial records on at least three generations.		
Breed a litter specifically for sale. Record your marketing techniques and actual disposition of the litter. Include financial records		
Complete a cavy breeder project.		
Report on how a new breed or variety can be recognized.		
Do a research report on breeds or varieties under development and include the working standard and history.		
Serve as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, table superintendent, clerk, or show secretary at a cavy show.		
Work with some younger members of the club in improving or constructing cages or cavy equipment.		
Participate in a cavy show other than one at your county fair.		