

EQUESTRIAN PROJECT BOOK

Ages 16 and Older as of January 1 of Current year

*Information to complete the Equine Project Book is located in the **Horses & Horsemanship** and **Horse Science** books that are available at the 4-H store. [Horse Curriculum](#)

Immunization information can be found at the MCFA–Horse Committee’s facebook page – [MCFA - Horse Committee](#) “*Immunization and Coggin’s Guidelines*”.

First Aid information can be found at: <http://www.extension.org/pages/10397/treating-cuts-and-tears-in-horses>

Questions should be directed to your Club Leader who may request clarification from the Project Book Committee.

PLEASE DO NOT USE PAGE PROTECTORS ON THESE PAGES. PAGE PROTECTORS CAN BE USED ON PHOTO PAGES AND EXTRA CREDIT REPORTS.

PLEASE KEEP PAGES IN NUMERICAL ORDER.

PLEASE DO NOT USE A BINDER LARGER THAN 1” UNLESS THE ADDITIONAL REPORTS REQUIRE A BIGGER BINDER

RIDER INFORMATION

Name:			
Address:		City/State/Zip:	
Date of Birth:	Exhibitor Age:	Years in Equine Project:	
Club Name:	Club Leader:	Leader Phone #	
Level (Check all that apply):			
<input type="checkbox"/> In Hand	<input type="checkbox"/> Walk Trot	<input type="checkbox"/> Walk Trot Canter	<input type="checkbox"/> Horseless Rider

GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Properly kept records are a vital part of equine ownership. Records give a clear picture of what you have invested in the project. Records also provide you with accurate facts about your equine project. Because your equine is intended to be your year-long project, the Project Book should begin September 1st. However, there are exceptions, such as a change in equine or obtaining an equine later in the project year. You are responsible for writing an explanation for the judge.

- All signatures are required.** The parent signature is required.
- A score of 70% or higher with all pages complete is required to compete at the Muskegon County Fair for awards, trophies or ribbons.**
- ❖ The book may be decorated or enhanced as long as all pages are included and kept in order. Additional pages, photos and memories must be at the end of the project book.
- ❖ Do not include pages from previous years unless they are part of a story or report you are including. *"Previous Year" is defined as information prior to the Project Book deadline date of last year. (You may use last year's pictures and show records from fair.)*
- ❖ The Equine Project Book must be bound in some fashion. No loose pages please.
- ❖ Clearly label reports and stories. Reports and stories must include the date authored.
- ❖ You must use the project book for the current calendar year.
- ❖ BONUS options include: Community Service Project Report, In-Depth Story or Report, additional Photographs, Exceptional Organization and Creativity, Additional Education experiences. You can earn up to 45 Extra Points.
- ❖ Exhibitor age is the member's age as of January 1st of the current year.
- ❖ Years in equine project do not include years as a Cloverbud but does include the current year.

If you have questions that are not covered, please consult with your leader. Your leader may direct their questions to the Project Book Committee.

RECORDKEEPING DATES

Project Book Began on (should be September 1):
Date Project Book was completed:

PLACE FULL BODY PHOTO OF YOUR PROJECT EQUINE HERE

SIDE VIEW OF EQUINE NO SADDLE OR RIDER

A photo of your project animal is required.
Photo should show entire horse clearly.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Name of Animal:		Animal's Nickname:	
Breed:	Registration #	Not Registered: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Color:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mare <input type="checkbox"/> Gelding	Year Foaled:	
Animal's Height:		Animal's Weight:	
Purchase Date:		OR Lease Date:	
<p>Describe your equine using proper terminology for breed, color, sex, markings, etc. (example: I ride an American Paint Quarter Horse who is a tobiano and white Gelding, etc.)</p>			

VITAL SIGNS

Equine's temperature:	Respiration:	Pulse:
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EQUINE HEALTH *HORSE SCIENCE BOOK, CHAPTER ELEVEN*

Veterinarian Name:	Phone #
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WRITE A DETAILED REPORT on 3 methods **YOU** use to provide Preventative Health Care and Maintenance to your equine. (Attach extra page(s) if necessary.)

2025

COGGIN’S TEST – Links to the Michigan Department of Agriculture are on the “Immunization and Coggin’s Guidelines” at [MCFA - Horse Committee](#) “*Immunization and Coggin’s Guidelines*”.

Why does the state require a Coggin’s test for equines to participate at events?

How is EIA transmitted?

Name three (3) ways we can help prevent EIA from spreading?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

IMMUNIZATIONS – Information found @ [MCFA - Horse Committee](#) “*Immunization and Coggin’s Guidelines*”.

List the diseases that Muskegon County Fair requires immunizations for?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Give 2 reasons why Muskegon County Fair requires immunizations against these diseases?

- 1.
- 2.

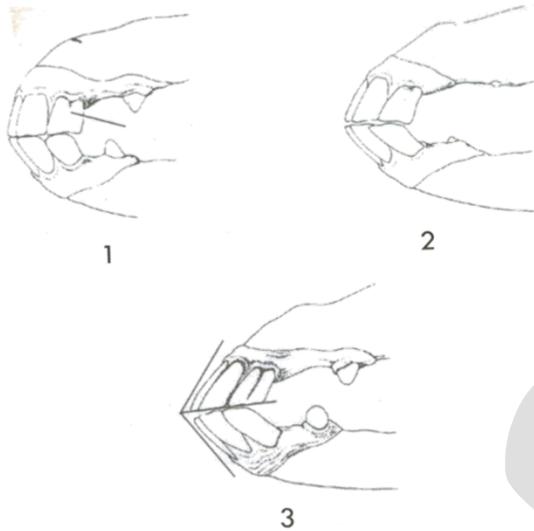
What 4 additional diseases are recommended that your horse be immunized for?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

DENTAL CARE

Equine Dentist's Name:	Phone #
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TEETH GROWTH CHART *Picture from Horse Science book, Chapter Four*



	PROFILE NAME	AGE RANGE
1.		
2.		
3.		

DEWORMING *Horse Science Book, Chapter Fifteen*

After reviewing "Internal Parasites" in the *Horse Science* book, name three health issues that are caused by internal parasites.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Which two internal parasites are most dangerous to young foals/horses?

- 1.
- 2.

HOOF CARE

Farrier's Name:	Phone #
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LAMENESS *Horse Science book, Chapter Three*

What action is seen when the sound limb of a lame horse strikes the ground?
Define the term “founder” (laminitis):
Name and define 2 issues of unsoundness of the front legs: 1. 2.
Name and define 2 issues of unsoundness of the rear legs: 1. 2.
What is the difference between an “unsoundness” and a “blemish”?

FIRST AID <http://www.extension.org/pages/10397/treating-cuts-and-tears-in-horses>

Explain the 6 steps of treating cuts and tears

1.	
2.	
3.	

4.	
5.	
6.	

What percentage of blood can an equine lose before it becomes critical?

Approximately how many quarts of blood does a 1,000-pound equine have?

COLIC *Horse Science book, Chapter Thirteen*

Name and Describe the Five (5) types of Colic?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Name four (4) types of symptoms an equine may exhibit when colicing?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Name three (3) types of treatments a vet will administer for colic:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Name four (4) ways an equine owner can help prevent colic:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

CONFORMATION (Form to Function) *Horse Science book, Chapter Two*

What is the most desired shoulder angle and WHY?

Describe how the angle of the shoulder affects the motion of the horse.

- ❖ This is your chance to be a halter class judge.
 - Using the judging terms found in “*Horses and Horsemanship*” chapter two (2), evaluate ***YOUR*** project animal’s conformation and describe what is exceptional as well as what is undesirable to their conformation and muscling.
 - Be sure to note any characteristics specific to your horse’s breed.

Part of the horse	Description
Muzzle	
Eye	
Forehead	
Ear	
Head	
Neck	
Angle of Shoulder	
Arm	
Forearm	
Front Cannons	
Knees	
Front Pasterns	
Chest	
Back	
Loin	

Hip	
Croup	
Stifle – view from behind	
Gaskin	
Hock	
Back Cannons	
Back Pasterns	
Shape & texture of hoof, depth of heel	

NUTRITION – WATER (FILL IN THE BLANK) *HORSE SCIENCE BOOK, CHAPTER EIGHT*

<p>Water is the (1) component of all body fluids. Between (2) and (3) of adult equine body weight, and (4) to (5) of foal body weight is water. A loss of (6) to (7) of body water is fatal.</p>	
<p>Approximately how many gallons of water does an equine need for each activity listed:</p>	
Non-working, maintenance	
Gestation	
Peak lactation	
Moderate work	
Heavy work	

NUTRITION – FORAGES *HORSE SCIENCE BOOK, CHAPTER NINE*

What are the two (2) main forms of forages? and
Which type of forage includes hay and straw?
Which type of forage only has 20%-30% dry matter?
What are the two (2) basic types of forages? and
Which of these are higher in fiber?
Which of these are higher in proteins, energy, vitamins and minerals?

SAFETY *Horses and Horsemanship book, Chapter Eleven*

After reviewing the safety rules listed in your 4H science books, choose three safety issues you feel are very important and explain WHY. 1. 2. 3.

PROJECT GOALS

Name one equitation skill that <u>you</u> worked on this year (keeping chin up, feeling a diagonal or lead, keeping legs quiet, etc.):
Name one skill you're improving on <u>with</u> your equine (mounted or dismounted).

EDUCATION

List seminars, clinics, demonstrations, meeting presentations, educational books, articles, training DVDs, etc.

Date	Source (YouTube, Magazine, Website, Event, i.e.)
Topic/Title:	
What did you learn?	

Date	Source (YouTube, Magazine, Website, Event, i.e.)
Topic/Title:	
What did you learn?	

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

What equipment or supplies did you purchase or borrow for your equine this year?

I am a horseless member

Item:	Who purchased the item or from whom did you borrow it?

TACK – BITS (Fill in the blank) *Horses and Horsemanship book, Chapter Six*

Bits are used for (1) and (2) through different (3) points.

What are the seven (7) pressure points:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

A good set of (1) hands is the first piece of equipment that needs to be (2) .

What are the four (4) parts of a bit:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

What are four (4) factors that contribute to the severity of a bit:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Snaffle bits are, by definition, (1) action bits with the reins attached directly to the mouthpiece.

EQUINE REPORT OR STORY (ON YOUR PROJECT ANIMAL)

Subject/Title:

2025

Shift of Show Participation

Minimum participation of 1 shift at a MCFA Horse Committee Show
(After Fair from August to June)

Show Date(s) _____

Superintendent's Signature _____

Horse Show Ground Prep

Two hours ground prep prior to a MCFA Horse Committee Show
(After Fair from August to June)
(These shows are the fundraisers to pay for fair.)

Date(s) _____

Superintendent's Signature _____

SIGNATURES

As a Fair Exhibitor, I verify that I have read the requirements and instructions for completion of this Project Book and I understand that I must score 70% or higher in the requirements to complete the project and compete for awards. By signing, I agree with and understand the requirements of this project.

EXHIBITOR'S SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

Parent Comments: _____

By signing my name as leader of the club I verify that this member:

- Is in good standing with the club
- Has read and understands the Requirements and knows a score of 70% or higher is required to compete for awards.
- Has read and understands the instructions for completing the project book
- Completed this project book in the current year to the best of the member's ability.

LEADER'S SIGNATURE: _____

EQUESTRIAN PROJECT BOOK SCORE CARD

SCORER MUST CONTACT LEADER IF COGGINS IS NOT CURRENT OR IS MISSING

	Points Possible	Section Subtotal	Points Achieved
RECORDKEEPING			
Recordkeeping Dates	2		
Rider Information	11		
Equine Information	11		
REQUIRED full body photograph of project animal	5	29	
HORSE HEALTH			
Vital Signs	3		
Vet Information	2		
Detailed Report on Preventative Health Care and Maintenance	6		
Coggin's Test Questions	5		
Immunization Requirements Questions	11		
Dental Care	2		
Teeth Growth Chart	6		
Deworming	5		
Hoof Care	2		
Lameness	8		
First Aid	8		
Colic	16		
Conformation	4		
Analyze your Horse's Conformation	23	101	
NUTRITION			
Water	12		
Forages	8	20	
EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION			
Safety Questions	6		
Project Goals	2		
Educational Experience	8		
Equipment and Supplies	3		
Tack – Bits	33		
Show Record	2		
4H Club Meeting attendance & Instructions and/or riding lessons	4		
Detailed Equine Report or Story	5		
Shift of Show Participation	15		
Two Hours of Horse Show Ground Prep	15		
All REQUIRED signatures	3	96	
REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED DOCUMENTATION			
Immunization Documentation(s)	10		
CURRENT YEAR RECOMMENDED VACCINATIONS			
REQUIRED Current Coggins Test Documentation	10	20	
PROJECT BOOK TOTAL Must achieve 70% (186 pts.) or more in this section		266	

OPTIONAL BONUS SECTION		
Community Service Report	5	
In-Depth Report or Story (1-5pts. for each report. Must be dated and completed in current year. Maximum 10pts.) Points awarded are based on effort and completeness.	10	
Photo section displaying member and equine project in current year. 1 pt per picture up to five pictures.	5	
<u>EXCEPTIONAL</u> organization, creativity	10	
Extra Educational Experiences (5 pts. Each; 15 pts Maximum)	15	
Total possible bonus points awarded		45
Grand total from all sections		311

A = 239-266

B = 212-238

C = 186-211

E = 0-185 A score of 70% or more is needed to complete the horse project. If the horse project is considered incomplete, youth may not exhibit at the youth fair.

Failure to meet requirements: will not be allowed to compete at Fair.

Questions about this score can be directed to: MCFA-Horse Committee

Comments from judge: