



South Carolina 4-H/FFA Rabbit Project Cloverbud Record Book



This was my _____ year in the Rabbit Project!

Age on January 1: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ County _____

Club/County/Chapter _____

4-H Leader/Ag Teacher _____

Birthdate _____ Years in 4-H _____ Grade in School _____

School Name _____

Project Start Date _____ Project End Date _____

Goals of the South Carolina 4-H/FFA Cloverbud Rabbit Project are to provide youth a guided opportunity to:

1. Explore the world of rabbits.
2. Discover what is involved in caring for, training, showing, and raising rabbits.
3. Experience setting personal goals and developing a plan to achieve those goals.

By signing below we certify that: I (the Participant) personally kept records on and completed this record book for this project; I (the Agent or Ag Teacher) confirm that the Participant is a current member, in good standing, of 4-H or FFA; and I (the parent or guardian) helped my child only as needed to complete this record book and the tasks associated with this project.

4-H or FFA Participant

Date

Agent Signature (4-H only)

Date

Parent or Guardian

Date

Teacher Signature (FFA only)

Date

Record Book Instructions

Guidelines

- ❖ Read through this book as soon as you get home. Early on, you want to become familiar with the information you will be recording and the activities you will be participating.
- ❖ Complete essential information when you first start your project, such as the cover page, the project goals page, and the animal identification page.
- ❖ Discuss this record book with a parent, 4-H leader, or agriculture teacher. Make sure to ask lots of questions so you fully understand what you are expected to do in each section of this book.
- ❖ Keep your records current! It is recommended that you record information as it occurs in a separate notebook and then transfer it to this record book at the end of the project.
- ❖ Write clearly and legibly. Use only one color ink. Neatness counts!
- ❖ Photographs demonstrating what you did and learned during this project will be expected. Don't forget to take lots of pictures!
- ❖ Make sure ALL photos have a caption explaining what you are doing and/or learning AND why.
- ❖ Make sure all photos are securely attached.
- ❖ Understand what each section is asking for before you begin to record information. Read ALL instructions and ASK if you do not understand something!
- ❖ If you are having problems, you may consult other members of the club, your club leader, your parents, or your mentor, but **all work must be completed by you**, not someone else. This book is to help you learn about rabbits.
- ❖ This is a record of your experiences, so it should reflect your personality. Have fun and be creative!
- ❖ Complete all sections as much as possible with essential information.
- ❖ Do your own work, but ask your 4-H leader, Extension Agent, parents, or mentor for help when you do not understand something.
- ❖ Don't wait until the end of your project to fill out your book. Work on it continuously throughout the project. Feel free to use a separate notebook to keep records in and then at the end of the project transfer all the information into your record book so it stays neat and orderly.



Record Book Frequently Asked Questions

What is a project record book?

A project record book is a tool to help you learn about your project animal, as well as other valuable skills such as setting goals, collecting information, evaluating information, tracking costs and expenses, organization, and reflecting on your experiences.

Who needs to complete a record book?

Everyone participating in the SC 4-H/FFA Rabbit Project is highly encouraged to complete a record book.

Why should I complete a record book?

A record book is not meant to be a chore. Instead, it is designed to be a tool to help you learn valuable life skills, such as record keeping, staying organized, and effective communication. Your record book can also show how hard you have worked, how much you have learned, and what you have done throughout the project.

When do I complete my record book?

You will receive a record book when you sign up for the SC 4-H/FFA Rabbit Project. You should begin filling out your record book and keeping records as soon as you receive it and frequently update it throughout the project. You should submit your completed and signed record book to your project leader at the end of the project year.

What happens if one or both of my project animals dies before the end of my project?

If one or both of your project rabbits dies before the end of the project, you will still submit your Project Record Book. However, you will finish your Rabbit Project by creating a 4-H/FFA poster on a topic you learned about this year and submitting a picture of it on the Project Pictures page of your Record Project Book.

Where do I turn in my record book?

You should submit your completed and signed record book to your project leader at the end of the project year.

Will I receive feedback about my record book?

After you submit your record book, it will be judged based on the criteria listed on the last page of this book and returned to you with comments and feedback about your record book, activities, and overall project.

Where can I find more information?

Listed below are some valuable resources about rabbits. Clemson University Cooperative Extension does not validate or certify the information on the following websites. This list is compiled simply for your own reference. You can also contact your local Extension Agent or FFA Advisor for information.

- ❖ South Carolina Cooperative Extension Youth Rabbit Opportunities website
http://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/kids_families/projects/agriculture_and_animals/rabbits.html
- ❖ American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) website
<http://www.arba.net>
- ❖ Ohio State University: 4-H Rabbit Resource Handbook and Curriculum Materials
- ❖ National 4-H Rabbit Project Curriculum

My Goals

What would you like to learn about rabbits or what new activities would you like to try with your rabbit this year?

(Examples: I would like to learn all the body parts of the rabbit. I would like to learn how to trim my rabbit's nails. I want to learn how to handle my rabbit, so he does not struggle when I do Showmanship.)

During the project you should write your goal down somewhere that you can keep with you at all times as a reminder of what you are working towards. Then at the end of the year, think about how hard you worked to reach that goal or what made it hard for you to reach that goal.

Did you reach your goal? What helped or made it harder for you to reach your goal?

(Examples: Yes, my parents helped me make flash cards for all the body parts and we used them 3 nights every week! I sort of reached my goal. I tried to trim my rabbit's nails but I got scared when he scratched me. Next year I will work with my rabbit more and have my parent help me.)

Animal Identification

When you see your best friend at school how do you recognize him/her? Is it his/her hair color? How about his/her height? Could it be his/her facial expression? Well, it's probably all of these features plus many more. These identifying features, also called characteristics, are what we use to recognize people and things. You should take note, at the beginning of your project, of any unique characteristics your rabbit has so you can identify him/her. This is the first part of effective animal project record keeping. Being able to identify individual animals allows you to track that specific animal's production and performance.

Fill out the following information about your rabbit at the beginning of the project. **NOTE: Cloverbuds are limited to two (2) project animals (i.e., one of each sex, both sexes, the same breed, or different breeds).**

Animal's Name: _____ Ear #: _____

Breed: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Variety/Color: _____

Name of Breeder: _____

Breeder Address: _____

Describe any unique characteristics about your project animal: (Example: Heart-shaped white spot on forehead).

Animal's Name: _____ Ear #: _____

Breed: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Variety/Color: _____

Name of Breeder: _____

Breeder Address: _____

Describe any unique characteristics about your project animal: _____

Animal Identification Pictures (LEFT Profile)

Taking good profile pictures is a great way to see how much your rabbit(s) grew and how well you did feeding and taking care of them. You will want to take a profile picture of them within the first few days of getting them home for your beginning shot and then another one before you have to turn in your Project Book. A good profile picture is a full view of your rabbit's side. Like the example in the boxes below.

Example of a left profile picture:



Attach a picture of animal's **LEFT** profile at the **START** of the project.

Attach a picture of animal's **LEFT** profile at the **END** of the project.

Take your time and set your rabbit up for these shots.
Make sure he/she is clean and looks his/her best!

Animal Identification Pictures (RIGHT Profile)

Example of a right profile picture:



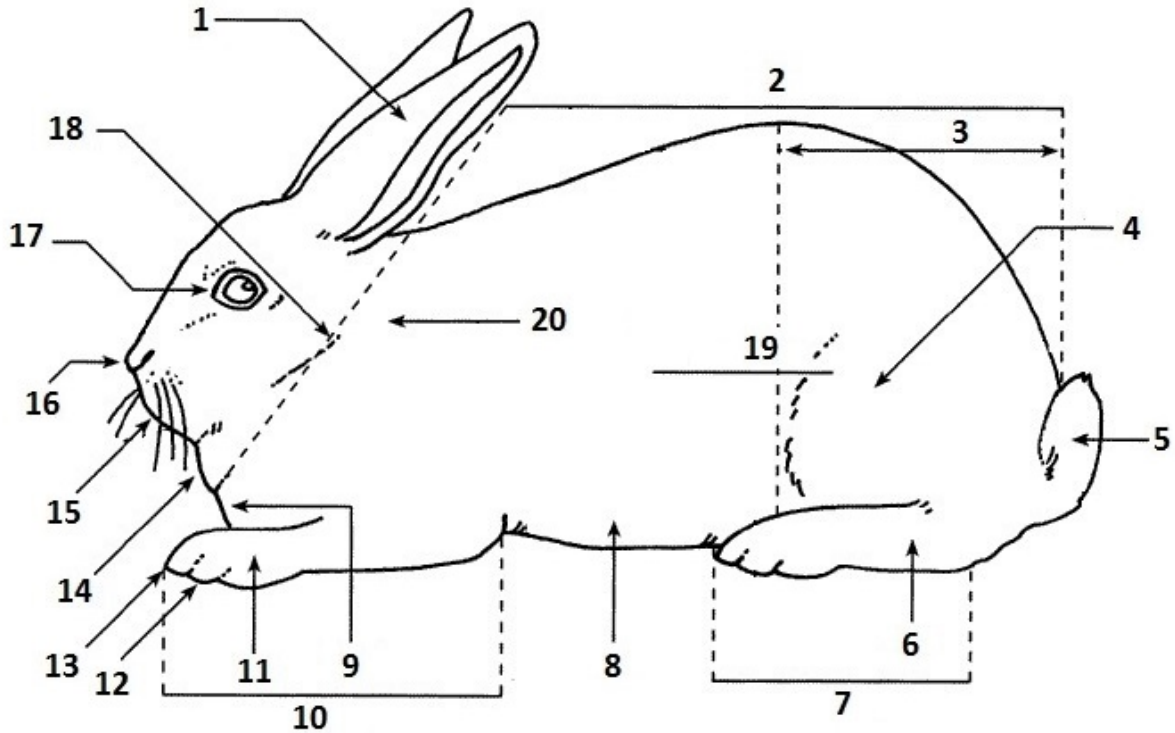
Attach a picture of animal's **RIGHT** profile at the **START** of the project.

Attach a picture of animal's **RIGHT** profile at the **END** of the project.

Learning how to take quality pictures of animals is a valuable skill for marketing.

Know Your Rabbit

When you are talking about your rabbit(s) you want to be able to use the correct names for all the body parts so others will know what you are talking about. Knowing these is also helpful when you are doing showmanship! Name the parts of a rabbit below by inserting the number of the correct body part in the blanks. The first one is done for you as an example.



- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u> 20 </u> Shoulder | <u> </u> Foreleg | <u> </u> Muzzle |
| <u> </u> Back | <u> </u> Forequarters | <u> </u> Neck |
| <u> </u> Belly | <u> </u> Hind leg | <u> </u> Nose |
| <u> </u> Cheek | <u> </u> Hindquarters | <u> </u> Nostrils |
| <u> </u> Chest | <u> </u> Hip | <u> </u> Ribs |
| <u> </u> Dewlap (does only) | <u> </u> Hock | <u> </u> Rump |
| <u> </u> Ear | <u> </u> Knee (stifle) | <u> </u> Saddle |
| <u> </u> Eye | <u> </u> Loin | <u> </u> Tail |
| <u> </u> Flank | <u> </u> Midsection | <u> </u> Toe |
| <u> </u> Foot | <u> </u> Mouth | <u> </u> Toenail |

Caring for My Rabbit

Once you get your rabbit(s) home he counts on you to take very good care of him. He will depend on you for everything! Complete the sentences below by inserting the number of the correct picture in the blanks. The first one is done for you as an example.

I will learn all I can about my rabbit to make my 4 project a success!

I feed my _____ every day. He has to eat a lot so he'll grow and be healthy.

I make sure my rabbit has clean, fresh _____ every day.

My rabbit lives in a _____ that I keep clean. A clean environment helps keep my rabbit healthy and free of parasites.

When I groom my rabbit I use a _____ to help keep his fur/wool clean.

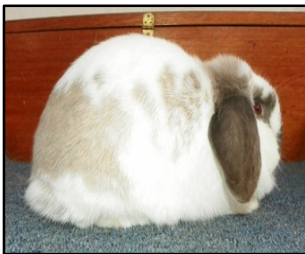
I get my parents to help me trim my rabbit's _____. This keeps him comfortable and healthy so he can hop and pose correctly.

My parents also help me give _____ to my rabbit if he gets sick.

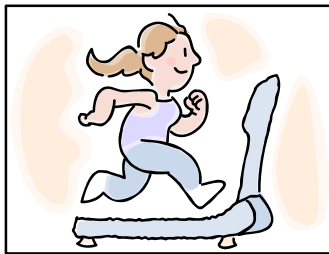
I really like to spend time with my rabbit.

It's my job to make sure my rabbit gets plenty of _____. The more I work with him the calmer and better behaved he is!

1. Rabbit



2. Exercise



3. Brush



4. 4-H



5. Water



6. Cage/Pen



7. Medicine



8. Toenails



Keeping Your Rabbit Healthy



When you get sick, what do you do? Sleep a lot? Stay in bed? Walk funny because you hurt all over? Well, like you, your rabbit will act differently when he is sick. Yet, unlike you, he cannot say "I don't feel good." By learning about different diseases and illnesses and their symptoms you will know what rabbits do when they are sick. Select an illness from the list then, with a helper, find answers to the questions on this page.

Diarrhea
Ear Mites (ear canker)
Heat Stress
Parasite Infestation (worms)
Sore hocks
Snuffles
Weepy eye
Wry neck

What illness did you pick?

What do rabbits act like when they have that illness? _____

How do rabbits get that illness? _____

Will your rabbit get better if he gets that illness? _____

How can you prevent your rabbit from getting that illness? _____



Showing Your Rabbit

One of the best things about raising a 4-H project rabbit is the shows! When you take your rabbit to a show the judge might ask you some questions so it's best to be prepared and know the answers before you get to a show. Answer each question below so you'll be ready to show!

What is your rabbit's name?

What breed is your rabbit and what color/variety is he/she?

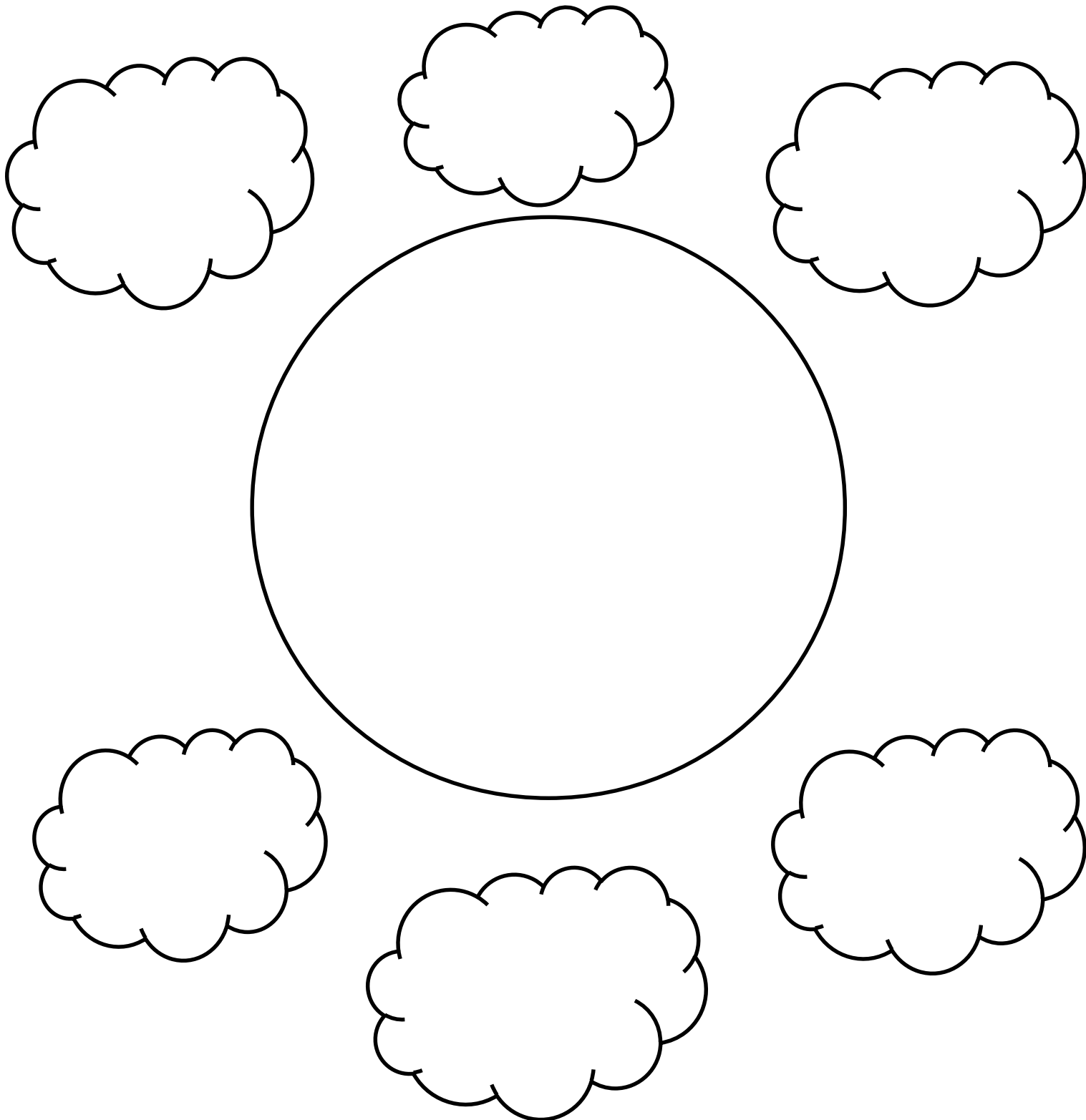
What does your rabbit eat and how much does it eat?

In the spaces below write down questions a judge has asked you that you didn't know, so you can use them to study for the next show! Don't forget to find out the answers!



Make Your Rabbit Proud

When you go to a rabbit show, your parents might tell you to “be a good sport” and practice good “sportsmanship” behaviors. Yet, what does that mean? Think about what it means to be a “good sport” and write in the bubbles some qualities of someone who has “good sportsmanship.” Draw a picture of you being a good sport inside the circle.



Rabbit Breeds

At a rabbit show you will see many different breeds of rabbits. Some of the easiest ways to learn about different rabbit breeds is to learn about the different ways they can be grouped together. These can be by body type, the kind of fur or wool they have, or by size or weight. Draw a line from the name of the breed and information to the picture of that breed.



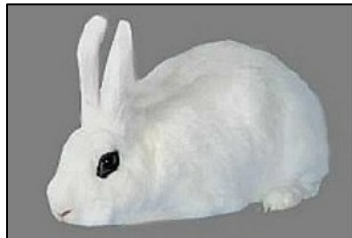
American (9-12 pounds)

Body Type: Semi - Arch
Varieties: Blue, White



American Chinchilla (9-12 pounds)

Body Type: Commercial
Variety: Standard



American Fuzzy Lop (3½-4 pounds)

Body Type: Compact
Varieties: Solid, Broken



American Sable (7-10 pounds)

Body Type: Commercial
Variety: Standard



Belgian Hare (6-9½ pounds)

Body Type: Full Arch
Variety: Standard



Beveren (8-12 pounds)

Body Type: Semi - Arch
Varieties: Black, Blue, White (BEW)



Blanc de Hotot (8-11 pounds)

Body Type: Semi - Arch
Variety: Standard

Britannia Petite (1¼-2½ pounds)

Body Type: Full Arch
Varieties: Black, Black Otter, Chestnut Agouti, Ruby Eyed White, Sable Martin



Californian (8-10½ pounds)

Body Type: Commercial
Variety: Standard

Champagne D'Argent (9-12 pounds)

Body Type: Commercial
Variety: Standard

Checkered Giant (11+ pounds)

Body Type: Full Arch
Varieties: Black, Blue

Cinnamon (8½-11 pounds)

Body Type: Commercial
Variety: Standard



Show Record



You are going to spend a lot of time working with and grooming your rabbit(s). One great way to show off all that hard work and maybe earn some income is to compete in rabbit shows. These shows sometimes award money based on how you place in each class. This money is called Show Premiums. In contrast, some shows may charge a fee for you to compete. These Entry Fees would be considered an expense for your project. Document any shows you participate in with your rabbit in the table below. Be sure to list any Entry Fees you have to pay or Show Premiums you win in the appropriate columns. If you show multiple animals, only record information for your project rabbit(s). This is not always possible, just do the best you can.

Show or Fair	Date	Entry Fees	Placing	Show Premiums
Total Show Entry Fees:			Total Premiums:	

Project Photos

Photos are a great way to show how hard you have worked and all you have learned during this project. Attach a **minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) photos** on the following pages. Each picture should include a short caption that tells what you are doing and why you are doing the things shown in the picture. What skills are you demonstrating and why? What are you learning in the photo? Your caption should help explain to the judge why you chose to include that photo. For an example a picture of you showing your rabbit is great, but do not just say "Me showing Cinnamon." Your caption should say something like "Me showing Cinnamon. You have to know a lot about your rabbit because the judge might ask you questions."

Attach photo 1 here

Caption:

Attach photo 2 here

Caption:

Attach photo 3 here

Caption:

Attach photo 4 here

Caption:

Attach photo 5 here

Caption:

Record Book Judging Criteria

This is the sheet that the judge will use to score your record book at the end of the project. Read through this sheet and make sure to keep these criteria in mind while you are filling out your record book.

E = Excellent G = Good F = Fair P = Poor

Participant Name: _____ County: _____

Category	Judging Criteria	Points Awarded
Project Work	Clearly stated goals that are challenging but not unattainable, evidence of working toward goals, book completed by participant and not an adult, and is appropriate for age and experience level.	E G F P
Project Story	Well thought out, descriptive, creative, highlights what was learned in the project, includes both good and bad experiences, explains level of activity and participation, and summarizes the overall experience in the project.	E G F P
Overall Neatness	Easy to follow, easy to read, correct spelling and grammar, professional look, shows effort and creativity, items attached neatly and securely.	E G F P
Overall Completeness	All signatures, all essential information is included (some lines may be left blank if they do not apply), shows overall effort and creativity.	E G F P
Participation	Participation in events and activities to build skill and character,	E G F P
Photos	Photos are relevant and illustrate skills acquired or learning experiences and have captions describing what is happening and why or what is being learned in the photo.	E G F P
Overall Evaluation		E G F P

Judge: _____ Date: _____

Judge's Comments: _____



CLEMSON[®]

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Services offers its program to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status, and is an equal opportunity employer.