



MINI 4-H GOATS



[dreamstime.com](https://www.dreamstime.com)

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NAME: _____

Mini 4-H/Cloverbuds—Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades

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SOURCES:

<https://www.twinkl.com/homework-help/science-homework-help/animals-facts-for-kids/goat-facts-for-kids>

<https://kidskonnnect.com/animals/goat/>

<https://americangoatfederation.org/breeds-of-goats-2/>

<https://www.four-paws.org/campaigns-topics/topics/farm-animals/10-amazing-facts-about-goats>

<https://americangoatfederation.org/breeds-of-goats-2/>

<https://extension.wsu.edu/animalag/content/training-grooming-and-showing-market-goats/>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Show-a-Goat-in-4H>

To enroll in Mini 4-H, go to:

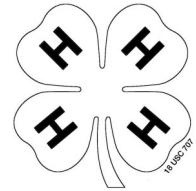
<https://v2.4honline.com/>

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Mini 4-H'ers Page

Welcome to Mini 4-H! You are now a member of the 4-H family. You are a special person. Mini 4-H'ers have a lot of fun! There are many activities for you to explore and new things to try. You can share it with your family and friends. Mom, Dad, another adult and your 4-H club can help you with your project. When it is finished, bring your project to the 4-H fair to display it so others can see what you have done. You will also get a ribbon made just for Mini 4-H'ers. Most of all, have fun with learning about horses!

Here are some things to know about 4-H:



The 4-H Symbol: The symbol is a four-leaf clover with a "H" in each leaf.

Clover is a plant which grows in fields, yards, and along roadsides. Most clovers only have 3 leaves. If you look closely when you are outside, you may get lucky and find a clover with four leaves. A four-leaf clover is used as the symbol for 4-H to let everyone know 4-H is a special kind of group.

The 4-H Colors: The 4-H colors are green and white. The four-leaf clover is green and the "H" in the leaf is white.

The 4-H Motto: "TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER." When something is better than all of the others, it is *the best*. 4-H encourages you to always try to do better, even if you are doing the best, you have ever done.

The 4-H Mission: The Indiana 4-H Youth Development mission is to "provide real-life educational opportunities that develop young people who positively impact their community and the world".

The 4-H Vision: Indiana 4-H Youth Development strives to be the premier community-based program empowering young people to reach their full potential.

The 4-H Pledge: A pledge is a promise you make to yourself and to the people around you.

**I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking,
My HEART to greater loyalty,
My HANDS to larger service,
And my HEALTH to better living,
For my club, my community,
My country and my world.**



Mini 4-H Helper's Page

Welcome to the Mini 4-H program! Mini 4-H is designed for youth to explore a variety of project activity areas and to interact with caring adults and other children.

Children receive project manuals for their chosen project(s) after enrolling in Mini 4-H. These manuals provide information to learn about the chosen project along with learning activities to provide fun and interaction throughout the year in Mini 4-H. The manuals also provide ideas for a project to bring to the fair.

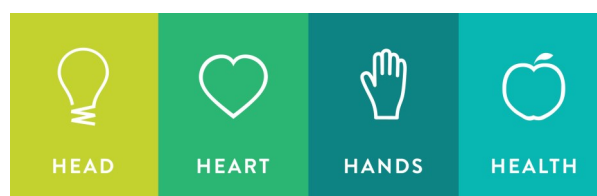
As a Mini 4-H helper, your job will be to guide and encourage the Mini 4-H'er through doing the activities in the manual. A wide range of activities are provided to allow you to choose the ones most appropriate for the child you are working with. Read through the booklet with your child. It is suggested that you DO NOT complete the activities for them, but instead, help them, guide them, and work with them, letting the child do as much as they possibly can themselves. 4-H believes in allowing children to "learn by doing". The Mini 4-H project activities are hands-on learning opportunities designed to provide a meaningful educational experience for youth.

Additionally, the Mini 4-H program is setup to allow children to display a project activity based upon information learned from this manual. Some children choose to exhibit their project at the Decatur County 4-H Agricultural Fair. Fair week is an exciting week for 4-H members, Mini 4-H'ers and their families. It is a week that allows the community youth to showcase their enthusiasm for learning.

Mini 4-H is fun! Children will certainly enjoy it. As an adult helper, you can have fun too, by guiding and helping as children participate in the program. Encourage and praise the child(ren) as they have fun learning while doing the activities, and sharing what they are learning with you.

If you have questions regarding Mini 4-H or the 4-H program and projects, please feel free to call the Decatur County Extension Office at 812-663-8388.

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Mini 4-H Program Rules

The Mini 4-H program is designed to supplement and introduce students in kindergarten through second grade to the Decatur County 4-H program.

Rules:

Mini 4-H is open to any boy or girl who is currently enrolled in Kindergarten, first or second grade on January 1st of the current 4-H year.

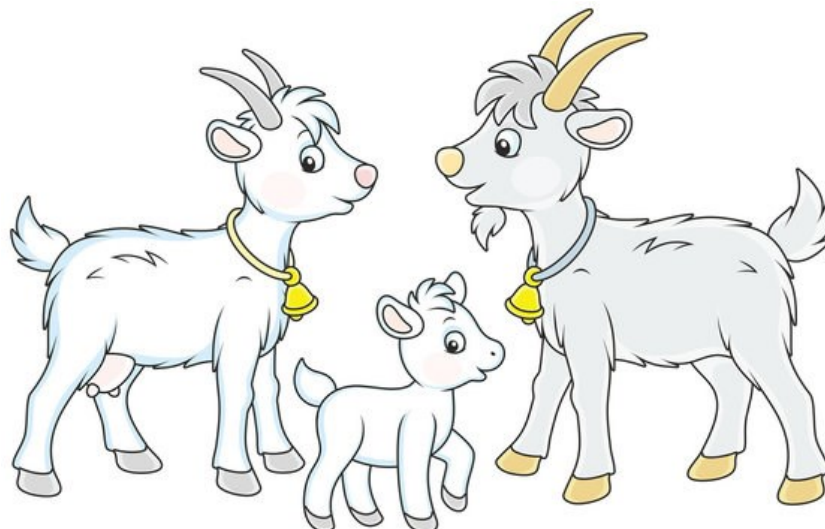
Mini 4-H participants will enroll in a 4-H club where they may get help with their project from older 4-H'ers and their club leader. They can also do their project at home with help from their parents.

Mini 4-H'ers in Decatur County may enroll in any of the following projects: Arts and Crafts, Bicycle (grade 2 only), Bugs, More Bugs (2nd grade), Collections, Dinosaurs, Farm Animals, Foods, Foods 2 (2nd grade), Forestry, Garden, Genealogy, Models, My Pets & Me, Plants & Flowers, Sewing, Space, Whales & Dolphins, Wildlife and Woodworking.

Animal projects now have manuals, and the child will participate in the Mini 4-H Livestock show during the fair for the species they have signed up to show. They will use an animal provided by an older sibling, relative, friend, or other 4-H'er that is already being shown at the fair. Older 4-H'ers and adults will help them so they will learn the proper way to show the animal. Animal projects include: Beef, Dairy, Rabbits, Goats, Sheep, Horses, Puppies/Dog, Swine and Poultry. The animal booklets are good for 3 years of Mini 4-H.

Mini 4-H'ers will complete activities in their project manuals, show in the Mini 4-H show, and if desired, turn in a project also. Any poster exhibits must follow the following specifications:

- The poster must be a stiff cardboard or foam core board so it can stand up easily, if needed. Poster board size is to be 22" high x 28" wide. Posters are to be covered with plastic to protect them.
- The Decatur County Extension Office sells foam core poster board and plastic sleeves to cover the poster boards, as a set, at a minimal price.
- Posters must be positioned horizontally.



TYPES OF GOATS



French Alpine



Oberhasli



Saanen



Kiko



Boer



Nigerian Dwarf



Anglo Nubian



La Mancha



Chanthangi (Pashmina)



Angora



Jamnapari



Toggenburg



Sirohi



Pygmy



Tennessee Fainting

GOATS

DAIRY—MEAT—PYGMY

<https://www.twinkl.com/homework-help/science-homework-help/animals-facts-for-kids/goat-facts-for-kids>

What are goats?

Goats are four-legged mammals, closely related to sheep. There are over 300 types of goats and they live all over the world. Goats are one of the oldest domesticated animals and it's thought they were first domesticated in Iran, over 10,000 years ago.

Goats can be extremely hardy animals, meaning they're able to adapt and survive in a wide range of difficult environments. Mountain goats are able to survive at incredibly low temperatures and negotiate dangerous terrains. They can jump up to 12 feet in one go and their white coats keep them camouflaged in snowy situations.

Fainting goats are not so tough. Otherwise known as Myotonic Goats, falling goats, or stiff-legged goats, this breed experiences a temporary stiffness in their muscles when they're startled, causing them to fall over! Fainting goats are native to North America and are common in Tennessee and other southern states nearby.

What do goats eat?

Goats are herbivores, which means they only eat plants. Goats tend to eat grass, but different breeds can eat different types of vegetation. For example, mountain goats will eat moss too. Generally, goats aren't picky eaters.

Domesticated goats will eat pretty much anything they can find, but this isn't always good for them. According to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (also known as the RSPCA), people keeping goats as pets need to pay close attention to what they feed them. High-quality hay is suitable, along with long grass. Owners can feed them supplements if they think it's necessary.

Top 10 Goat Facts for Kids:

1. Goats only use one side of their mouths to chew. This is why their jaws move in a circular motion as they chew.
2. Kids can get up and walk around just minutes after they are born.
3. Many species of wild goats are endangered.
4. Goats are often farmed for their milk and cheese.
5. Though some goats' fur is used to make clothing, goats do not need to be sheared or clipped.
6. Though closely related to sheep, goats are independent, curious animals.
7. In the past, goat hide was used to make drinking receptacles.
8. Both female and male goats have beards and horns.
9. Goats have horizontal pupils.

10. They're extremely agile, good at balancing in precarious situations, and some breeds can even climb trees.

Products from Goats: We get many other products from goats besides meat, milk, and fiber for clothing. Hides are used as rugs, and the skin is used for fine leather. Gelatin, fertilizers, surgical supplies, medicines, soaps, ceramics, pet foods, horn and bone handles, luggage, and footwear are just a few of the other products we get from the natural, renewable, and Earth-friendly GOATS.

<https://kidskonnnect.com/animals/goat/>

Facts About Goats

According to archaeological evidence, goats are one of the oldest domesticated species of animal. Stone age farmers started herding wild goats to get easy access to milk and meat.

- A goat that is well cared for can live between 15 and 18 years.
- A large group of goats is called a herd.
- Female goats are called does or nannies, while young goats are called kids. Male goats are called bucks or billies.
- If a male goat is castrated, it is called a wether.
- The words "hircine" and "caprine" both refer to anything having a goat-like quality.
- There are over 300 different breeds of goats and well over 450 million around the world.
- China is believed to have the most goats in the world.
- It is speculated that coffee was first discovered by goat herders when they noticed the animals having an unusual amount of energy after eating coffee beans.
- Goats readily revert to the wild (become feral) if given the opportunity. The only domestic animal known to return to feral life as swiftly is the cat.
- A goat's eye has a rectangular pupil. It is believed that goats have excellent night vision.
- A goat's digestive system works nonstop throughout its adult life, continually manufacturing digestive juices and enzymes.

Size, Anatomy, and Breeding

- Each breed of goat has specific weight ranges, which vary from over 140 kg (300 lb) for bucks of larger breeds such as the Boer, to 20 to 27 kg (45 to 60 lb) for smaller female goats.
- The smallest breed of goats are miniature breeds like the African Pygmy goat which is only 41 to 58 cm (16 to 23 in) tall at the shoulder.
- Most goats naturally have two horns, of various shapes and sizes depending on the breed.
- Their horns are made of living bone surrounded by keratin and are used for defense, dominance, and territoriality.
- Goats have a four-chambered stomach consisting of:
 1. The rumen, which is the largest compartment and is used for storage
 2. The reticulum, which is the smallest compartment, is known as the "honeycomb"
 3. The omasum whose main function is to absorb water and nutrients from the digestible feed.
 4. The abomasum, which is like the human stomach, is referred to as the "true stomach".
- As with other mammal ruminants like cows, sheep, and camels, they are even-toed ungulates.
- Female goats have an udder consisting of two teats that provide milk for kids.

Wool

- The Angora breed of goats produces long, curling, lustrous locks of mohair. The entire body of the goat is covered with mohair and there are no guard hairs. The locks constantly grow to four inches or more in length. The wool is shorn twice a year and used in the textile industry. Most goats have soft insulating hairs nearer the skin, which goes by the names down, cashmere, and pashmina and this is used for textile manufacture.

Other Goat Product Uses

- The intestine of goats is still used to make "catgut" which is used as a material for internal human surgical sutures
- It is also used as strings for musical instruments.
- Historically, goat hide was used for water and wine bottles, in both traveling and transporting wine for sale.
- Also, goat bones, hair, and sinew were used for clothing, building, and tools.
- Their dung is also used as fuel.
- Goats have been used by humans to clear unwanted vegetation for centuries. They have been described as "eating machines".

A few other facts about goats

<https://www.four-paws.org/campaigns-topics/topics/farm-animals/10-amazing-facts-about-goats>

- ♦ A baby goat is called a kid, but did you know that a goat giving birth is said to be "kidding"?
- ♦ Goats are sociable animals and therefore become depressed if they are separated or isolated from their companions, however they are not flock-orientated like sheep.
- ♦ They are one of the cleanliest animals and are much more selective feeders than cows, sheep, pigs, swine and even dogs.
- ♦ Goats are very intelligent and curious animals. Their inquisitive nature is exemplified in their constant desire to explore and investigate anything unfamiliar which they come across.
- ♦ They communicate with each other by bleating. Mothers will often call to their young (kids) to ensure they stay close-by. Mother and kid goats recognize each other's calls soon after the mothers give birth.
- ♦ Goats can be taught their name and to come when called.
- ♦ They are very picky eaters. They have very sensitive lips, which they use to "mouth" things in search of clean and tasty food. They will often refuse to eat hay that has been walked on or lying around loose for a day.
- ♦ Goats use the sneeze sound as an alarm. They use a sneeze to warn each other of danger, whether real or imagined.
- ♦ They are extremely intelligent and curious and are very often not given credit for being the smart and loving creatures they actually are.
- ♦ Goats dislike water and would rather leap over streams and puddles than step in them.



- Goats have no tear ducts.
- Both male and female goats may have beards.
- Gestation is approximately 150 days.
- Single, twin and even triplet births are common.
- Birthing is known as kidding.
- Freshening (coming into milk production) occurs at kidding.

What Do Goats Eat?

- Goats are reputed to be willing to eat almost anything, including tin cans and cardboard boxes.
- While goats will not actually eat inedible material, they will chew on and taste just about anything remotely resembling plant matter to decide whether it is good to eat, including cardboard, clothing, and paper.
- Aside from sampling many things, goats are quite particular in what they actually consume, preferring to browse on the tips of woody shrubs and trees, as well as the occasional broad-leaved plant.
- Their plant diet is extremely varied and includes some species toxic to other animals.
- Goat-rearing is most often free-ranging since stall-fed goat-rearing involves extensive upkeep and is seldom commercially viable.
- Goats are released onto the tea terraces where they avoid consuming the green tea leaves (which contain bitter-tasting substances) but instead eat the weeds.
- The goats' droppings then fertilize the tea plants.

Goat Products and Uses

Milk

- Milk production varies with the breed, age, quality, and diet of the doe. On average, a good quality dairy doe will give at least 3 kg (6 lb) of milk per day while she is in milk.
- Goats produce about 2% of the world's total annual milk supply.
- Goat milk has less cholesterol than cow's milk.
- Goat milk is easily digestible and less allergenic than cow's milk.
- Goat milk is higher in calcium, vitamin A and niacin than cows' milk.

Butter, Yogurt, and Cheese

- Goat butter is white because goats produce milk with the yellow beta-carotene converted to a colorless form of vitamin A.
- Goat milk is commonly processed into yogurt, cheese, ice cream, and other products.

Meat

- Goat meat is a great source of nutrients, including protein, iron, vitamin B12, zinc, and potassium. Goat meat is lower in fat than chicken and higher in protein than beef. It is sometimes tough with a flavor somewhere between beef and lamb. Marinating the meat makes it less tough and accentuates the flavor.
- Goat meat tends to be lean and is best braised or cooked with moist heat, so it won't fry out.
- It's also low in total fat and saturated fat compared with other forms of red meat.
- The taste of goat kid meat is similar to that of spring lamb meat.

DAIRY GOAT BREEDS

Alpine Goats



The Alpine Dairy Goat is also referred to as the French Alpine and ADGA registration papers for this dairy goat use both designations and they are synonymous. The Alpine dairy goat is a medium to large size animal, alertly graceful, with erect ears, offering all colors and combinations of colors with distinction and individuality of appearance. They are hardy, adaptable animals that thrive in any climate while maintaining good health and excellent production. The hair is medium to short. The face is straight. A Roman nose, Toggenburg color and markings, or all white, is discriminated against.

Guernsey Goats



The Guernsey dairy goat was developed using genetics from the rare Golden Guernsey Goats, an official dairy breed registered with the British Goat Society. The Guernsey dairy goat is medium in size. The ears are erect and often set slightly lower than Swiss breeds and carried horizontally, or forward in what is termed the "bonnet" position when viewed in profile. Ear tips can be slightly upturned. The ears must not be pendulous. The nose should be either straight or dished. The Guernsey coat/hair color should be shades of gold, ranging from very pale flaxen cream to deep russet or bronze. Full or partial roaning; white patches; white face; star/blaze are acceptable. The golden body color should be dominant, with no preference shown to any shade or pattern. Hair may be short or long and flowing

or a combination of both. A long curtain, skirt, and/or dorsal fringe of body hair are desirable, although not required to meet standard. Skin color must display a gold tone, ranging from peachy flesh to orange-gold in one or more of these places; muzzle, ears, eyes, under tail, mammary or scrotum. Swiss facial stripes and/or rump marking; black markings or spots over 1 1/2 inches are not allowed.

LaMancha Goats



The LaMancha goat was developed in the U.S.A. It has excellent dairy temperament and is an all-around sturdy animal that can withstand a great deal of hardship and still produce. Through official testing, this breed has established itself in milk production with high butterfat. The LaMancha face is straight with the ears being the distinctive breed characteristic. There are two types of LaMancha ears. In does one type of ear has no advantage over the other. 1. The “gopher ear” is described as follows: an approximate maximum length of one inch (2.54 cm) but preferably nonexistent and with very little or no cartilage. The end of the ear must be turned up or down. This is the only type of ear which will make bucks eligible for registration. 2. The “elf ear” is described as follows: an approximate maximum length of two inches (5.08 cm) is allowed, the end of the ear must be turned up or turned down and cartilage shaping the small ear is allowed.

Nigerian Dwarf Goats



The Nigerian Dwarf is a miniature breed of dairy goat originating in West Africa and developed in the United States. The balanced proportions of the Nigerian Dwarf give it the appearance of the larger breeds of dairy goats, but does stand no more than 22.5" (57cm) and bucks no more than 23.5" (60cm). Any color or combination of colors is acceptable. The medium length ears are erect and alert. The face is either straight or dished, and the hair is short and fine.

Nubian Goats



The Nubian is a relatively large, proud, and graceful dairy goat of mixed Asian, African, and European origin, known for high quality, high butterfat, milk production. The head is the distinctive breed characteristic, with the facial profile between the eyes and the muzzle being strongly convex (Roman nose). The ears are long (extending at least one inch [2.54 cm] beyond the muzzle when held flat along the face), wide and pendulous. They lie close to the head at the temple and flare slightly out and well forward at the rounded tip, forming a “bell” shape. The ears are not thick, with the cartilage well defined. The hair is short, fine and glossy. Any color or colors, solid or patterned, is acceptable.

Oberhasli Goats



The Oberhasli is a Swiss dairy goat. This breed is a medium size, vigorous and alert in appearance. Its color is chamoisee. Does may be black but chamoisee is preferred. Chamoisee is described as: Bay—ranging from light to a deep red bay with the latter most desirable. A few white hairs through the coat and about the ears are permitted. Markings are to be: two black stripes down the face from above each eye to a black muzzle; forehead nearly all black, black stripes from the base of each ear coming to a point just at the back of the poll and continuing along the neck and back as a dorsal stripe to the tail; a black belly and light gray to black udder; black legs below the knees and hocks; ears black inside and bay outside. Bucks often have more black on the head than

does, black whiskers, and black hair along the shoulder and lower chest with a mantle of black along the back. Bucks frequently have more white hairs through the coat than does. Ears should be erect and alertly carried. The face is straight or dished. A Roman nose is discriminated against.

Saanen Goats



The Saanen dairy goat originated in Switzerland. It is medium to large in size with rugged bone and plenty of vigor. Does should be feminine, however, and not coarse. Saanens are white or light cream in color, with white preferred. Spots on the skin are not discriminated against. Small spots of color on the hair are allowable, but not desirable. The hair should be short and fine, although a fringe over the spine and thighs is often present. Ears should be erect and alertly carried, preferably pointing forward. The face should be straight or dished. A tendency toward a Roman nose is

discriminated against.

Sable Goats



The Sable dairy goat is medium to large in size with rugged bone and plenty of vigor. Does should be feminine, however, and not coarse. Their hair is short; ears should be erect and alertly carried, preferably pointing forward. The face should be straight or dished. The Sable may be any color or combination of colors, solid or patterned, EXCEPT solid white or solid light cream.

Toggenburg Goats



The Toggenburg is a Swiss dairy goat from the Toggenburg Valley of Switzerland. This breed is of medium size, sturdy, vigorous, and alert in appearance. The hair is short to long in length, soft and fine. Its color is solid, varying from light fawn to dark chocolate with no preference for any shade. Distinct white markings are as follows: white ears with dark spot in middle; two white stripes down the face from above each eye to the muzzle; hind legs white from hocks to hooves; forelegs white from knees downward with dark vertical stripe below knee acceptable; a white triangle on each side of the tail; white spot may be present at root of wattles or in that area if no wattles are present. Varying degrees of

cream markings instead of pure white acceptable, but not desirable. The ears are erect and carried forward. Facial lines may be dished or straight, never Roman.

MEAT GOATS

Spanish Goats



When the Spanish explorers came to North America, they brought goats as a meat source. Some of these goats either escaped or were released when alternate meat sources were discovered. These feral goats became known as “Spanish” or “brush goats.” Although not of a specific breed ancestry, they have developed through natural selection. These goats never received much documented attention, so the history is hard to verify, but Spanish goats in this country show their DNA to be of Iberian origin. The term has also been used to describe any goat of unknown ancestry. Most are wild or at least semi-wild. Size varies greatly due to climate, terrain and available breeding stock. Body shape, ear shape, horns, hair and color are non consistent.

For the next couple of centuries the goats were used for milk, meat, hair, and hides. They survived well with minimal management, and those that became feral survived with no human management at all. They also adapted well to their regions, and natural selection was the norm, producing a breed of goat that was an exceptionally well-adapted survivor.

Boer Goats

The development of the Boer goat in the early 1900's can be traced to the Dutch farmers of South Africa. Boer is a Dutch word meaning farmer. With meat production setting the selection criteria, the Dutch farmers developed the Boer goat as a unique breed of livestock. The Boer goat has a rapid growth rate, excellent carcass qualities and is highly adapted to different environments. Through the subsequent decades of selective breeding, the Boer goat gained its genetic superiority and nobility, laying the foundation for the improved Boer Goat and the basis for today's American Boer goat. The first full-blood Boers were brought into the United States in 1993. Since that time a tremendous amount of interest in breeding Boer and Boer influence goats has exploded in the United States. The South Africans carefully selected and bred goats to produce the traditional Boer goat which is a goat with a white body and a red head. There are also grade Boer goats that may be solid reds or white, or paints or dapples. While most of these can be registered with the Boer breed associations in the USA, in South Africa only the traditional can be registered. Docile, high fertility and a fast growth rate are some of the traits that set the Boer goat apart in the purebred and commercial segments of the American meat goat industry. Mature Does can weigh between 190- 230 lb and mature Boer bucks can weigh between 200 – 340 lb.



Kiko Goats



The Kiko goat was created for meat production by Garrick and Anne Batten of Nelson in the northern South Island of New Zealand during the 1980's. The Battens crossbred selected local feral goats with imported dairy goat bucks, namely from the Nubian, Saanen and Toggenburg breeds, aiming for hardiness, **fast growth and survivability** with little input from the producer. Kiko is from the Maori word meaning flesh or meat.

After four generations of selective breeding – selection being on the grounds of survivability and growth rate in a hill country environment – a dramatic improvement in liveweight and animal performance was achieved. By 1986 the Kiko breed was established and the herd was closed to further cross-breeding. Within New Zealand, control of the breed remained with the original developers. Kikos were exported to the United States in the 1992, where breeders were looking to improve meat production by crossing with the indigenous Spanish goats.

The Kiko breed was slow to catch on in the United States, but has gained popularity in recent years, particularly in the Southeast and other humid areas due to good parasite resistance and motherability.

Myotonic Goats

Myotonic goats (fainting goats) are a landrace breed. The first documentation of their presence occurring was in the 1870's. Myotonic goats are docile, curious and friendly.

They are self-sufficient, sure-footed and adaptable. They are not fence jumpers or climbers. Does are excellent mothers, very protective of their babies, and easy kidders. A 200% kidding ratio is not uncommon. These durable, self-sufficient pasture animals tend to

be more parasite resistant than other breeds. Myotonics tend to be "year-round" (aseasonal) breeders.



Myotonia is a inherited neuro-muscular condition which causes the goats muscling to stiffen or "lock-up" when they are startled or overly excited . If they are off balance when their muscles lock up they will tip over, thus the terms of Nervous Goats, Fainters, or Stifflegs. These goats will still be chewing their feed/hay should they get startled and loose balance. Myotonia occurs in the muscle fiber... not as a function of the central nervous system.... and causes no problem for the goats. The goats stay conscious the whole time.....thus the term "fainter" is a misnomer. The proper name for these animals is "Myotonic".

Savanna(h) Goats



The white Savanna goat breed was developed from indigenous goats of South Africa. One of the advantages of these white goats was the fact that the white color is dominant over most other colors. The other reason is that there is a big demand for white goats for slaughter purposes for various reasons.

On the rugged, harsh bush country where temperatures and rainfall can vary to a marked extent, natural selection played a big role in the development of these fertile, easy to care for, heat and drought resistant animals. These goats have thick, pliable skins with short white hair. The Savanna has excellent re-

production, muscular development, good bones and strong legs and hooves. Although these goats have white hair, they are selected for totally black pigmented skin, horns, hooves and all bare skin areas to avoid injury by strong ultra-violet rays.

The Savanna breed is relatively new to the United States, having been imported in the late 1990s. The breed is a large framed, extremely well-muscled goat with white color containing a few black pigments found on the ears. The body characteristics resemble those of the Boer goat. The breed is very adaptable and is successful on extensive grazing, as well as on intensive pastures.

The Savanna is not a seasonal breeder, and mating can usually be done at a time that will ensure enough feed is available at kidding. The Savanna goat is a highly fertile and fecund breed, and a high twinning rate is generally achieved, even under less than optimal conditions.

Savanna wethers have a good growth rate and are an early- to medium-maturity type that produces carcasses with good confirmation.

The does have very good mothering ability and great milk production and produce fast-growing kids. Best of all, they require very little handling and care due to their disease resistance and limited hoof problems.



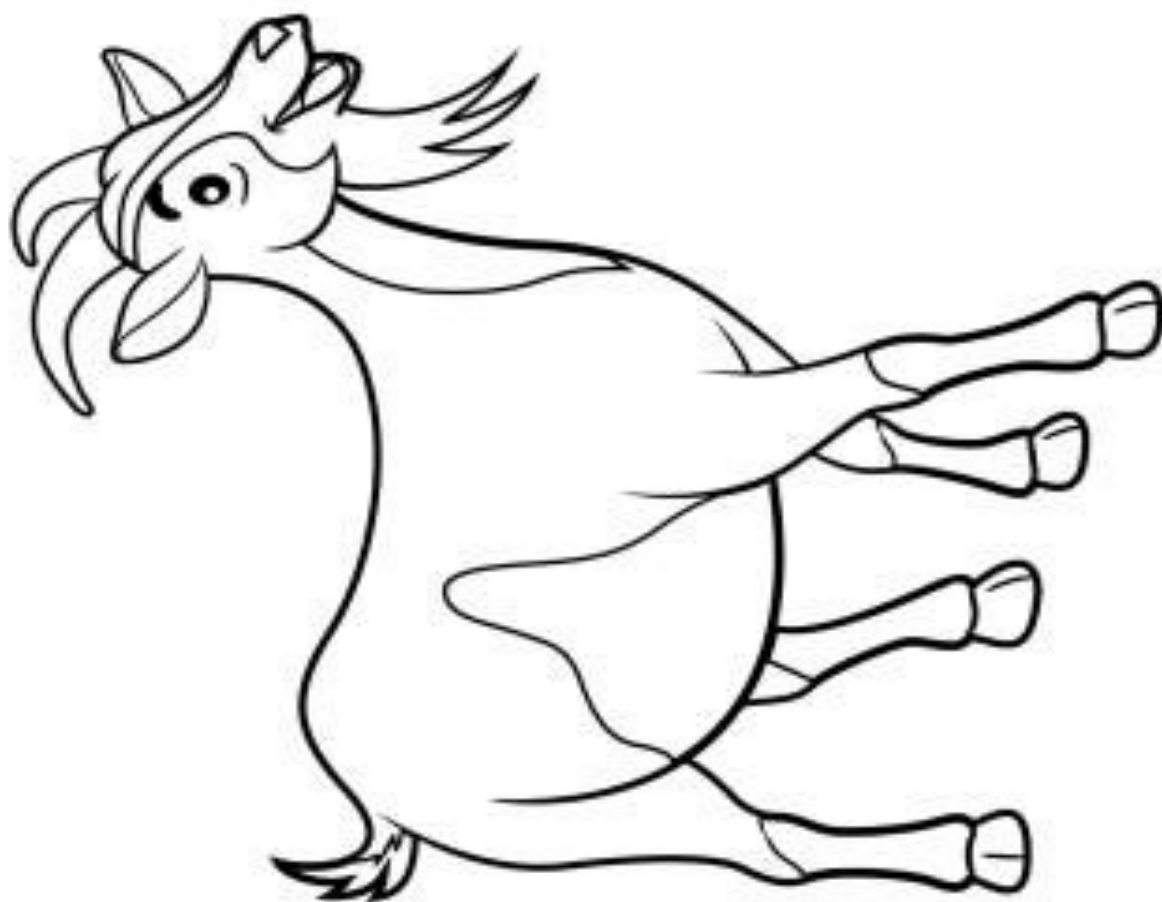
TexMaster™ Goats

Twenty years ago Onion Creek Ranch began crossing their Tennessee Meat Goat™ quality Myotonic bucks over Boer and Boer/Myotonic cross does in an effort to produce a meaty goat for commercial producers. After several generations of crossings, the TexMaster™ breed was developed. TexMaster™ goats are lower maintenance and exhibit better feed utilization. These goats have excellent mothering skills, and kids are up and nursing within minutes after birth.

The TexMaster™ breed is significantly Myotonic, with just enough Boer to add a bit of faster growth. They are hardy and parasite resistant.

<https://americangoatfederation.org/breeds-of-goats-2/>

Color the goat on the next page.



HANDLING AND SHOWING YOUR GOAT

SHOWMANSHIP

Showmanship can be defined by an effective presentation of your market goat. You are judged on your ability to:

- Control your goat
- Present your goat
- Bring out its best characteristics
- Show out the faults of your goat so they are less obvious to the judge
- MAKE YOUR GOAT LOOK ITS BEST
- Knowledge of your goat and the meat goat

With this in mind, you must commit yourself to hard work and practice in advance in order to arrive at the fair with a goat that is well trained and groomed, and to have the confidence in yourself needed to compete successfully.

Dehorning

Many shows require that goats be dehorned. If your goat has horns when you purchase it, contact your local veterinarian about "dehorning" your goat. Be sure to schedule dehorning early, so the animal has proper time to heal prior to the show.

Training

Time: Spend time with your goat—clean their pen, provide them with feed and water, and they will quickly learn you are "OK" and they will become your friend. I believe in "training" an animal, not "breaking" an animal. Therefore, you must start preparing for the show months before the actual date. Gain your goat's trust, and you will be rewarded with friendship and success from your goat. There is no "Quick-Fix" for hard work and time when training an animal.

Collar Training: Collar training is a great way to train your goat to handling, while gaining valuable exercise needed by your market goat to develop muscle definition. Each time you handle your goat, handle the goat's legs and practice leading your goat. The goat will quickly become accustomed to you handling it, and the training of your goat for showmanship will be easier.

Practice Showing: Practice showing your goat with someone acting as the judge, remembering to keep the goat's head held high and feet positioned correctly. The goat will quickly learn its job and what you expect of it. Reward your goat when it performs as expected and return it to its pen. Do not overwork your goat, which will create bad habits and fatigue for both you and the goat.

Caring for a Quality Goat

<https://www.wikihow.com/Show-a-Goat-in-4H>

1. Select a quality goat. There are certain things you should look for when selecting a goat. You want a goat that lives up to show standards, as this can increase your chance of taking home a prize at the fair.

- Look for a goat with rounded shoulders and thick forelegs. The ribs should have deep twists as well as a soft feel. The goat's back should be strong. You should be able to see muscles throughout the back.
- Pay attention to the goat's head. A goat should have a straight jaw. A jaw that is overshot is known as a "parrot mouth" as it creates a beak-like appearance. An undershot jaw is known as a "monkey mouth."

2. Provide a safe environment. Once you select a goat, you need to maintain the proper environment. This will allow your goat to grow and thrive.

Your goat should have a barn or shed to sleep in. Make sure it is at least 16 square feet. You should also have a fenced in area outdoors where your goat can roam and get exercise. Have the outdoor area as big as possible, as this will allow your goat to roam and play. Make sure your fence is at least 42 inches (110 cm) tall, as this will prevent your goat from escaping.

3. Feed your goat high quality food. You want a goat pellet that will make your goat grow big in preparation for the competition. You should go for a goat pellet comprised of 16% to 18% protein. This will help a young goat grow and build muscle.

- Feed your goat around 2 pounds of goat food a day. You will have to have some kind of trough or feeder in its barn.
- You should make sure the feed you choose contains ammonium chloride. This helps prevent issues with a goat's urinary tract.

4. Give your goat plenty of water. This is essential to your goat's wellbeing. Water helps regulate the amount a goat eats. Goats that are dehydrated may overeat to compensate, resulting in obesity.

Provide clean and fresh water on a daily basis. Always check the goat's water trough when checking in on your goat. If the water trough is dirty or empty, clean it out and add more water.

5. Provide proper vitamins and minerals. If you're feeding your goat a balanced diet, it should get most of the vitamins and minerals it needs. In addition to high quality pellets, give your goat fresh vegetables and grains to assure it is getting the right vitamins and minerals.^[4]

- Calcium, phosphorous, and salt are important to a goat's diet. Provide a salt lick for your goat, and feed your goat vegetables and grains. Vegetables have a lot of phosphorous, while grains are high in calcium.
- Vitamin A is the only vitamin your goat will not get naturally in its diet. Talk to a vet about adding vitamin A supplements to your goat's diet.

AT THE SHOW

Dress

Exhibitors should not only dress neatly, but they also need to pay attention to appropriateness of their dress. Remember, you will be bending over and squatting down at times, so wear clothes that are comfortable and appropriate. **YOU ARE SHOWING YOUR GOAT—NOT YOURSELF.** You do not want to wear cloths that distract from your goat. Some good rules of thumb concerning dress code are:

- Leather boots or shoes
- Clean jeans and slacks. No faded or ripped clothing
- Button-down shirts or polo shirts—***Conservatively buttoned up.***
- No hats

Showing

Before the Show: Evaluate the show ring prior to showmanship, paying close attention to where low spots are located. You want to make sure the goat's front feet don't end up in the low spots. You always want to set the goat going uphill.

Leading: Lead the goat from the left side with the right hand when possible. Keep the goat between you and the judge. Keep the goat's front shoulder even with your leg and the goat's head in front of your body.

Lining Up: If the judge pulls you into line, your goat's shoulder should line up with the shoulder of the first goat in line. Keep your goat parallel to the other goats. If the judge lines you up head-to-tail, always line up straight behind the goat at the front of the line. **KEEP THE LINES STRAIGHT**—this will make it easier for the judge to evaluate and compare goats.

Setting Up: Set the goat up so that the legs are square. Keeping the goat's head straight over its body. The goat should look eye appealing and alert. You should remain standing at all times.

General: Know where the judge is and stay alert. The judge may handle your goat at any moment or ask you to move to another place in the show ring. **ENTER THE RING SHOWING YOUR GOAT AND LEAVE SHOWING YOUR GOAT.** First impressions are critical, especially in large shows. Only stop showing if the judge informs you that you may do so.

Finally, remember the goals of showmanship are to learn about your goat and the meat goat industry, to showcase meat goats and chevon products in a competitive event for the general public to observe and learn from, and last, but not least—**HAVE FUN.** If you have done your best—leave the ring with your head held high, despite your placing. Learn from your successes and mistakes, watch other show persons, and improve your skills for the next time you enter the show ring. Showmanship is a constant learning experience, because showmanship styles and philosophies are constantly changing all over the country. And last, but not least; **REMEMBER GOOD SHOWMANSHIP ETHICS**—Win with graciousness and lose with dignity—then everyone is a winner.

<https://extension.wsu.edu/animalag/content/training-grooming-and-showing-market-goats/>

Preparing Your Goat for a Show

1. **Adjust your goat's food as necessary.** You want your goat to go into the show at a good weight. It may be necessary to feed your goat more or less in the weeks leading up to the show.
 - Your goat should have some muscle definition in its back, legs, and flanks. You should also be able to feel your goat's ribs. Your goat should not have a visible belly.
 - If your goat appears puffy and lacks muscle definition, cut back on feeding slightly. You can also remove some hay from your goat's barn and pen to prevent snacking.
2. **Cut your goat's hair.** A goat's hair should be neat and trimmed prior to a show. In the days leading up to the show, make sure to give your goat a good trim.
 - Use a pair of shears to trim uneven hair on your goat. Target hair around the hooves, on the belly, in the ears, and at the bottom of the tail. You should also trim any uneven hairs on the goat's chin.
 - Check the expectations of the show you're attending. It may be preferable to shave your goat. If you choose to shave your goat, do it at least two weeks before the show. Use a blade that trims hair between 1/2 and 1/4 inch long. The hair on the hocks and knees should not be shaved.
 - Your goat may be nervous for the clipping or shaving process. It's a good idea to have a friend or family member hold the goat still while you work.

Showing Your Goat

1. **Present your goat.** At the show you will be asked to present your goat to judges. Keep calm and follow your judge's instructions. How exactly you present your goat varies state by state.
 - Make sure you give equal attention to the goat and the judge. Shift your gaze from your goat to the judge throughout the presentation.

Make sure not to do anything to draw attention away from the goat. Avoid fidgeting or talking too much. You should only talk when the judge asks you a question.



2. **Move your goat when asked.** The judge will ask you at some point to walk with your goat. Lead your goat around the arena with the lead rope as the judge watches.

 - Walk slowly. The proper speed for your goat is one step at a time.

If you walk with other goats, leave an adequate amount of space. There should be enough space that one goat could fit between your goat and the goat ahead of you.



3. **Shift your goat's position when asked.** The judge may request that you move to the right or backwards slightly. This is to help the judge get a good view of the goat. Follow the judge's instructions carefully to assure you get a high score.

If you need to switch sides, always walk in front of the goat rather than behind the goat.

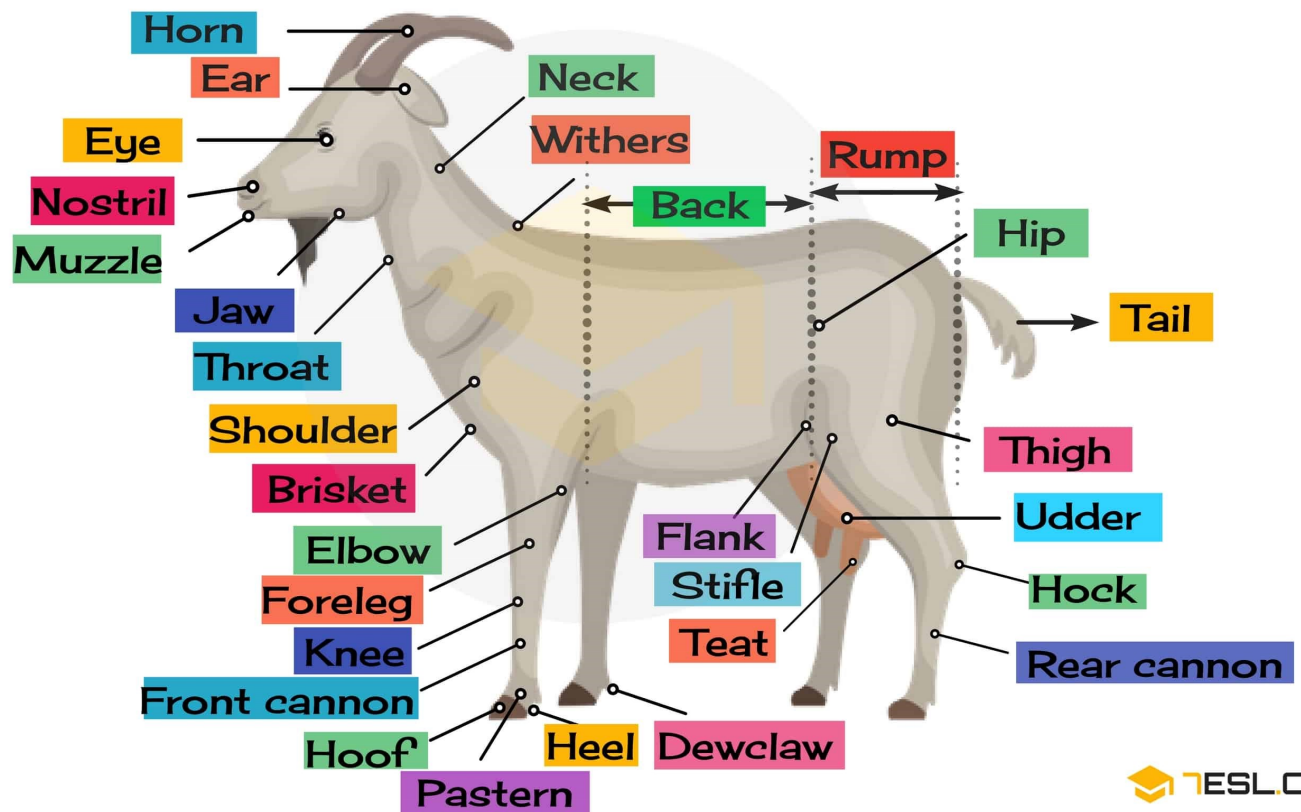


TIPS:

- Spend time with your goat to help it get used to you and feel safe around you during a stressful event, like being at a show. Sit with your goat, have food in your hand and talk gently to your goat.
- Ensure that your goats are familiar with loud noise. There will be plenty of this at the show, and the calmer your goat is around noise, the easier it will be for everyone concerned.
- Ensure that the goat is acquainted with seeing a lot of people. This helps the goat to stay still and it will let you show and work the goat in front of a large group of people.

<https://www.wikihow.com/Show-a-Goat-in-4H>

PARTS OF A GOAT



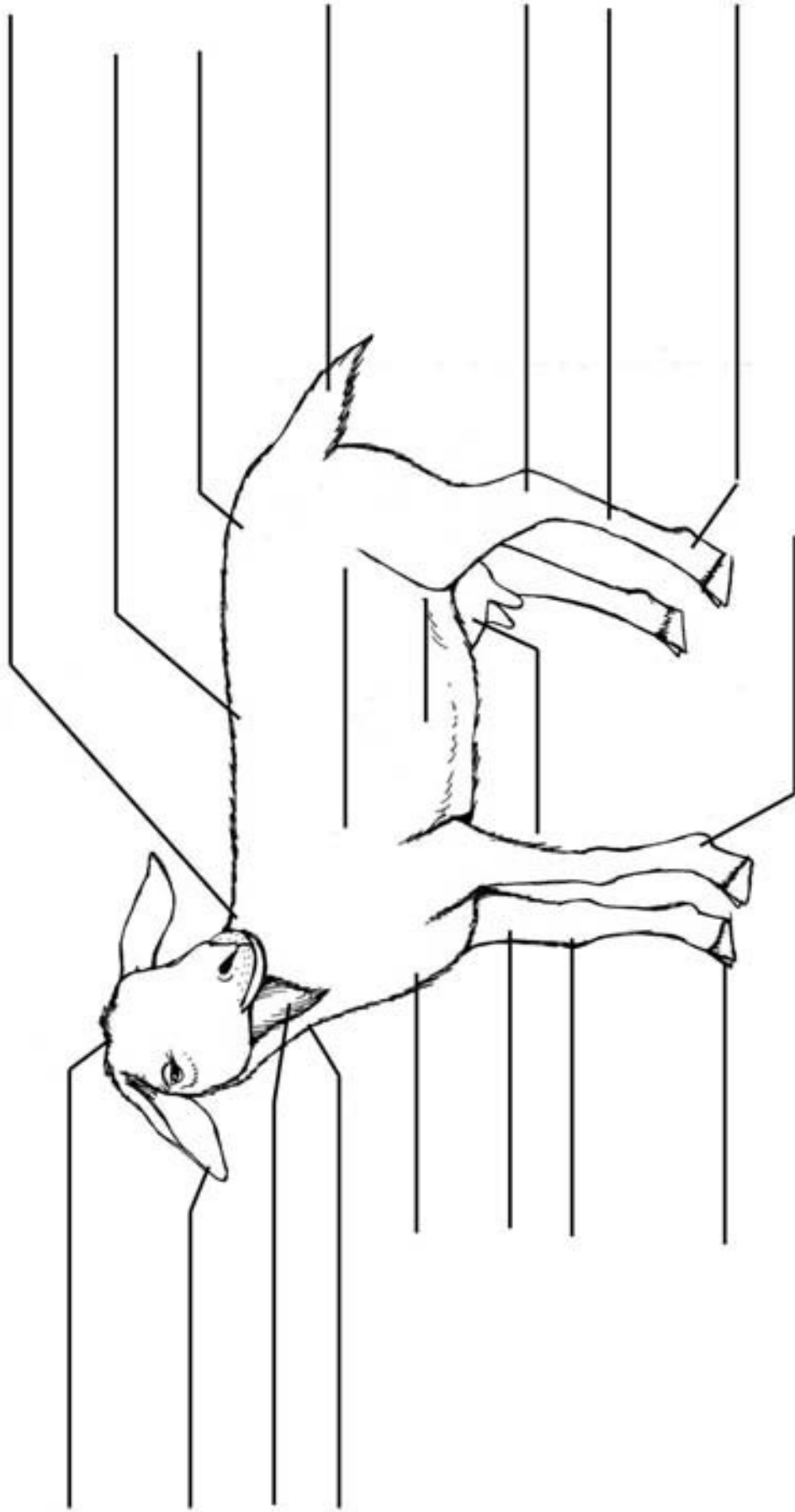
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COLOR THE PICTURE NEATLY



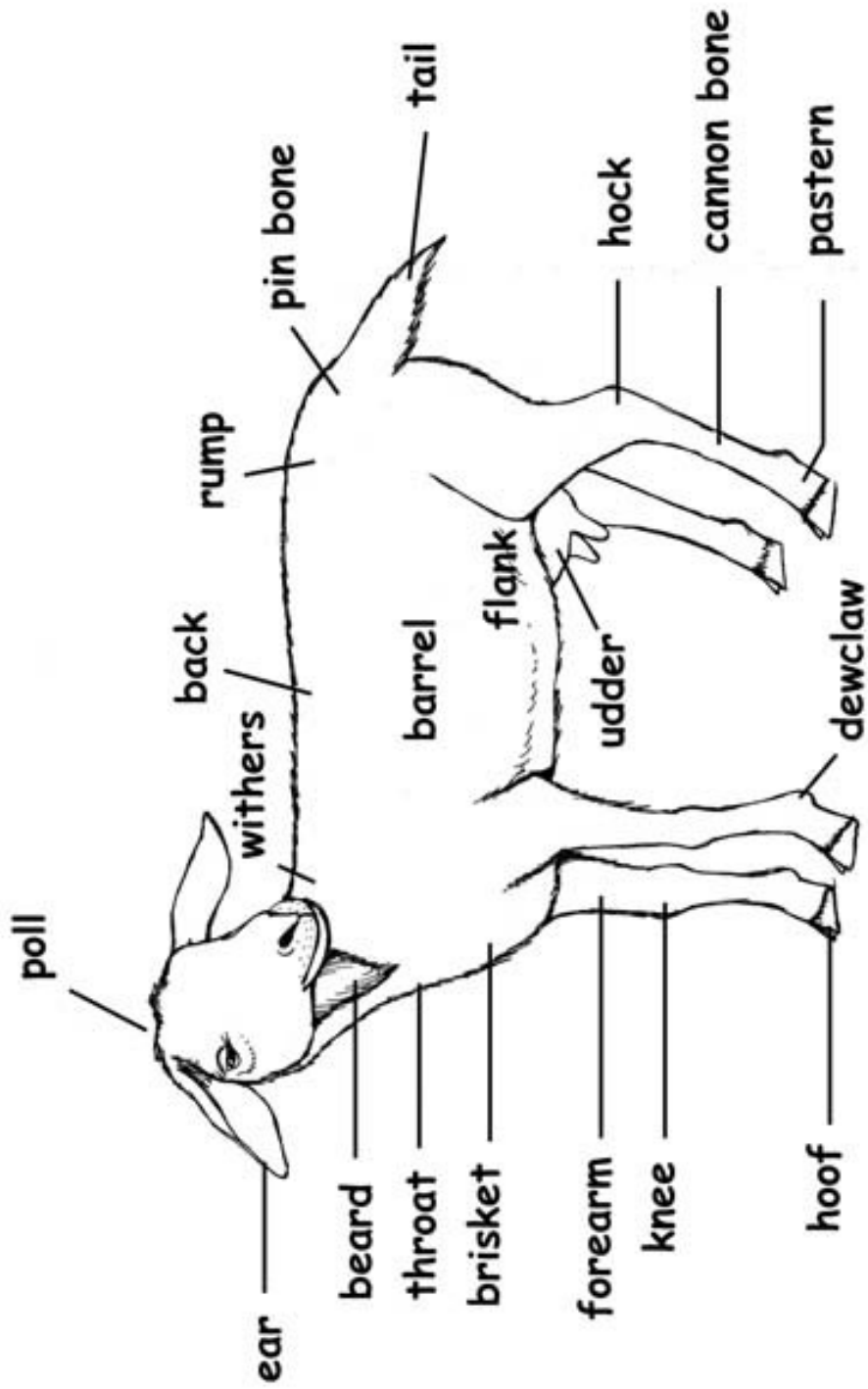
Label the Parts of the Goat

Capra aegagrus hircus

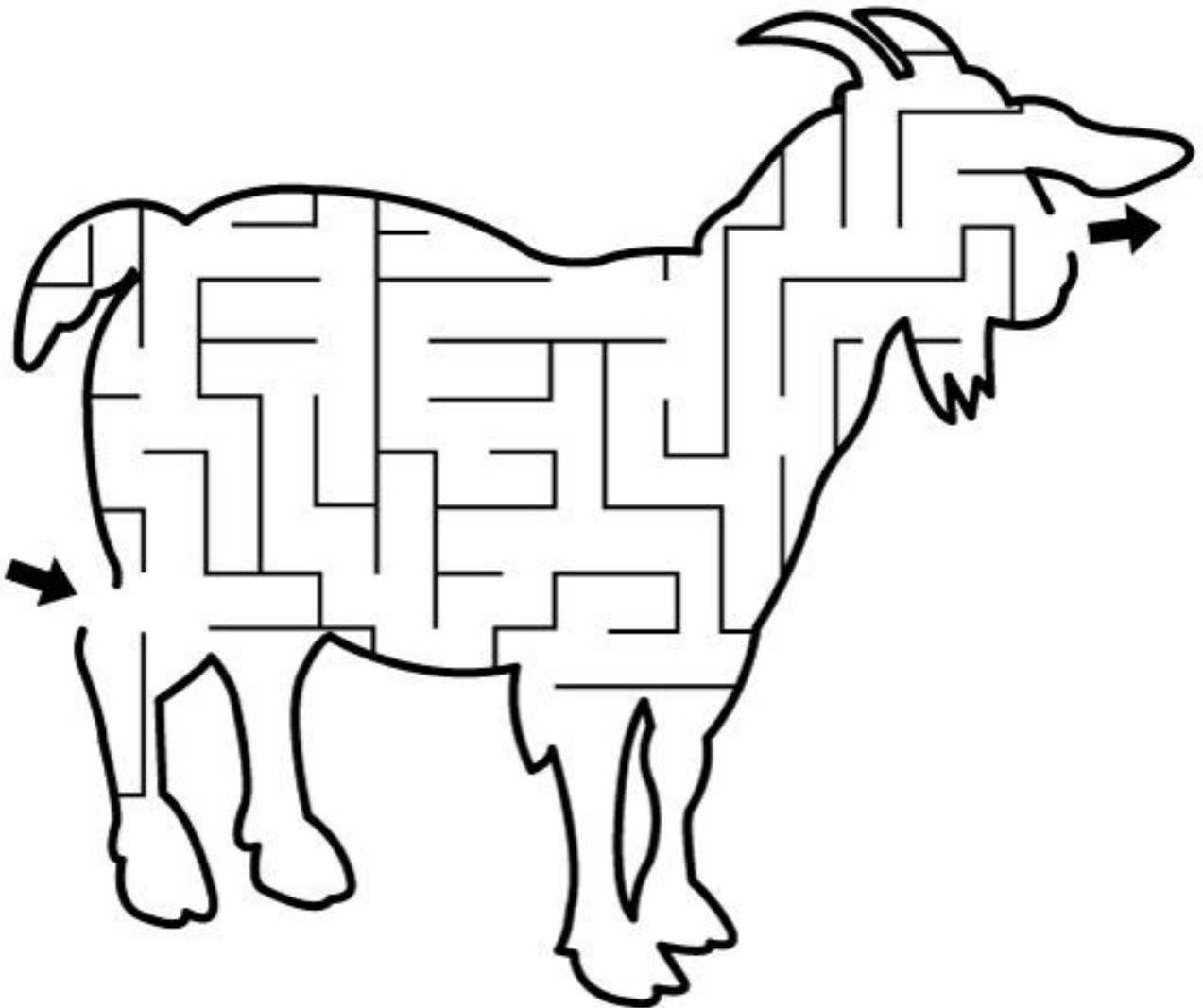


The Goat

Capra aegagrus hircus



Goat Maze



Goats Word Search

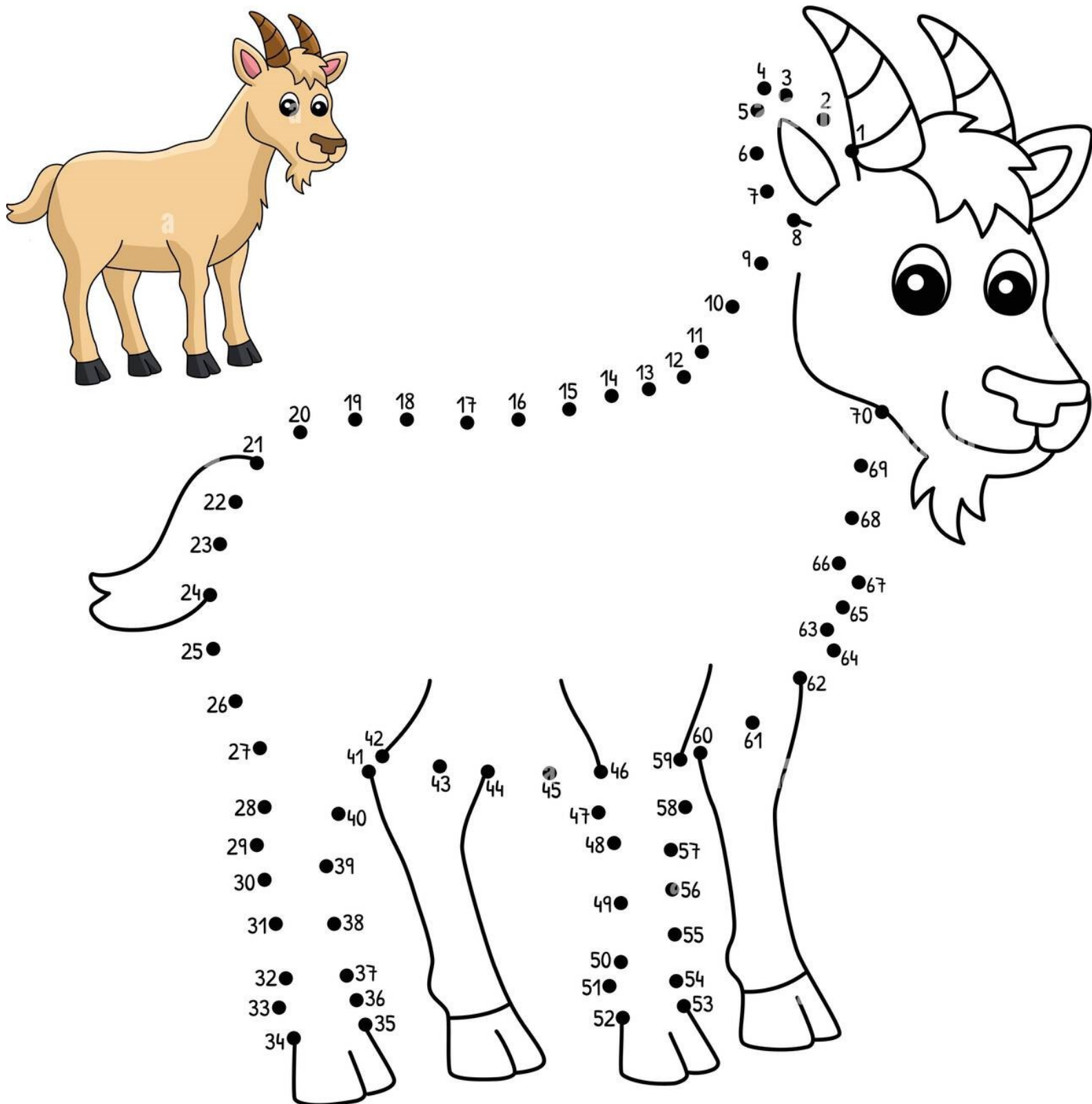
H U Q N I T Q C R G Y M E I O
L E V X A Q A Y U I O N G S O
N M R O W B S N T U C F N I Z
X B G B H E R D N U A W A A V
Q Y L L I B A T O B P S O R N
T D D I K V A E U N R N H K M
J B D J P I O S K H I R C P Y
J O D A N E H R N O N O A V G
E V D C V G T T E J A H C P Z
L V C Z O K R L P G E T R V E

GOAT
HERD
BILLY
NANNY
DOE
KID

RUT
CAPRINAE
MOUNTAIN
FARM
HERBIVORE
HORNS



FOLLOW THE NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 70 TO DRAW THE GOAT. YOU MAY THEN COLOR YOUR GOAT.



REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MINI 4-H GOAT PROJECT

- ⇒ The main requirement is to attend and participate in the 4-H Mini Goat show during the Decatur County Fair. Check with the Goat supervisor/leaders for the date and time of the 4-H Mini Goat show.
- ⇒ NOTE: Mini 4-Hers DO NOT bring their own goat to the fair. They must use a goat that belongs to a sibling, relative or other 4-Her. Your 4-H leader can help set up your child's use of a goat for the show.
- ⇒ If your child would like to turn in a project for judging also, they may do a poster on a subject to do with raising or showing goats and turn it in when 4-H Mini projects are turned in for judging.

If you have any questions regarding the Mini 4-H Goat project, please call the 4-H Educator or the Extension Office (812-663-8388). The labels on the next page may be cut out to use on any 4-H Mini project that is turned in for judging.



PARTS OF A GOAT

Body Part of Goat

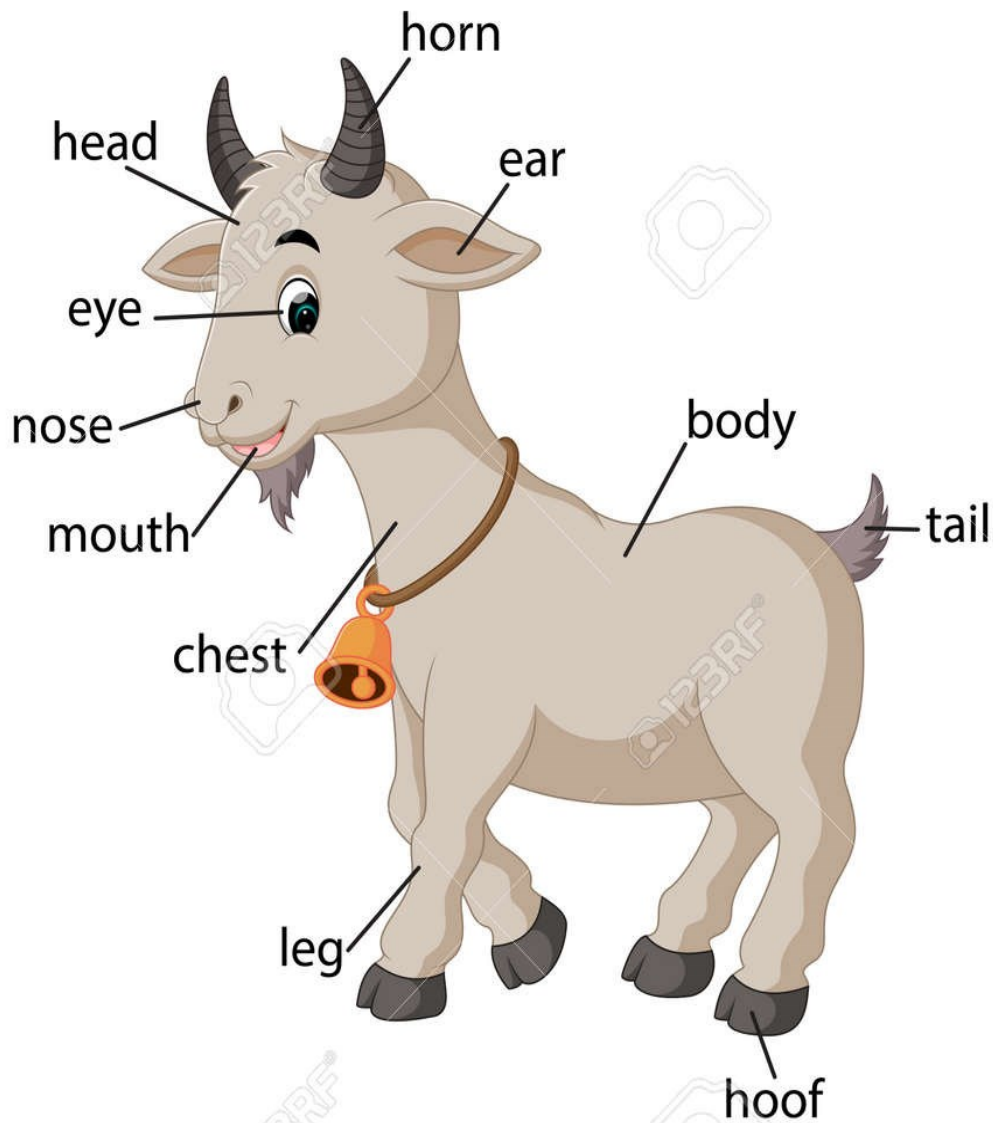


Exhibit Name Tags

Below are name tags for you to cut out and attach to the project that you will be exhibiting at the fair. Attached the tag to the bottom right-hand corner of your poster or project. If you have another type project such as a model farm, attach the tag to the tack with the tag hanging down where it can be seen at the bottom right corner of the project

DECATUR	
_____	Name
_____	Club
_____	Project
_____	MINI 4-H/CLOVERBUDS
Grade	

DECATUR	
_____	Name
_____	Club
_____	Project
_____	MINI 4-H/CLOVERBUDS
Grade	

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BreedS of Goat



Alpine



Altai Mountain



American Lamancha



Anatolian Black Goat



Anglo-Nubian



Boer



Appenzell Goat



Arapawa



Australian Miniature



Barbari



Beetal



Bilberry



Belgian Fawn



Bionda dell'Adamello



Black Bengal



Brown Shorthair



Chyangra



Changthangi



Dutch Landrace



Dutch Toggenburg



Golden Guemsey



Mini Oberhasli



Pygmy



Saanen



Irish



Jamnapari



Kalahari Red



Verata



Valais Blackneck

MINI 4-H



I pledge...

my **head** to clearer thinking,
my **heart** to greater loyalty,
my **hands** to larger service, and
my **health** to better living for
my **club**, my **community**,
my **country**, and my **world**.

DECATUR COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

545 S County Road 200 W

Greensburg, IN 47240

Phone 812-663-8388

Nora Bruns, 4-H Extension Educator and Youth Development

Email: stacyn@purdue.edu