# Project Title: Aquatic Science

Description:

This project is designed to introduce you to the fun and enjoyment of aquatic science. If you have never tried raising fish in your home before, this project can help you get started, and if you are now raising them, this is your opportunity to explore new areas of interest.

State Fair Entries:

None. County only project

Exhibit Guidelines:

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| **Division**  Level A (Grades 3, 4, 5)  Level B (Grades 6, 7, 8)  Level C (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12) | **Project Book**  4-H 447  4-H 447  4-H 447 | **Record Sheet**  4-H 447  4-H 447  4-H 447 |

Your exhibit will be a display of your fish based on the recommendations and guidelines outlined below. Although your home aquarium or environment might be more elaborate than what is recommended for your class level, please follow the class guidelines and age appropriateness for your exhibit. Every attempt will be made to display Aquatic Science exhibits near a source of electricity. Please bring your own extension cords or power strips that are clearly labeled- the Purdue Extension Office nor the Tipton County 4-H Council or Fair Board will not be responsible for any missing items after project check out. During the 4-H Fair, members are responsible for caring for their aquatic environment (feed, water levels, cleaning, etc.). Please contact the Purdue Extension- Tipton County Office to make arrangements if you must feed your animals when the building is not open to the public.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

*Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested)*

1. Exhibit will consist of One (1) to Three (3) fish, based on the size of your environment/aquarium. The fish must have been in the care of the exhibitor for at least 30 days, with allowance made for replacement fish.

2. Your environment should be a simple glass container (a fish bowl) or aquarium not to exceed 5 gallons.

a. Aeration is optional.

b. Plants, gravel, background, decorations, and lights are optional.

3. The Aquatic Science manual with relevant record sheets will be displayed with the exhibit.

*Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested)*

1. Exhibit will consist of Two (2) to Five (5) fish, based on the size of your environment/aquarium. The fish must have been in the care of the exhibitor for at least 60 days, with allowance made for replacement fish.

2. Your environment should be an aquarium of at least 5 gallons and not to exceed 10 gallons.

a. Aeration should be based on the size of the tank and needs of the fish.

b. Gravel and lights are required.

c. Plants, decorations, and background are optional.

d. Additional aquatic animals (snail, shrimp) are optional if the size of the tank and fish population will allow

3. The Aquatic Science manual with relevant record sheets will be displayed with the exhibit.

*Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested)*

1. Exhibit will consist of Two (2) to Five (5) fish, based on the size of your environment/aquarium. The fish must have been in the care of the exhibitor for at least 90 days, with allowance made for replacement fish.

2. Your environment should be an aquarium of at least 5 gallons and not to exceed 10 gallons.

a. Aeration should be based on the size of the tank and needs of the fish.

b. Gravel, lights, and live plant(s) are required.

c. Other decorations or background are recommended.

d. Additional aquatic animals (snail, shrimp) are optional if the size of the tank and fish population will allow

3. The Aquatic Science manual with relevant record sheets will be displayed with the exhibit.