

LAMAS

LLAMAS & ALPACAS

NAME _____

COUNTY _____

INDIANA 4-H — HELPER'S GUIDE



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ACTION DEMONSTRATIONS

An action demonstration is a fun way for a 4-H member to share with others what he or she has learned from the 4-H project. It is similar to “show and tell” at school, but the 4-H member focuses more attention on getting the audience involved in a hands-on activity rather than just showing them.

Action demonstrations can be given anywhere people gather, such as at a county or state fair, shopping mall, street fair, or 4-H event. The demonstrator must interest people in the topic being presented, so they will stop and try their hand at what is being done. The best way to attract attention is by having people around a table doing an activity. People love hands-on activities, so a few people at the table doing something will attract others. The audience may be involved by doing what the demonstrator is doing, judging the quality of various items, playing a game, or answering questions.

DEVELOPING ACTIVITY/PROJECT AND LIFE SKILLS

The “Lama” curriculum is designed to help youth develop both project and life skills. Activity/project skills are specific to the subject matter of lamas, such as learning how to care for your lama. Life skills relate to the process a member undergoes when doing an activity. Life skills, such as making decisions or mastering technology, are useful long after the member has completed the project.

Project Skills

The Lama curriculum is designed to help youth develop project skills in five major areas:

- Know Your Lama — History, Background, and Characteristics
- Anatomy — Structure/Conformation, Fiber, and Parts
- Health, Maintenance, and Facilities
- Training and Showing
- Use, Marketing, and Careers

NOTE: A list of targeted life skills and project skills for each activity by curriculum level is summarized on pages 10 - 15

Life Skills

The youth development skills used in this curriculum are part of the Four-Fold Youth Development Model. The model encompasses 47 skills that help youth build character; connect to the world around them; and develop into confident, caring, and contributing adults (Barkman, et al. 1999). Skills are grouped into the four H’s in the clover: Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. Below is a listing of the skills targeted in the three levels of the “Lama” curriculum.

HEAD	HEART	HANDS	HEALTH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing information • Understanding systems • Managing resources • Practicing creativity • Making decisions • Solving problems • Reasoning • Thinking critically • Keeping records • Planning & organizing • Achieving goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating • Interacting socially • Cooperating • Managing yourself • Sharing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mastering technology • Exercising leadership • Completing a project/task • Motivating yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being responsible • Developing self esteem

CURRICULUM SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

	Book 1	Book 2	Book 3
Chapter 1	Where Did We Come From? When Did I Do That? A Family Reunion Cria Care	All in the Family Are You Talkin' to Me? Llama vs. Alpaca Pronking for Joy	Mastering the Hierarchy Choose Wisely Hobnobbing with the Herd My Space
Chapter 2	Croup, Poll, and Withers How Heavy Is Your Coat? Chew That Cud See No Evil—Hear No Evil	Humerus Anatomy Fabulous Fiber Grasping Impressions Sharp Teaching	Proper Representation Switching Places Dreadlocks and Downy Coat You Can Be a Lama Dentist!
Chapter 3	What Do I Need? Where Can I Live? Groovin' Grooming Does My Lama Need a Haircut?	HEY, What about Hay? OUCH! Does Your Lama Need a Manicure? Eatin' Time!	Is My Lama Too Fat or Too Skinny? All Stressed Out! Are You Too Chicken to Give Shots? Cria-tion
Chapter 4	Head-to-Toe Essentials for Your Lama Trust Is a Must! Why Knot? MANNER of Speaking Catch Me If You Can!	Desensitizing Safety First Let's Perform Let's Play Dress-up!	SHOWmanship Kushing Camelids! Do I Need a Driver's License? Take a Hike
Chapter 5	Meet the Public! Hey! That's My Coat! Would You Carry This for Me?	Let Me Show You How! That's My Baby! Fleece and Spinning Crafty Camelids	I'll Take Care of Them! Lamas on the Loose Lama Careers Lama Learning!

TARGETED ACTIVITY/PROJECT AND LIFE SKILLS

Book 1

Chapter	Activity	Life Skill	Lama Project Skill	Success Indicator
Know Your Lama	Where Did We Come From?	Observing and recognizing	Learning lama history	Ability to look at a map and point out locations where lamas come from
	When Did I Do That?	Planning, organizing, and record keeping	Keeping your lama healthy	Understanding the importance of record keeping
	A Family Reunion	Recognizing differences	Recognizing four types of lamas	Ability to identify the four types of lamas
	Cria Care	Caring for a cria	Learning to raise a cria	Ability to develop a plan to care for a cria
Anatomy	Croup, Poll, and Withers	Communicating	Mastering the identification of external lama parts	Ability to identify external body parts of lamas
	How Heavy Is Your Coat?	Observing and comparing	Identifying three classes of fiber	Ability to recognize the differences between light-, medium-, and heavy-fibered llamas.
	Chew That Cud	Comparing and evaluating	Learning the digestive system of a lama	Ability to know the difference between modified ruminants and true ruminants
	See No Evil—Hear No Evil	Diagnosing issues	Identifying camelid anatomy	Ability to name the parts of the eye and ear
Health, Maintenance, and Facilities	What Do I Need?	Decision-making	Recognizing basic requirements for owning lama(s)	Ability to identify the type of equipment and supplies needed when caring for a lama
	Where Can I Live?	Planning	Planning safe shelter and fencing	Ability to identify the type of shelter and fencing needed for your lama(s)
	Groovin' Grooming	Record-keeping and using the trial-and-error processes	Learning how and why to groom	Ability to use grooming equipment effectively with a lama
	Does My Lama Need a Haircut?	Observing and deducing	Learning about lama health	Ability to determine when a lama should be sheared

TARGETED ACTIVITY/PROJECT AND LIFE SKILLS

Book 1

Chapter	Activity	Life Skill	Lama Project Skill	Success Indicator
Training and Showing	Head-to-Toe Essentials for Your Lama	Decision-making	Identifying basic lama equipment	Ability to use decision-making skills to identify equipment used in raising lamas
	Trust Is a Must	Recognizing and resolving problems	Gaining a lama's trust or respect	Being able to distinguish the behavior of a distrustful versus a disrespectful lama
	Why Knot?	Drawing conclusions, reading diagrams	Learning the importance of the quick release knot	Ability to tie a working, quick release knot
	MANNER of Speaking	Demonstrating manners and respect	Recognizing good show-ring etiquette	Ability to recognize show-ring etiquette techniques
	Catch Me If You Can	Mastering deduction and teamwork	Learning about basic lama equipment	Ability to identify parts of the halter, and to know halter safety
Use, Marketing, and Careers	Meet the Public!	Communicating	Using lamas to educate	Ability to teach other people about lamas
	Hey! That's My Coat!	Acquiring knowledge	Identifying lama fiber use	Ability to find items made from lama fibers
	Would You Carry This for Me?	Planning and organizing	Planning a safe lama pack	Ability to determine a safe pack load for your lama

GLOSSARY

- **Aberrant** – deviating from what is normal (used to describe behavior)
- **Aggressive** – ready to attack and the first on the offensive
- **Alfalfa** – a southwestern Asian perennial herb (*Medicago sativa*) having compound leaves with three leaflets and clusters of usually blue-violet flowers (It is widely cultivated as a pasture and hay crop.)
- **Ataxia** – the inability to coordinate movement, which produces an uncoordinated gait, staggering
- **Balance** – an aesthetically pleasing proportion in respect to another object
- **Balking** – a hesitation or refusal to do the requested task
- **Barring teeth** – a gesture used to display anger in a fight
- **Batting** – wide-bundled processed fleece
- **Bedding** – material on the barn or stall floor that pads, insulates, and absorbs liquid
- **Body condition** – state of the animal's physical being; whether or not the animal is overweight, underweight, or in prime form
- **Body condition scoring** – a way to assign a numerical value to how fat or thin your lama is
- **Body language** – an unconscious gesture of the body used to communicate or to enhance communication
- **Breed** – to produce offspring
- **Breeder** – a person or company that chooses to propagate (breed) animals
- **Camelid** – the family of animals that includes vicuna, guanacos, alpacas, and llamas
- **Carding** – a refining process that aligns all fibers in the same direction
- **Catch strap** – a short strap usually less than 8" that is attached to the halter (It remains attached to the halter during halter training.)
- **Climate** – the average weather conditions at a place over a period of years as exhibited by temperature, wind velocity, and precipitation
- **Clucking** – a verbal way a lama shows irritation
- **Colostrum** – first milk (full of antibodies)
- **Communal** – owned and used by all members of a group
- **Condition** – state of body
- **Confidentiality** – the state of trusting or confiding information
- **Conformation** – the way an animal's structure is symmetrically formed, arranged, and shaped (used to describe how closely the animal represents its species)
- **Contact** – a term used by a judge to describe that a showman has touched their animal or that the showman or animal touched a part of the obstacle

APPENDIX

Classes Offered

The Alpaca and Llama Show Association (ALSA) sponsors open shows that offer a wide variety of classes. Classes offered in a typical show at a county fair, state fair, or ALSA sponsored open show include:

Adult and youth classes

ALSA open shows are required to offer the classes listed below for both adult and youth. However, 4-H classes are for youth only.

Halter

These classes are judged on the lama's conformation, movement, fiber, and overall appearance. The classes can either be for a single lama or group of lamas. Halter class divisions are based on:

Sex: male, female, and non-breeder

Age of Lama: juvenile (not available for non-breeders), yearling, two year old, and adult

Fiber: suri, light, medium, and heavy

Fleece Color: Halter class divisions are based on the color of the fleece that is inspected at the middle of the side, closest to the skin. Classes are divided into shades of solid colors, and mixed colors in patterns such as Pinto, Fancy, and Appaloosa.

Fleece Type: single coat and double coat

Fleece Length: Halter classes are shown in two fleece lengths — full fleece and shorn.

Group of Lamas: Get of Sire (Sire and 3 of his offspring) and Produce of Dam (Dam and 2 of her yearling and/or older offspring). Bred and Owned (Dam owned by the exhibitor when bred, when cria was born and still owned by the exhibitor), Dam and Cria (Dam and cria at side)

Showmanship

This class demonstrates the exhibitor's ability to show his/her animal to its best advantage at halter.

Performance Classes

In open shows, classes are divided into open, advanced, and novice. 4-H performance classes are divided by the grade of the exhibitor. The classes are junior (grades 3-5), intermediate (grades 6-8), and senior (grades 9-12).

Pack: The exhibitor and lama are judged on their ability to negotiate obstacles and perform activities in the back country while carrying a pack. Some shows will offer a short stack class (2 lamas) or a pack string class (3 or more lamas) under pack, strung together for a single handler. Using multiple lamas increases the difficulty level and makes completion of the obstacle course more complex.

Public Relations: The exhibitor and lama are judged on their ability to negotiate obstacles and perform activities in the community.

Obstacle: Demonstrate the well-trained lama's obedience and willingness to complete the requested activities.

Driving

Drive using a driving halter, reins, and a harness on a lama(s) to drive from the ground or to hook to a cart.

Ground Driving: The class shows the lama's ability to respond to commands given verbally and/or delivered through a driving halter and reins while executing obstacles. The exhibitor walks behind the lama; no cart is used.

Obstacle Driving: This class shows the lama's ability to respond to verbal and rein commands while pulling a cart around obstacles. Some shows require a groom (helper in front of the lama holding a lead) for the safety of youth drivers.

Pleasure Driving: This class offers a participant a chance to showcase a lama's ability to provide a pleasurable ride while pulling a cart. This class can be performed as a single or team hitch.

Fiber Crafts

These are classes that include spinning, crafts made from lama fiber, and lama-to-luxury (a competition that spans from shearing the lama to the finished wearable product).



Miniature Classes

These classes are offered for llamas that are registered with the Miniature Llama Association and are measured 38" or less at the withers. Miniature llamas compete against other miniatures in all of the above classes.

Fun Classes

Costume: The exhibitor and the lama are judged on originality, difficulty in training the lama to accept and exhibit the costume, and suitability to theme (exhibitor's choice). The exhibitor submits a one-minute narrative that will accompany the performance.

Leaping Lama: This class allows the lama to show its athletic ability in a vertical jumping competition.

Lama Limbo: This competition showcases the lama's adaptive ability by passing under a lowered limbo pole.



Showmanship

This class is a demonstration of the handler's ability to show an animal to its best advantage at halter. Judging is based on the exhibitor's basic skills in fitting, grooming, following directions and style of presenting the animal to a Judge for evaluation. The animal's conformation is not to be considered. Handler's attire should be neat, clean, and appropriate for the class.