



New Mexico 4-H Greentop Project Guide



New Mexico 4-H Is A Program of New Mexico State University's Cooperative Extension Service

400.B-33
(New 2004)

Birds (Indoor)

Do you like birds? Do you own a pet bird or would you like to? Do you want to know all you can about keeping your bird healthy? Do you want to get the most out of your pet experience? This bird project is for you!

Objective

To educate 4-H members about indoor birds. You will learn about the characteristics, differences, anatomy, environments, diseases, identification, and behavior of indoor birds. The project is designed to teach you about how to care for a bird in your home, as it focuses on cage management, nutrition, and expenses associated with owning a pet bird.

Materials included in this project

Record book 4H 300 B-24
New Mexico 4-H Greentop 400.B-33 (N-04)
Birds, Publication 4-H 279

Suggestions for Completing the Project

- Review the project book, record sheet, and Greentop to become familiar with the project before you begin
- Review needed materials: Pet bird, cage, food, water, gravel, cuttlebone, bird toys
- Choose the areas about birds in which you wish to study
- Keep a log or diary of the activities you participate in which are related to those areas. This will make it easier to complete your record sheet at the end of the 4-H year.
- Complete your record sheet for the project

To complete this project, you can

- Learn about breeds of pet birds
- Learn about common bird diseases
- Show your bird at a local/county fair bird or pet show
- Keep records of the expenses associated with having a pet bird
- Learn about reproduction of birds
- Learn to tame your pet bird
- Learn about the equipment available and necessary to have a healthy pet bird

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What can be exhibited with the bird project?

- Your pet bird in the county fair or pet show
- Posters-breeds, photo journal of your bird, parts of a bird, cage management, bird diseases

If you enjoy this project, and want continue to learn about birds, you can try

- Woodworking-build a birdhouse
- Photography-take beautiful photos of your pet bird
- Art-draw pictures or paint about birds
- Citizenship-take your bird to a Cloverbud meeting and educate others about birds
- Leadership-help a friend set up a bird cage or give a presentation at your club meeting
- Sewing-sew a cover for your bird cage

If you enjoy this project, here are some other great projects you might like

- Getting to Know Birds (outdoor)
- Wildlife
- Veterinary Science

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