



New Mexico 4-H Greentop Project Guide



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

400.F-30
(New 2006)

New Mexico 4-H **Cat I: *Purr-fect Pals***

Purr-fect Pals is the first in the series of three for youth, which also includes Cat II, *Climbing Up* and Cat III *Leaping Ahead*. You will learn about cat breeds, grooming, feeding, parasites and diseases of cats. This guide is developmentally appropriate for grades 3 and 4, but may be used by youth in any grade.

In this project, you will:

- Gather information about owning a cat.
- Properly groom a cat.
- Demonstrate how to pick up, hold and carry a pet.
- Communicate the procedure and benefits of spaying/neutering.
- Identify eggs of common internal parasites under a microscope.
- Find and draw a flea.
- Research and identify ten breeds of cats.
- Name, locate and describe at least 20 cat body parts.
- Decide on the best type of cat for your family.
- Conduct a cat hazards home survey.
- Decide which litter cats prefer.
- Develop a budget for keeping a cat.
- Create an up-to-date record for a cat's vaccination history.

Project Materials:

- Cat I, *Purr-fect Pals*, 100.F-30
- Cat I, *Purr-fect Pals* Greentop 400.F-30
- Pet Record Form, 300.B-24

Suggestions for completing this project and suggested learning activities:

- Complete Cat I within three years by completing a minimum of seven of the main chapter activities or “More Fun with Felines” activities each year you are enrolled in the project.
- Participate in a minimum of three of these learning activities: give a demonstration, tour an animal shelter, attend a cat project meeting, attend a cat show, take pictures of a cat, attend a cat clinic, participate in a cat skill-a-thon, participate in cat showmanship and visit a pet store.

You may exhibit any of these items at Achievement Days or County Fairs:

- A poster or exhibit explaining something you learned from the Cat I project. Posters may be no larger than 14 x 22 inches (or half of a standard poster board). Exhibits may be no larger than 18 x 48 inches.
- Submit a record book to your local extension agent describing your Cat I project.

Leadership and Citizenship Activities:

- Teach another 4-H member how to groom a cat.
- Volunteer to groom a cat at a local animal shelter.
- Help someone purchase or collect necessary cat grooming equipment.
- Volunteer to help clean cages for one day at a local animal shelter.
- Do a survey in your 4-H club to see which cat breeds are the most popular.

4-H Speech, Illustrated Presentation and Demonstration Suggestions:

- Present a speech on the breeds of cats.
- Give a presentation about grooming a cat.
- Demonstrate and describe the steps of how to pick up and carry your cat safely.
- Demonstrate how to show a cat.