

From Livestock to Leadership

My livestock projects in the past have greatly affected the development of my leadership skills. Since I was in the first grade, I have been showing hogs, sheep, and dairy heifers. Through my projects, I have learned responsibility, dedication, and how to be a hard worker.

I must feed and water my pigs everyday to make sure they are always healthy and strong. If I was irresponsible, my hogs could become very sick. I must also clip and keep my hogs clean. All of these jobs have taught me responsibility.

If I am not dedicated to my projects, it will definitely show at competitions. Livestock showing involves two parts: showing the animal for confirmation or weight classes, and presenting the animal in the best way possible or showmanship classes. Feeding my animals properly and providing water continuously are critical for providing the desired finish for the market animal. Exhibiting my animal requires a thorough knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of the animal and involves using premier showmanship skills, such as grooming the animal, maintaining eye contact with the judge, and working the animal properly in the show ring. I enjoy my show animal projects.

A bundle of jobs and responsibilities comes with my livestock projects. I must be willing to work hard and perform to the best of my abilities. All of these factors have enhanced my leadership skills, which I am able to apply everyday in many situations.

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