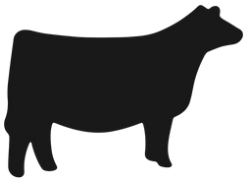


Name: _____

Date: _____

ESTABLISHING GOALS

When wanting to achieve any goal in your everyday life, whether it is in the show barn, on the basketball court, or in the classroom, it is valuable to create a personal leadership plan to follow. This type of plan is a strategy for how you will accomplish the goals you have set for yourself, kind of like a road map for yourself. When creating this plan for yourself, you will have to create these goals considering your personal strengths, weaknesses, and resources that you have available to you. When creating these goals, you will want to keep the acronym "SMART" in the back of your head. SMART goals are goals that you create that are: specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely.



When creating SMART goals, create goals that will push yourself outside your comfort zone and challenge you, but being realistic at the same time. Below is a breakdown of what each letter of the acronym "SMART" represents and how it should be applied to your goal.

Specific – Define your goal in detail, being as specific as possible can. To reach your goal, it needs to be specific and well-defined. You are much more likely to accomplish your objective if it is clear-cut rather than vague.

Measurable – Decide how you will measure success for this goal. Having quantifiable data (such as how much, how many, or how will I know when it is accomplished) makes the goal measurable.

Attainable – Create realistic goals that challenge you, but are achievable. Having said that, you must be willing to work to attain your goals, but, remember, you must also be able to achieve it.

Relevant – Ensure your goal is results-oriented. A results-focused approach will help you achieve your goal while ensuring it is productive.

Timely – Create a clear deadline and keep track of your process. Without creating a deadline, there is no sense of urgency tied to the goal, and you're more than likely not going to obtain the goal.



A great example of a SMART goal would be, “My goal is to exhibit my breeding doe at the county fair.” Maybe after that goal is complete, you can create a new goal, such as, “My goal is to obtain a goat herd of 5 does.” Below are some more examples of SMART goals that are good for beginners.

- “My goal is to learn how to properly shear my lamb. ”
- “My goal is to attend three open jackpot shows before my county fair.”
- “My goal is to become a better showman by practicing showmanship four times a week.”
- “My goal is to identify the different breeds of pigs”
- “My goal is to learn how to fit my heifer before the county fair.”

Goals such as, “My goal is to win my county fair” are not realistic because the outcome of winning the county fair can not be obtained by just yourself – as it is the judge’s opinion on the animals.

As this lesson is for any goal you might have, we now want you to think about your goals of showing livestock. As you know, one of the most important factors when showing livestock is your daily care plan for your animals. Wanting to create a goal based around your daily hair/hide care plan at home is a wonderful “SMART” goal, as this plan is 100% controlled by the exhibitor. No matter what your resources are at the facility where you are housing your animals, if you don’t have a daily hair care routine in place, your animal will not grow a healthy, hydrated hair coat. If your goal pertains to a daily care plan, the following information will be a helpful resource for you to achieve that goal:

“Typically, an animal’s hair cycle is around 90–120 days. Knowing this information, it is your responsibility to plan accordingly for your endpoint: whether that is at your local county fair, a regional/district show, or a national show. When restarting an animal’s hair cycle over, it is essential to get all the old, dead hair out, so the new hair can start growing. Once your animal’s dead hair is gone, you should implement your daily routine by rinsing your animal with cool water at least one time a day and training their hair with a plastic comb and brush. Along with rinsing and working the hair follicles, it is important to add some light oil or sheen back into the hair to keep your animal’s hair and skin hydrated and healthy.”

On the “Goal Setting Plan Worksheet, it is now time for you to create your SMART goal or goals for the next show season. Throughout this worksheet, you will need to define your SMART goal. Along with the goal itself, you also need to identify the following: start date, end date, action steps that will help you achieve your goal, resources that will assist you to achieve this goal, and any other notes you would like to write down to hold you accountable to this goal. Once this is completed, be sure to keep this worksheet accessible so you can monitor your progress.



GOAL SETTINGS

PLAN WORKSHEET

NAME

YOUR SMART GOAL

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START DATE

END DATE

ACTION STEPS

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RESOURCES

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NOTES

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