

MSUE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Creating Your Itinerary – Conceptual Development and Curriculum Research

Tool 3a: Sample Needs Assessment

Following is an example of a needs assessment survey that was developed for use with Michigan 4-H horse programming. This survey was distributed to a sample of current 4-H volunteers working with youth in horse projects. To get a more complete picture of the needs in the horse area, this survey could be complemented with phone interviews with a sample of adults currently interested in – but not currently involved in – a 4-H horse project.

Michigan 4-H Horse Programs Needs Assessment Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey! Your input is vital to the progress of the Michigan 4-H horse program! We are currently reviewing two areas: 1) communication links to volunteers and members, and 2) educational curriculum materials needed by volunteers in order to offer quality programming in the horse project area. The results of this questionnaire will help set priorities for the Michigan 4-H horse project. It will also help us determine which communication tools to use to best share information. Please complete the survey as thoroughly as possible and return it by **(insert date)** to the address at the end of this survey. A summary will be available to county MSU Extension offices later this year.

Educational Resource Materials

1. Please rank the following areas based on where you feel there is the most need for new resource materials, with 1 = need the most and 10 = need the least):
 - _____ Positive youth development – effective ways of building positive youth development strategies into your 4-H club
 - _____ Club development – strategies for strengthening your club’s activities
 - _____ Leadership, citizenship and service – ways to provide 4-H members with opportunities to build their leadership and citizenship and to put their skills to work through community service and service learning
 - _____ Sportsmanship and ethics – ways to address sportsmanship and ethics in all aspects of a 4-H horse project
 - _____ Equine nutrition
 - _____ Horse breeding and genetics
 - _____ Horse grooming and showmanship techniques
 - _____ Horse training and handling
 - _____ Horse and rider evaluation and judging
 - _____ Horse management and health care
 - _____ Careers in the horse industry
 - _____ Other: _____

2. Have you used any existing **4-H** educational materials with your 4-H horse program? (circle one)

_____ No

_____ Yes – please indicate the materials you’ve used and how helpful they’ve been:

Title	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not helpful
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

3. Besides 4-H, where else do you obtain educational resource materials from for use with your 4-H horse group? Please rank based on frequency of locations.

(1 = Most Used, 10 = Least Used, n/a = not applicable/never used)

Source	Frequently	Sometimes	Never
Tack or western stores	_____	_____	_____
Bookstores	_____	_____	_____
Catalogs	_____	_____	_____
Magazines	_____	_____	_____
Internet sites	_____	_____	_____
Feed or supply stores	_____	_____	_____
Breed associations	_____	_____	_____
Schools	_____	_____	_____
Cable television	_____	_____	_____
Other source: _____	_____	_____	_____
Other source: _____	_____	_____	_____

4. What formats for 4-H educational materials do you and the young people you work with prefer to use?

Format	Most preferred	Somewhat preferred	Least preferred
Leader publications	_____	_____	_____
Youth publications	_____	_____	_____
Fact sheets	_____	_____	_____
Videotapes	_____	_____	_____
CD-ROMs	_____	_____	_____
Internet sites	_____	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____	_____
Other: _____	_____	_____	_____

Communication Tools

5. Please check all of the communication tools you have access to and the places where you can access them:

<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> VCR	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with CD-ROM drive	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with Internet	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with e-mail	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with desktop video conferencing	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cable TV	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Slide projector	home <input type="checkbox"/>	work <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension office <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>

6. Please rank the methods by which you prefer to receive communications and information (with 1 = most preferred and 3 = least preferred):

Newsletter or mailings E-mail Internet sites

7. Are you aware of the new 4-H youth horse programs Web site at <http://www.canr.msu.edu/dept/ans/msue.html>?

Yes
 No

8. Have you accessed the site?

Yes
 No

9. If yes, did you find the site:

Easy to use: Yes
 No
Helpful: Yes
 No

10. Are you aware of the new Extension equine Web site at <http://www.canr.msu.edu/dept/ans/webpage.html>?

Yes
 No

11. Have you accessed the site?

Yes
 No

12. If yes, did you find the site:
Easy to use: Yes
 No
Helpful: Yes
 No

13. What other information would you like to see on these Web sites?

Additional information:

Name of your county _____

Number of members in your 4-H club _____

Number of years you've been involved as a 4-H volunteer _____

Gender:

Female

Male

Age: _____

Race/ethnic origin (optional – check one):

African American/black

Arabic

Asian/Pacific Islander

Caucasian/White

Native American

Mixed Heritage – please specify: _____

Residence – check one:

Farm

Rural area or town of less than 10,000

Town or city of 10,000 to 50,000

Suburb of a city over 50,000

City of over 50,000

Please return your completed survey by May 1, 2000, to:

Youth Horse Survey

Equine Extension Youth Specialist

Michigan State University

1287J Anthony Hall

East Lansing, MI 48824

Thank you for your time and input!