



Quick Start

For Alberta's Educators in 4-H Communities

Government
of Alberta



Equine Studies

One of the most exciting special projects I was ever involved with was a horse rescue project initiated by one of our students. A neighbors pony had been sadly neglected by the owner. The owner's children had grown up and left the family farm and the pony was left to its own devices. It had full run of the quarter of land but no one cared for it. The horse became badly foundered and the owner had decided to ship the horse.

My student who had become quite attached to the pony that she had fed carrots too across the fence came to me and asked what she could do. I replied with a question, "What do you want to do?" "I don't want to see the pony go to the glue factory." she replied. I asked, "Is there anything you can do to rescue the horse?" The student returned a week later so excited she could barely talk, she'd read about a pet rescue project and ... well the rest of the story is history. I suggested she document the project and write it up as a special project.

In the end she earned all the above credits including 5 in special projects. For the actual work she did she could have earned a lot more. She spent hours working on the feet of the horse; she documented everything with before and after x-rays as well as detailed photographs and diary. Eventually the horse was healed enough that she was able to donate it too a local riding clinic that specializes in pony rides for disabled children. I should also mention that this student used this horse in many of her other classes such as English classes, A huge success story and a great example of how a project can impact and motivate a student and cross all levels of the curriculum.

Suggested Modules

- AGR 1010: Agriculture the Big Picture
- AGR 2070: Equine 1
- CTR 1110: Project 1A
- CTR 1120: Project 1B
- AGR 2020: Animal Husbandry

Additional Modules

- CMH 2030: Community Volunteerism
- ENT 1010: Challenge and Opportunity
- ENT 1020: Planning a Venture
- ENT 2040: Implementing a Venture

Additional Courses

- Special Project