



2023-2024 Pasco County Fair Youth Rabbit Show

Important Dates

- 1. Exhibitor Meeting** – Tuesday, October 10th, 2023– 6:00 p.m. – Dan Cannon

Mandatory for all Exhibitors
- 2. Entry Deadline** – Online entry Friday, December 1st, 2023

Late Entry Accepted in Person December 9th, 2023 (*double fee*)
- 3. Educational Health Clinic (Clayton Hall)** – Saturday, December 9th, 2023 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ***Highly Recommended for All Exhibitors: Bring Show Animals***
- 4. Record Book, Poster, Decorated Rabbit, Information Card, Thank You Letter Collection** – Sunday, February 11, 2024 – 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- 5. Check-In** – Sunday, February 18, 2024 – 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. – Barn Back Porch
- 6. Skillathon** – Sunday, February 18, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Immediately after check-in, held in Dan Cannon Auditorium.
- 7. Showmanship** – Sunday, February 18, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. – Back Porch
- 8. Rabbit Judging** – Sunday, February 18, 2024 – Immediately after showmanship
- 9. Rabbit Awards** – Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 12:00 p.m. Location TBD
- 10. Barn Clean Up/Release** – Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

Show Rules

* As of June 2020, *

The Pasco County Fair Association adopted a new rule. This rule is for ALL Agriculture Projects. An exhibitor must be a member of a Pasco County 4-H or FFA. Exhibitors must also either live in Pasco County or attend a Pasco County School. Exhibitors must register projects to be eligible each year.

1. **Eligibility** – The exhibitor must own all rabbits by November 30th, 2023. Chapter and Club Animals are not acceptable, *this project is not a group project*. The exhibitor must own and care for their animals. Exhibitors must read and understand Pasco County Fair General Rules located at www.pasocountyfair.com. These rules include Safe Handling Practices, IAFE National Code of Show Ethics, and The Livestock Addendum. The Pasco County Fair Association, Inc. does not discriminate against any person based on age, race, color, sex, disability, relation, or national origin.
2. **Mandatory Ethics Certification** – The Pasco County Fair requires all exhibitors 8 and over (as of September 1, 2023) to have Ethics Certification. Certification trainings are listed at the Florida State Fair website <http://www.floridastatefairag.com/pdffiles/live-ethicsformpub.pdf>. Any workshop listed on the site will work for certification. Pre-registration is required.
3. **Exhibitor Meeting**– *Mandatory for All Exhibitors* – Tuesday, October 10th. The Meeting will be in Dan Cannon Auditorium at the fairgrounds from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to review rules, entry procedures, point opportunities, ethics, skillathon, and choosing an animal to show. All exhibitors must stay for the entire seminar to receive points. Exhibitors attending will receive 50 points toward the Overall Exhibitor Award.
4. **Herdsmen** – The Small Animal Barn Committee will treat exhibitors, parents, fellow volunteers, and members of the public with respect and will expect the same in return. The Small Animal Barn Committee will not conduct business with those who use obscenities or otherwise speak in a demanding, loud, insulting, or threatening manner. Volatile, hostile, or aggressive actions and words will not be tolerated, and individuals who engage in these activities may face penalties up to, and including, criminal prosecution. This policy promotes mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all committee members, exhibitors, and parents. It is intended to maintain, to the extent that is possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free show for exhibitors, families, and volunteers, that is free of disruptive, demeaning, intimidating, threatening, or aggressive behaviors.
5. **Entry Deadline** – Entries must be entered online by December 1st, 2023. An entry fee of \$6.00 for each rabbit entering the show must be submitted with the entry form. Each exhibitor may **enter 3 rabbits**. 20 points will be awarded for entries on time. A late, incomplete, or inaccurate entry form will result in earning 0 points for entry form towards overall exhibitor. Late entries will be accepted in person on December 9th, with double the entry fees, *no exceptions*.

**Opportunities to add up to 1 more rabbits will be based on a first come, first serve basis. You will

be notified by email and the entry fee will be collected on February 11th during record book turn in.

6. **Educational Health Clinic** – HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR ALL EXHIBITORS – All exhibitors must bring up to 4 rabbits that you plan to show at the fair from 9:00am – 2:00pm on December 9th to Clayton Hall for a tattooing event. Each rabbit will be tattooed with a number letter combination to allow identification of the exhibitor’s project. Not only will you be tattooed, but we will also offer a complimentary insect check and optional treatments if you are interested. There will be a committee designee there to help with showmanship questions as you wait. No changes to entries will be accepted after this event.
7. **Acceptable Breeds**- Only breeds recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association in its Standard of Perfection will be accepted for entry. A complete description of each breed and breed standard can be found in the American Rabbit Breeders Associations’ Standard of Perfection. To purchase a copy of The Standard of Perfection visit <https://arba.net/recognized-breeds/>. **NO CROSSBREEDS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Identification - Rabbits entered in the show must be permanently and legibly tattooed in the **LEFT ear. Absolutely NO tattooing will be done on fairground property. NO tattoo numbers will be altered or changed AFTER December 9th, 2023. All exhibitors will need to attend the Educational Health Clinic for tattooing. Any rabbit whose tattoo does not match the number given on the entry form and/or cannot be read easily will not be allowed entry into the Pasco County Fair.**

8. **Record Book, Poster, Decorated Rabbit, Information Card, Thank You Note Collection** – Record book, poster, decorated rabbit, information cards and thank you notes will be collected from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 11, 2024, at Clayton Hall. It is mandatory to turn in a completed record book. No record book, No show. No exceptions.
9. **Arrival at the Fair** – Rabbits will be received from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Sunday, February 18, 2024, on the back porch. Rabbits presented at any other time will not be accepted. **Vehicles will not be allowed on the fairway or near the barns during check in.** Health regulations will be enforced according to Chapter 5C-4 of the Florida Administrative Code entitled *Admission of Animals for Exhibition*. **Also see Pasco County Fair general Rules on safe Handling Practices located at www.pascocountyfair.com.** The **exhibitor**, not the parent, must cage all his/her rabbits. There will be committee assigned helpers available. **Immediately after caging your rabbit(s)**, exhibitors will go take the Skillathon test that is held in the Dan Cannon Auditorium.
10. **Animal Inspections** - Health Regulation will be strictly enforced by the committee according to Chapter 5C-4 via Florida Administration Code entitled “Admission of Animals for Exhibition” and the ARBA Standard of Perfection. Animals will be inspected outside of The Pasco County Fair Rabbit Barn. Each rabbit will be inspected by a committee member, or a person approved by the committee. Any animal

exhibiting any sign of illness, parasite infection, or any other health concern will not be allowed to enter the barn or be judged. If your rabbit is suspected of being bred (by the Judge) or is bred it will not be allowed into the barn. Such concerns include but are not limited to; ear canker, pink eye, discharge from the nostrils, ears, eyes, mouth, teats, vent area or open wounds, parasitic infestations such as mange, skin mites, fur mites, ear mites, lice, fleas, ticks, vent disease, open and bleeding sore hocks, swelling of any body part, wry neck, obvious broken bones, and flaking of the skin or foreign particles of concern on the skin or any location on the hair shaft. Also, signs of recent infection including matting around the nose, ears, eyes, vent area, teats, and on front legs will also be dismissed from entrance into the show. The entry fee will not be refunded. *If the exhibitor is not able to bring their own rabbits into the barn due to the above health reasons, they will still be able to complete Showmanship with a rabbit of the committee's choosing. However, no Overall Exhibitor points or placements will be awarded for Showmanship for the exhibitor.* **All final decisions concerning animal entrance will be up to the Small Animal Barn Committee Members.**

11. **Judging** – Showmanship will be Sunday, February 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Judging of the rabbits will take place immediately after showmanship. The decision of the judge will be final. The barn will remain closed until the judge's results are official. Non-committee members are to remain out of the barn until judging is complete and the barn is open to the public Monday. Results will be posted as soon as possible after judging. Other items will be judged, and results posted as available. Record book results will be announced at the awards ceremony. In the event of a tie, a third-party judge will break the tie.
12. **Care of Animals During the Fair-** The Small Animal Barn Committee will feed and water all animals during the Fair. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to check on their animals daily. There will be no extras in the cages during the fair (hay, blankets, toys, etc.) unless approved by committee members. Members of the Small Animal Barn Committee and the Pasco County Fair Association cannot and will not accept responsibility for any damage or injury to any entries in this show.
13. **Barn Clean Up and Animal Release –(Mandatory)–** Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Exhibitors (*not parents*) are required to assist with barn clean up before the start of the checkout process. Exhibitors are encouraged to bring tools such as shovels and brooms to clean out the barn. We will have K-2 clean from 6:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m., 3rd-5th will clean from 6:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., 6th-12th will clean from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. After the exhibitor's clean up times have been completed, they will be able to check out. It will look like this:

K-5th ONLY -- 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – empty and collect water and feed cups.

6th-12th ONLY -- 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – sweep shavings out of the barn into designated piles.

Once they enter the barn for their cleaning time, they will remove their rabbit(s) immediately to their cages. A committee member will check the animal(s) to ensure the correct animal is going home with the correct exhibitor. Exhibitors, when their work is done, will retrieve coop cards to bring to a committee member for their areas to be checked. After your area has been checked and the time is over,

you will go to Record Book Checkout to pick up record books, educational posters, decorated eggs, and informational papers that will be given back to the exhibitor. Exhibitors will also receive premiums and strip ribbons. Then, you will be free to leave the fair.

***Any exhibitor failing to attend barn clean-up will forfeit all premiums earned. The Small Animal Barn will be closed promptly at 7:15 p.m. Any animal or exhibitor items remaining in the barn after that time will become property of the Pasco County Fair, unless other arrangements have been made with a Small Animal Barn Committee member.

14. **Passes** - Upon check-in, each exhibitor will receive **one** week-long pass for entrance into the Pasco County Fair. No additional passes will be provided. Exhibitors who require additional passes, are encouraged to purchase a Pasco County Fair annual pass. Memberships may be purchased at the Fair website before the month of February. Memberships are encouraged, but not mandatory.
15. **Grievances** - An appeals committee composed of the Fair Ag. Committee shall receive and act upon any grievance arising out of an event. The grievance must be filed in the Pasco Fair Office in writing and accompanied by \$25.00 cash deposit. If the grievance is overruled, the deposit shall be forfeited to the fair. **Judges' decisions are final and are not subject to protest.**
16. **Awards Program** - The awards program will be held on Sunday, February 25th at 12:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

The following will be awarded at the awards program:

Rabbit Awards:

- Grand and Reserve Champion of Show
- Best of Breed
- Best of Opposite Breed
- Best of Variety
- Best of Opposite Variety

Exhibitor Awards:

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded in each age division for the following:
- Record Book
- Showmanship
- Poster Contest
- Decorated Rabbit Show
- Age Division Overall Exhibitors
- Overall Exhibitor – selected from 3rd-12th grade division winners.
- Herdsman Award

The following will be awarded at check out on Sunday:

Strip ribbons for record book, showmanship and poster are based on the following scale:

Blue: 100-90

Red: 89-80

White: 79-70

17. Overall Rabbit Exhibitor – (3rd-12th ONLY) Exhibitors will compete with others in their age division to be named Overall Rabbit Exhibitor for that division. Points are awarded for Record Book, Poster, Ask Me Booth, Showmanship, Information Cards, Decorated Rabbit, Thank You Notes, Rabbit Seminar and correct completion of Entry Form. Each division will receive 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place rosettes. Of the eligible 3 division winners, there will be one Overall Rabbit Exhibitor Award. The ties will be broken in the following order: Showmanship, Record Book, Poster.

18. Premiums – Premiums will be paid for by the following: Premiums will be awarded at check out on Sunday, February 25th.

Rabbit Premiums:

Grand Champion	\$20.00	Reserve Champion	\$15.00
Best of Breed	\$10.00	Best of Opposite Breed	\$5.00

Exhibitor Premiums:

1 st Place Skillathon	\$5.00
1 st Place Showmanship	\$5.00

19. Record Book (Mandatory)

- a. All exhibitors are required to enter a rabbit record book. No record book, No show.
- b. Rabbit Record Books are available online at www.pascocountyfair.com and it must be the current year’s record book. Past year’s record books will not be accepted.
- c. Record books *should be* handwritten in black or blue ink, by the exhibitor.
- d. The completed record book must be turned in on February 11, 2024, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Clayton Hall at the Fairgrounds.
- e. Record books must be in a three-prong folder (color of your choice) or official FFA or 4H record book portfolios. Binders will not be accepted.
- f. Record books will be judged on a 100-point scale.
- g. Exhibitors will be placed in 4 age divisions: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th.

20. Academic Satisfaction Form (Mandatory)

- a. An unweighted cumulative 2.0 grade point average (GPA) or higher as stated on the school issued 2023-2024 report card for the first semester of school is required for eligibility to show.
- b. Proof of GPA must be submitted on the Academic Satisfactory Form available on the fair website and must be inside your record book at the time of record book turn in.
- c. The form must be embossed with the school seal or signed and stamped with the school stamp.
- d. *PEEWEEES are exempt from the 2.0 GPA but must have the Academic Satisfaction Form signed and placed into their record books.

21. Educational Poster Contest (Optional)

- a. The poster must educate fair goers about the specified poultry topic as listed in the current skillathon manual. The poster may not be interactive.
- b. No previously used posters may be submitted.



- c. Posters must be on **poster board** (*no foam boards will be accepted*) with dimensions of 14" x 22". Attachments on the poster must be less than 1 inch. Posters who do not meet this requirement will not be accepted at check-in.
- d. It is highly recommended that posters be portrait (hotdog) instead of landscape (hamburger). *If you choose to create the poster in landscape (hamburger), your poster may or may not end up on the wall due to hanging space.*
- e. Exhibitor number and grade must be on the back of the poster, bottom right corner. **DO NOT INCLUDE NAME ON POSTER!**
- f. Exhibitors using a computer to create components of the poster must affix a statement to the back explaining how the computer assistance affected the poster's composition and visual presentation.
- g. Posters must be completed by the exhibitor and be attractive, easy to read and contain no grammatical errors.
- h. Exhibitors must give appropriate credit to any resources on the back of their poster.
- i. Posters must be submitted to the record book collection on February 11th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Clayton Hall at the Fairgrounds.
- j. Posters will be judged on a 50-point scale.
- k. Exhibitors will be placed in 4 age divisions: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th.

22. Showmanship (Optional)

- a. Showmanship will be held on February 18th at 10:00 a.m. and will take place on the back porch.
- b. Exhibitors may sign up for Showmanship on the entry form and/or during record book turn in on February 11th. Exhibitors will sign up for a designated time slot for their showmanship competition during record book check in. Keep in mind that we ask for you arrive at least 15 minutes before your time slot for ample time to prepare for your showmanship competition.
- c. Exhibitors should dress neatly in FFA or 4-H attire with closed-toed footwear.
- d. Showmanship competitors must use one of their rabbits entered in this show. *If your rabbit was not allowed into the show, you can still compete in Showmanship using a rabbit of the Committee's Choosing. However, no Overall Exhibitor points for Showmanship will be awarded.*
- e. Exhibitors will demonstrate showmanship skills on an individual basis to a judge. The judge will also ask questions to test the showman's knowledge of their rabbit and the rabbit project in general.
- f. Judging will be on a 100-point scale. Ties for placing will be broken by the judges during showmanship.
- g. Exhibitors will be placed in 4 age divisions: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th.

23. Thank You Notes (Optional unless you want awards/premiums)

- a. Exhibitors may earn additional points by turning in two (2) thank you notes (10 points each) for our sponsors.
- b. Thank you notes will be collected on Sunday, February 11th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Clayton Hall at the Fairgrounds.
- c. The exhibitor will place their thank you notes envelopes in the folder of the sponsor of their

choice. When writing thank you notes, leave the name of the sponsor blank but please sign your name and you can write in the sponsor's name at turn in.

- d. Thank you notes are to be written by the exhibitor and in a professional format. For example, on a notecard or notebook paper, but **MUST** be in an envelope.
- e. **Neglecting to submit Thank You Notes will result in forfeiting all premiums and awards.**

24. Ask Me Booth/Community Service (Optional)

- a. Exhibitors may sign up on Sunday, February 11th to work at the Ask Me Booth for 1-hour blocks. Any empty spots on the sign-up sheet can be filled in on Sunday, February 18th.
- b. Each complete session will earn 30 points toward overall exhibitor.
- c. Exhibitors may work up to 3 sessions (90 points).
- d. K to 2nd grade exhibitors work ½ hour blocks. 3rd to 12th grade exhibitors work 1-hour blocks. Exhibitors may not sign up for more than 2 consecutive blocks.
- e. Exhibitors must wear appropriate clothing with no offensive messages. It is highly encouraged to wear 4H/FFA Club shirts and closed-toed footwear. Remember, you are representing the Small Animal Barn and yourself to the Pasco County Community.
- f. Ask Me Booth points will be awarded until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24th. *You may still sign up for Ask Me Booth on Sunday, but you will not receive points towards Overall Exhibitor.*
- g. High school exhibitors who volunteer beyond the three-hour limit may be eligible for community service hours. Arrangements must be made with a committee member prior to volunteering. A committee member will be available to sign off on official documents provided by the exhibitor's school or other organization upon completion of volunteer hours.
- h. Exhibitors must be signed in and out by a committee designee to obtain points.

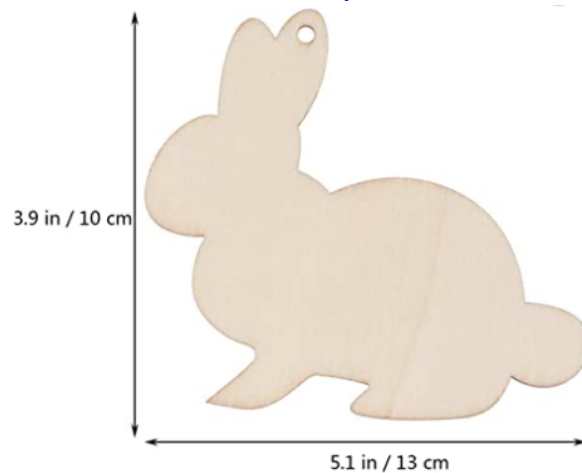
25. Animal Information Cards (Optional)

- a. Exhibitors may create a maximum of one informational cage card per animal entered to display with their animal for the duration of the fair.
- b. Cards should include information about your rabbit – name, breed, and interesting facts.
- c. Cards must be made by the exhibitor, professionally made cards will not receive points.
- d. Exhibitors receive 10 points for a card per animal. (30 points maximum)
- e. **Personal exhibitor information should not be displayed on the front of the card.**
- f. Exhibitors must put their number, grade, and breed of the rabbit on the back of the card. ***NO EXHIBITOR NAMES SHOULD BE ON THE CARDS!***
- g. Cards may be no larger than 3"x 5" and may not contain stickers or any other objects attached to the card. *Stickers can fall off the cards throughout the week and become an unsafe snack to animals.*
- h. Cards will be collected on Sunday, February 11th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Clayton Hall at the Fairgrounds, no points will be awarded if turned in after this time and date. *You can still bring them at fair, but you will receive NO points!*

26. Rabbit Decorating Contest (Optional)

- a. Exhibitors may enter only one Rabbit and must be decorated by the exhibitor.

- b. 3rd-12th wooden rabbits must be 10 cm by 13 cm. Rabbits can be purchased at the Exhibitor Seminar (while supplies last) or from a retailer. Link to Rabbits:
<https://www.amazon.com/Healifty-Unfinished-Easter-Cutouts-Ornaments/dp/B08T8YHMOVV>



- c. Exhibitors in K-2nd will find their paper rabbit to decorate at the end of the Rule Book.
- d. Exhibitors are encouraged to use the fair theme, or a theme related to their rabbit project.
- e. **Exhibitor number and grade must be written on a 3"x5" card and turned in with their rabbit.** Exhibitors must include a brief explanation of any information about their rabbit that they want to share with the judge. This card is encouraged to be handwritten but may be typed. (K-2nd will write this on the back of their paper rabbit with their brief explanation.) **Do not write exhibitor name on the rabbit/card.**
- f. Rabbits must be submitted to record book collection on February 11th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Clayton Hall at the Fairgrounds.
- g. Decorated Rabbits will be judged on a 100-point scale based on theme, creative design, balance, neatness, color quality and skill level.
- h. Exhibitors will be placed in 4 age divisions: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th.

27. Skillathon (Optional)

- a. A skillathon is an event that uses the experiential learning model of doing, reflecting, and applying to test one's knowledge. Exhibitors can earn up to 30 points. You can find study material and information on the Skillathon at the Pasco County Fair website under the Poultry tab as soon as it is available from the Florida State Fair website. *It is available to you quicker if you go straight to the Florida State Fair website and search for the Skillathon topic materials.* Premiums will be awarded to the First Place Winners in each Division from 3rd-12th grade exhibitors.

28. **Overall Exhibitor** – To qualify for Overall Exhibitor, you must have a rabbit, present in the small animal barn during the fair and have competed in all the following categories to receive the most points possible. The following are the point opportunities and the possible points for each:

Seminar – 50	Entry Form – 20	Skillathon – 30
Record Book – 100	Showmanship – 100	Poster Contest – 50
Ask Me Booth – 90	Information Cards – 30	Thank You Notes – 20
Decorated Rabbit - 10		
Total Possible – 500 points		

*In the event of a tie for Overall Exhibitor, ties will be determined by Showmanship then Record Book scores.

29. **Committee Contact:** poultry@pascocountyfair.com

Ashley Oakley (8133123095)
David Greim (3522064664)
Hannah Gillette (8135044880)

Kristi Dorough
Kathy Kessler
Selena Springer

Lyndsi Greim
Karen Gillette
Sandra Gonzalez

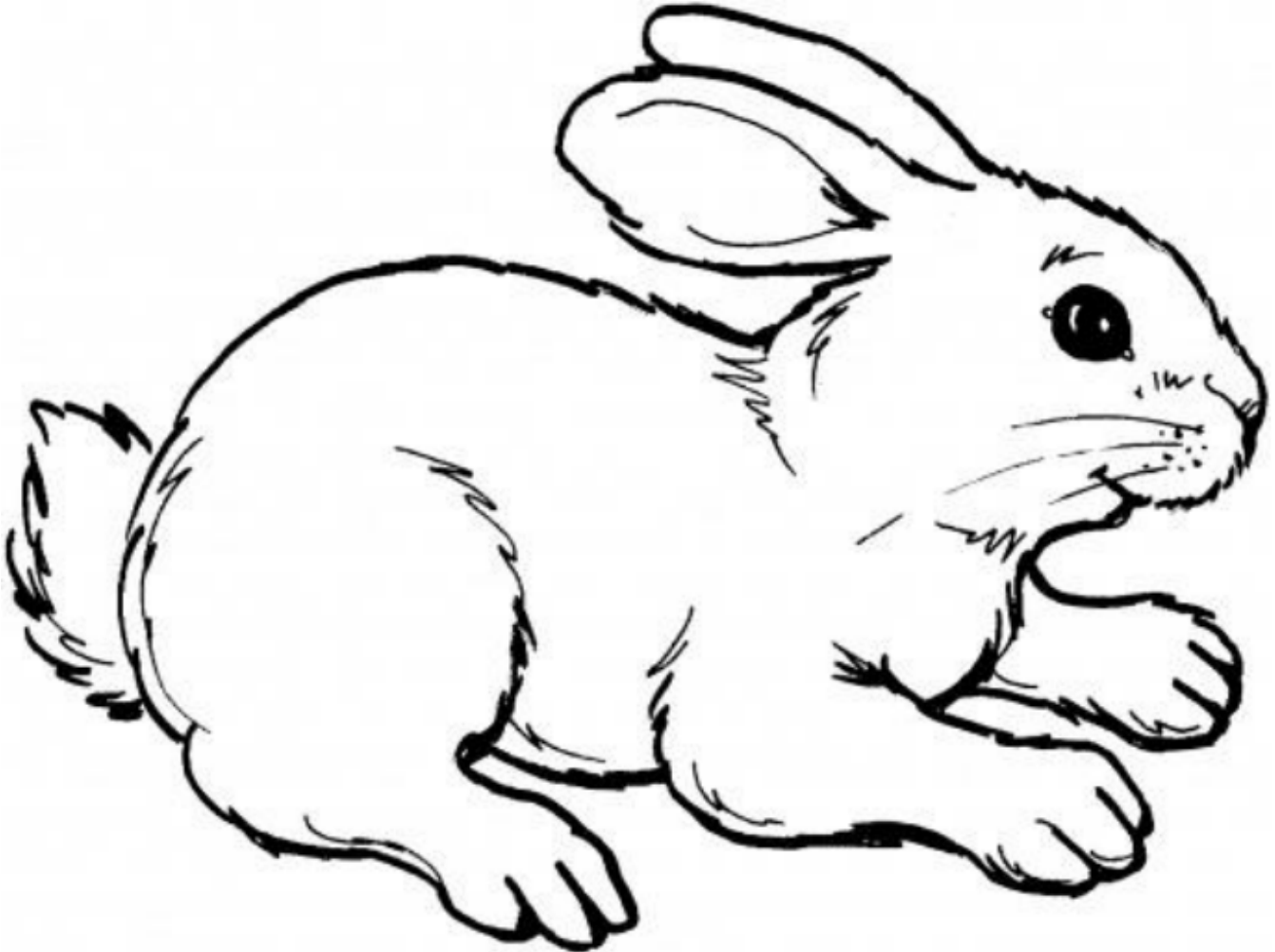
Educational Poster Rubric

Exhibitor # _____

Exhibitor Level _____

	10-8 points	7-5 points	4-1 points	Student Score	Judge's Comments
Required Elements	All required elements on poster: 1. Exhibitor Number on Back Right Corner 2. Correct poster size/thickness 3. Attachments on poster less than 1" thick 4. Current Skillathon Topic Used 5. Sited Sources if used on back of poster.	All but 1 required element are included on the poster	Several Required elements are missing from poster.		
Attractiveness	The poster is exceptionally appealing in terms of layout, design, and neatness.	The poster is acceptable, but not exceptional.	The poster is a little messy or unattractive.		
Content from Current Informational Skillathon Topic	Poster contains all accurate facts/details from Current Skillathon Topic displayed.	Poster contains several accurate facts/details from Current Skillathon Topic displayed.	Poster contains little to no accurate facts/details from Current Skillathon Topic.		
Grammar Spelling	There are NO grammatical/spelling mistakes on the poster.	There are several grammatical/spelling mistakes on the poster.	There are lots of grammatical/spelling mistakes on the poster.		
Effort	Clearly handwritten and neatly compiled poster. Excellent use of space and resources given. Easily read from 5 feet away.	Neatly Handwritten or Typed, well laid out poster. Nice use of space and resources given. Harder to read from 5 feet away.	Little effort was put into the poster. Mostly computer based. Alright lay out of poster but extremely difficult to read 5 feet away.		
Total (50)					

Rabbit Decorating Contest (K-2nd Only)



The Pasco County Fair Association, Inc. does not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, race, color, sex, disability, religion or national origin.