GETTING STARTED:

Websites:
Texas A&M University Animal Science – https://animalscience.tamu.edu/sheep-skillathon
State Fair of Texas – https://bigtex.com
Quality Counts Training Curriculum – https://agrilife.org/qualitycounts
Geauga County 4-H, Ohio – http://www.geauga4h.org/sheep/

WHAT TO KNOW:

Breeds: Identify by pictures various breeds important to the industry, also have a good working knowledge of the origin, physical attribution, and industry significant traits.

Resource: Oklahoma State University – www.afs.okstate.edu/breeds

What to do: Print pictures & make a notebook. Utilize online learning such as Kahoot or Quizlet.

Health: Understand common health problems in the sheep industry, common symptoms, common treatments. Also understand how to read a medicine label, draw up medicine, and administer shots.

Resource: Texas A&M University Animal Science – https://animalscience.tamu.edu

What to do: Gather empty medicine bottles from 4-H families and ag producers. Utilize them for learning to read different labels, and to know what to use for illnesses.

Feeds: Be able to visually identify common feeds and understand their qualities. Also, understand how to read a feed tag and interpret information.

Resource: Geauga County 4-H – www.geauga4h.org/sheep

What to do: Visit your feed store and gather feed samples. Practice identifying samples, knowing the uses of each feed, and reading feed tags.
**Equipment:** Be able to identify and know the uses of common sheep production and show equipment.

*Resources:* Geauga County 4-H - [http://www.geauga4h.org/sheep/](http://www.geauga4h.org/sheep/)
Vet Supply Catalogs – Valley Vet Supply, NASCO Farm Supply, etc.

**What to Do:** Gather up used or broken equipment from 4-H families and sheep producers. Practice identifying and using equipment.

**Industry Quiz:** Be able to answer age appropriate questions about sheep & the sheep industry.

Texas 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl - [https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/quiz/](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/quiz/)

**What to Do:** Develop short age appropriate quizzes. Utilize Quizlet, Kahoot, Quiz Bowl Buzzers for practice.

**Meats:** Be able to identify the major retail and primal cuts of a sheep carcass.

*Resources:* Geauga County 4-H - [http://www.geauga4h.org/sheep/](http://www.geauga4h.org/sheep/)

**Wool:** Be able to judge and sort a class of wool (4 fleeces). Be able to identify grade and yield of individual fleeces.


**Speeches:** The top 5 finalists in the Intermediate and Senior division give a speech on current sheep industry topics. Topics are posted on the Texas A&M Animal Science website approximately two to three weeks prior to the contest.

*Resource:* [https://animalscience.tamu.edu/sheep-skillathon](https://animalscience.tamu.edu/sheep-skillathon)