

Alpaca Skillathon 2022 Study Guide

*Exhibitors will participate in a livestock skillathon for the species they plan to exhibit at the fair. This study guide includes all topics an exhibitor **might** be tested on. Youth will only be tested on a portion of these items. Example questions are given to help study but may not be the same questions asked.*

Be sure to bring your completed project book and show up in proper show dress code as stated in the Jr. Fair rule book for your species.

STATION 1 – Project Book & Interview and Dress Code

Present your completed project book to the judge. The judge will review your record and award points for completion. You will also be asked a series of questions based on the project you are taking. All questions are based on the Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook. *Examples of the types of questions you may be asked are listed at the end of this guide.* Individuals must dress in the appropriate dress code as listed in the Jr. Fair Rule Book for your species market or showmanship exhibition.

STATION 2 – Skills Station: Feed Identification and Feed Tag

You will be asked to identify real feed ingredients commonly found in an Alpaca feed ration and answer questions about a feed tag. To prepare, use Chapter 7 of your Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook.

STATION 3 – Biosecurity

Participants will be asked questions related to biosecurity and health management. Use chapters 5, 6, and 10 of your Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook to prepare.

STATION 4 – Parasites

You will be asked questions related to common parasites in Alpacas. Review Chapter 6, page 42 of your Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook to prepare.

STATION 5 – Anatomy and Skeletal System

You will be asked to identify parts of the Llama/Alpaca anatomy and skeletal system (10 of each). Review Pages 12-15 of your Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook to prepare.

TIE BREAKER: Showmanship

You will be asked questions about how to prepare your alpaca for showmanship. Review Chapter 9 of your Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook to prepare.

Sample Interview Questions

All answers can be found in the Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook. These are only examples of questions you may be asked.

1. What topic of interest did you select from the Llama and Alpaca Resource Handbook? Tell me about the topic.
2. What did you learn this year in your project?
3. What goals did you set this year with your project?
4. Name 3 common uses of llama and alpacas.
5. Should llamas and alpacas be housed as a lone animal? Why or why not?
6. Why should improperly “bottle fed” males not be purchased?
7. Identify the four species of South American camelids and describe their main differences.
8. Define the following terms: Cria, Dam, Gelding, Desensitizing, Top Line, Ruminant, Stoic, Symmetry.
9. What is the preferred method for trimming toes?
10. What is the daily protein requirement for llamas and alpacas?
11. Shearing: What are five different types of cuts for show llamas?
12. Why should you never wet the top part of a llama or alpaca over the wither area on an unshorn animal on a very hot day?
13. To make sure your animal’s well being in being taken care of, what are tasks that can be completed before obtaining your llama or alpaca?
14. What disease is caused by a sheep virus that results in crusts and scabs on the lips and nostrils of crias? It may be transmitted through the dam’s teats while nursing. Caution should be taken when treating this disease because humans may also develop the condition.