

Rosebud Dairy Farm

Grade Level: K-3rd

Core Curriculum:

Objective: students will be able to classify various kinds of mammals and utilize primary source documents to further their understanding of the Wheeler's Dairy Life

Materials:

- Read Aloud: The Sunset of the Farmer by Beverly Wheeler Mastrin and Ethel Ohlin Bradford
- Mammals Worksheets
- Mammals Observation.

Essential Questions:

- What is the difference between a farm animal versus other wild animals?
- What types of agriculture are there in Utah Counties?

Background Information: In the morning Beverly Wheeler Mastrim awoke to bring the cattle down 900 east to be milked in her father Henry Junior's barn. She was embarrassed as a teenager when the cows left a mess behind for the few cars traveling down the dirt road of 9th east. However, it is good to remember that the very first dairy was a woman who milked her animal, whether yak, buffalo, camel, goat, sheep, seldom a cow, and gave that warm milk to her family for a meal. Leftover milk was poured into a leather pouch, hung from a moving horse, and in time became an acceptable form of yogurt. According to Beverly's oral history account her parents had Holstein, Guernsey, and Holstein cows for quantity of milk and Jerseys for quality milk and high butterfat. Her father delivered the milk while she was in school, and in the evenings she would gather them again from the pasture to be milked once more. (Read the story to the class from the book, Sunset of the Farmer see below)

Modeled Activity: Read the story from the book "Sunset of the Farmer" so students can see what it was like to be a dairyman's daughter.

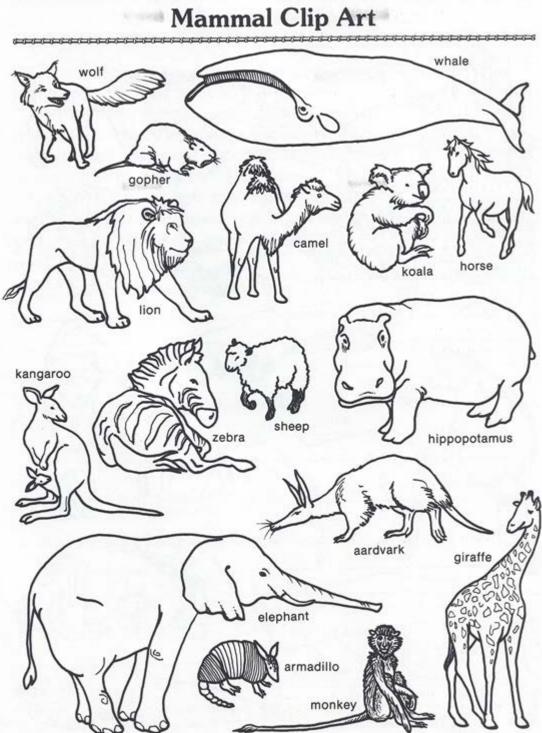
Independent Activity: It is important that we can distinguish what resources come from farm animals. Label three buckets of products which come from the animals.

Assessment: This is a student example however for your 1st through second grade students you could do an animal report and have them label different ways we utilize products from farm animals or their importance on the farm. Student example is below.

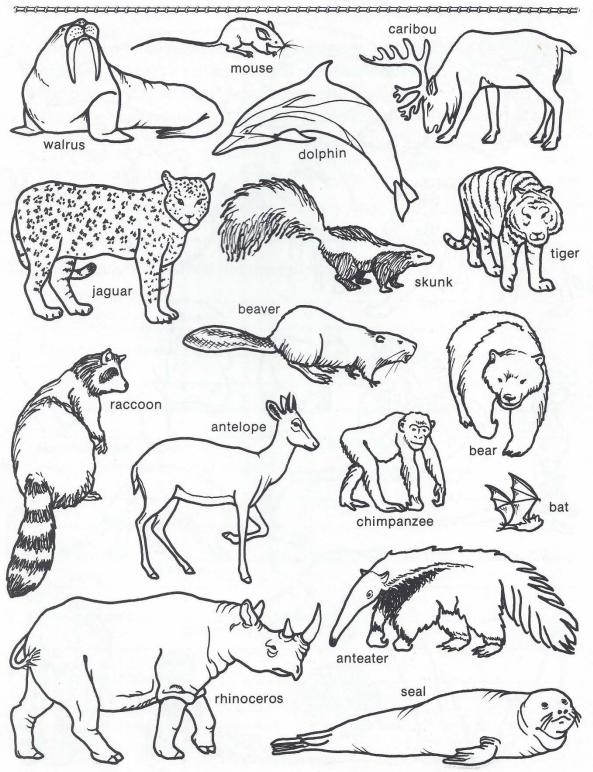


Post Fieldtrip/Extension: Print out the observation form so they can write down their detailed notes about a farm animal and then have them do an animal report when they return to class.

Clip art Name



Mammal Clip Art



Mammal Observation Sheet

Observe means to watch or study. Select a mammal to observe. Observe your mammal at different times of the day. Try to find out how it eats and sleeps.

Write your observations on the lines below.



T	he animal I observed did the following:
1	n the morning
F	Around noontime
1	n the afternoon
	This is how the animal moved:
1	This animal ate
	The noises that this animal made were
	The animal slept

Try This! Write a paragraph describing the animal you observed.

With no brothers, Beverly and Jean helped with all the chores until they were old enough to get jobs of their own, or married. One of Beverly's summer jobs was to take the cows, after the morning's milking, from the barn to the pasture, and again in the evening bring them back to the barn for the milking.

She also recalls that as she herded the cows down the then twolane 900 East Street she was constantly embarrassed. The cows, from eating fresh green grasses, routinely dropped sloppy, wet manure on the street and even though there were few cars, what cars there were had to swerve to dodge the messes the cows left. Beverly reminds us that working on a dairy farm was not for the squeamish.

Only the uninitiated will wonder about the constant moving of the animals back and forth from pasture to barn, but anyone close to cows knows that the animals thrive on the green grass and clear water of the meadows, yet need the facilities of the barn for milking. In winter time the cows were kept in the barns.

After the milking, the milk was "separated," (cream from the milk), poured into sterilized milk bottles, capped and put in a cool cellar until time to deliver to homes before 5:00 a.m. in the morning.

Plenty of straw was tossed into each stall to give the cows a clean place for sleep, but eat and sleep wasn't all the cows did, for there was a constant 'outgo' too, and as a result the straw was fouled. Though the floor was built with good drainage, the first job,

morning or evening was cleaning up the stalls. The job was not a favorite one, but just something that had to be done.

Milking the cows was not a chore to be skipped one day and done twice the next day to catch up. The filled udders had to be emptied twice a day, and if left too long could become infected and the cow stop making milk. The cow would then be of no value, and as each animal was a big investment, everything possible was done to maintain its health. The demands were relentless.

And though the family could take time off for picnics or visiting during the day, toward evening every man would finally say, "Well, we've got to get home to do the chores," and everyone knew that milking the cows was first on the list.

Thomas Wheeler had cows, but was not really a dairyman. He took the milk to a cool cellar, which was a room dug deep into the earth, with shelves for the milk pans. His wife then took over, and as the cream rose to the top of the pan, it was skimmed off and poured into a churn, and kept cool. When there was enough cream gathered, one of her children turned the handle until the sweet cream 'separated' and big gobs of golden butter appeared.

Beverly and I have each churned dozens of times, but then our mothers took over and 'worked' the butter with a wooden paddle, washed the golden mass under cold water to remove all buttermilk, added salt, and finally placed it in forms. The butter became firm as it cooled.



The milk those early women served their family, even though skimmed or separated, was richer in food value than any purchased today. Early dairy people would be astounded at the no-cream milk we use today.

Henry Sr. was the one who definitely turned the farm into a dairy. Both he and his son, Henry Jr., though producing farm crops for family and animals, became primarily dairymen and delivered the milk to their customers. Metal boxes, insulated to keep out both the iciness of winter and the heat of summer were at each home's back door, and delivery men would leave the number of bottles of milk ordered, pick up the empties, and be on their way.

But dairies continued to evolve and Henry Jr. moved with those changes and brought milking machines to The Rosebud Dairy. But it was also the time when pasteurization became a law, and was too costly for each individual dairyman. They then began putting their milk in 10 gallon cans, which were picked by the large industrial plants.

Hyland Dairy, at about 5400 South on Vine Street, was such a one and they not only pasteurized the milk but made products such as cottage cheese, and switched from delivering to each home, to selling the products to stores only. Milk bottles became a thing of the past and milk was packaged in plastic or waxed cardboard and, except for one or two dairies, is now entirely sold from stores.

Today, the all-important cow never comes near the large plants, and the workers wouldn't know what to do if one suddenly

appeared. Dairying swiftly changed and now milk comes from meadows and barns hundreds of miles away from the processing plants.

Most of us get our milk from cows, but, still there are those who need or prefer the milk from goats, buffalo, and sheep. Goat milk is sought after for babies allergic to mother or cow's milk, and, of course, goat cheese itself is a luxury item. Many families will remember Beverly Park's Goat Dairy at about 5600 South 900 East, but for the Wheelers it was cows.

Those wonderful, gentle, big-eyed cows.



Wheeler Farm Friend

