

Farm Animals - Year Two

Key Stage One (Year Two) links:

- *Science: Animals, including humans: 'Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air)' (Department for Education, 2014).*
- *Science: Living things and their habitats: 'Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food' (Department for Education, 2014).*

Using the Farm to support this topic

Take your students to visit a variety of the animals around the farm. Discuss the following points:

- What food do the animals eat? What would they eat in the wild? What food do farmers give the animals to supplement this?
- How does animal food differ to human food?
- How do humans obtain their food?
- What animals can provide products for human use? (Meat, dairy, leather, wool, milk etc).
- Why is washing your hands important?

Pointers for teachers

Look out for the following animals around the farm:

Sheep

Sheep eat mainly grass and other pasture plants.

Farmers can feed sheep dried pellets made of cereals and grains to supplement their grazing. Sheep also enjoy eating hay.

Sheep provide wool, milk and meat for human use.

Goats

Goats also like to eat mainly grass and hay.

Farmers can supplement their grazing, by feeding processed grains and feeds. (Goats are also very cheeky and will eat whatever they can get their hands on!).

Goats provide milk and meat for humans.

Rabbits and guinea pigs

Just like sheep and goats, rabbits and guinea pigs like to eat unlimited grass and hay. They also enjoy green vegetables when fed in moderation. Rabbits and guinea pigs are fed a pellet by humans to supplement their diet.

Rabbit fur can be used to make wool and clothing.

Pigs

Pigs are omnivores. They will eat plants and bugs in the wild. Pigs are fed vegetables, fruit and grains by a farmer to give them a balanced diet.

Pigs produce meat for human use.

Cows

Cows like to eat grass, hay and grass silage. A farmer may also feed a cow dried feeds to supplement their diet.

Cows can provide milk and meat, and their skins can be made into leather.

Ponies and donkeys

Ponies and donkeys also like to graze constantly on grass, while enjoying hay fed by the farmer. Again, a dried pelleted feed can be fed to provide a balanced diet. Working horses can be fed some feed mixes that provide extra nutrition and energy.

Horse hair is useful for several things, such as bows in musical instruments.

Poultry

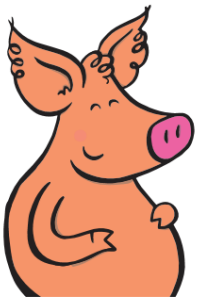
Chickens and turkeys like to eat grains and seeds. They also scratch around for bugs, as well as enjoying vegetables and fruit fed by the farmer.

Chickens can provide eggs and meat for human use.

Suggested Classroom activities

The following resources and discussion points can be used before or after your visit.

- Discuss what all mammals require for survival: food, air and water. Discuss what food humans need to eat for a balanced diet. Students could look at the food they normally eat and compare diets. Discuss the idea that not all animals are pets, some provide different resources used by humans. Discuss the different jobs a farmer might need to do, other than feeding their animals.
- Worksheet: A day on the farm. This is a writing activity, and students are asked to imagine they are a farmer, and write a story or an account of what they might do within a day. Students should consider what different jobs a farmer might have to do at different times of day.
- Worksheet: Survival. This activity encourages students to consider what animals require in order to stay healthy, and how the farmer helps them to do this, by feeding them. There is a harder version that asks for more types of food that animals eat.

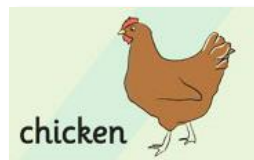
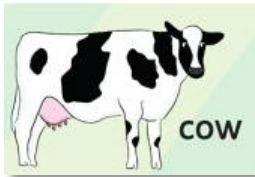


Survival

All animals have three basic needs for survival. They are:

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Lots of animals eat different foods. Can you think of two things each animal eats?

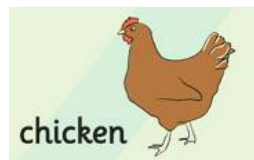
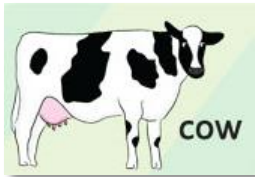


Survival

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What would each animal eat in the wild? _____
