## **Taste and Teach** June - Dairy Foods



- On average a dairy cow can produce 6-10 gallons of milk per day, which equals 96-160 glasses of milk.
- Milk goes from farm to store in just two days.
- Dairy foods build healthy bodies with important nutrients that work together like: Calcium, Protein, Vitamin D, Potassium and many more!
- Fermented dairy foods like cheese, yogurt and kefir have live active cultures, also known as good bacteria, that create unique tastes, textures and healthy qualities.
- It takes 10 pounds of milk to make one pound of cheese.

## Four Fun Teaching Ideas!

- Go on a virtual field trip to a dairy farm. As a class, discuss your observations. www.HealthyEating.org/MDC
- Explore the journey of milk and your favorite dairy foods. Ask students or small groups to research how specific dairy foods are made from milk and report back. Include less familiar foods like cottage cheese and buttermilk.
- Find the counties in California where milk is one of the top three commodities. https://LearnAboutAg.org/resources/grab
- Make butter by shaking heavy whipping cream in small containers! Investigate the physical changes that occur.



Explore all the great dairy resources in this section!

## **Tasting Dairy Foods**

Taste testing helps children get familiar with nutritious foods that they may have never tried or seen before. Tastings are a fun hands-on way to discover new tastes and explore foods with all the senses.

#### Milk tasting.

Provide each student with 2-3 disposable or reusable cups, paper and pencil. Choose 2-3 different milks to compare, such as: whole milk, 2-percent milk, 1-percent milk, fat-free milk, reconstituted powdered milk, butter milk, or goat milk. Pour just enough so each person can have a taste while minimizing food waste. Ask students to discuss and journal about their experience:

- How do the types of milk taste differently?
- Could you guess what the different types of milk were? (fun to do as blind taste test)
- What factors affect the taste of milk?
- How did the milk look, smell, feel in your mouth, and taste?

Additional activity: Compare the taste of dairy milk to non-dairy beverages from soy, almond, coconut, rice or hemp. Discuss the same questions above. Expand the discussion to explore how different milks are made.

#### Cheese tasting.

Provide each student with a napkin, paper and pencil. Offer students small servings of different types of hard and soft cheeses, such as: cottage cheese, spreadable cheese, cheddar (sharp, mild), Colby, Monterey jack, pepper jack, mozzarella (fresh, dry), parmesan, Swiss, bleu/ gorgonzola, goat cheese, provolone, gouda, low-fat cheese. Cut or spoon just enough cheese for each person to taste while minimizing food waste. Ask students to discuss and journal about their experience:

- What do the cheeses look, smell, feel and taste like?
- Describe and compare the texture, color, appearance, taste and smell of the cheese.
- Can you tell the difference between cheeses? (This is fun to do as blind taste test with a blindfold.)
- Discuss how cheese is produced and what it means to be "aged."

#### Yogurt tasting.

Provide each student with a napkin, cup(s), paper and pencil. Offer students 1-3 different types of yogurt products such as: plain or flavored yogurt, whole milk and fat-free yogurt, European style, Greek, Kefir or drinkable yogurt. Pour or spoon just enough yogurt for each person to taste while minimizing food waste. Ask students to discuss and journal about their experience:

- What does the yogurt look, smell, feel and taste like?
- Describe and compare the texture, color, appearance, taste and smell of the yogurt.
- Can you tell the difference between yogurts? (fun to do as blind taste test)
- Discuss what "fermentation" means and how it affects the taste and texture.

## Taste and Teach Healthy Snack Pairs



Nutritious snacks are a great way to introduce a variety of wholesome foods and set a foundation for lifelong healthy habits. Snacks help keep tummies full in between meals and support student achievement. Lack of adequate consumption of specific foods, such as fruits, vegetables, or dairy products, is associated with lower grades among students.

Pairing two or more food groups together as snacks adds even more variety and enjoyment. Here are some fun ways to pair your Taste and Teach fruits and vegetables with dairy!

- Tomatoes layer with mozzarella cheese
- · Apples dip in yogurt with a dash of cinnamon
- Grapes string on kabobs with cubes of cheese in between
- · Citrus add a splash of citrus and herbs to yogurt for a tasty dip
- Nuts layer within or on top of a yogurt parfait
- · Leafy greens sprinkle with a yogurt salad dressing
- Green beans pair with a quick Greek yogurt dip
- Avocados mix into cottage cheese
- · Berries mix into plain yogurt or layer in a parfait
- Pears pair with slices of cheese
- Peaches blend into a smoothie with a little milk and vanilla extract

#### **Recipe Ideas!**

- Greek yogurt dip for veggies: mix dry dip or dressing mix with plain Greek yogurt
- Yogurt dip for fruit: plain yogurt or Greek yogurt, mix in honey or maple syrup, cinnamon, and vanilla extract.
- Smoothie: in a blender add 3 cups fruit, ½ cup yogurt or cottage cheese, 1 cup milk and blend until smooth. Makes 2 servings.

## Commodity Fact Sheet **Dairy**Information compiled by the Dairy Council of California

**How Produced** – California produced 39.8 billion pounds of milk in 2017. Approximately 1.73 million dairy cows produce milk on approximately 1,300 dairies located throughout the state. California's available land, mild climate, and plentiful

feed supply make it a desirable and productive location for dairies.

A dairy cow must give birth to a calf to produce milk. A female calf is called a heifer and a male is called a bull. After nine months gestation, a mature two-year old heifer gives birth and is called a "fresh cow." She produces milk (lactation) for 10 months during which time she is bred again. Her milk production then decreases until she produces no milk (dry) for two months. She will produce milk again after she has her next calf. Cows have a production cycle of four to seven years.



advanced food processing systems to provide safe, quality products for California, the United States, and the world.

Breeds - There are five dairy breeds in California. The

black and white Holstein is the most common. The Jersey is a smaller cow whose milk is often used for cheese production. The Brown Swiss, Guernsey, and Ayrshire are other breeds used for milk production.

**Commodity Value** – California has been the nation's leading dairy state since 1993 when it surpassed Wisconsin in milk production. Sales of milk and cream contributed \$6.9 billion in 2017 to California's economy. In 2017 California accounted for 18.5% of the U.S. milk production. California's cheese production ranks second in

Dairy cows are milked two (sometimes three) times each day. A cow will produce six to seven gallons of milk each day which is more than 2,000 gallons of milk each year.

Cows are ruminant animals, which have four stomach compartments, and efficiently digest many different commodities such as hay, silage (fermented corn, wheat or hay including the stalks and leaves), and grain (corn, oats and barley). Cows also consume many different agricultural by-products including cottonseed, almond hulls, sugar beet pulp, and blemished vegetables. Cows drink approximately 35 gallons of water each day.

**History** – Anthropologists suggest that Ancient Egyptians, Romans, and Greeks made cheese and yogurt as early as 600 B.C. Missionaries brought the first dairy cows to California in 1770. During the Gold Rush, immigrants brought cows, cheese presses, and churns to California along with their own recipes for making dairy products.

In 1882, David Jacks, a Scotsman from Monterey, named his cheese Monterey Jack. He was the first person to sell cheese commercially in California. The early 1900s brought changes to the dairy industry including centralized manufacturing and distribution. As California's population increased, the dairy industry focused on improving sanitation, increasing production, and mechanization. the nation, with approximately 46 percent of all the Golden State's milk used to make cheese.

**Top Producing Counties** – Although during 2017, 31 counties contributed to the state's total milk production, a handful of counties continued to be responsible for the bulk of the production. Tulare, Merced, Kings, Stanislaus, and Kern counties accounted for 72 percent of the state's total milk production.

**Nutritional Value** – Dairy products such as milk, yogurt, and cheese contain numerous essential nutrients including calcium, potassium, phosphorus, magnesium, and protein. This "package of nutrients" is critical for the development of strong bones and teeth, maintaining a healthy weight, and reducing the risk of high blood pressure, osteoporosis, and certain cancers. Whether it's protein to help build and repair muscle tissue or vitamin A to help maintain healthy skin, dairy products are a natural nutrient powerhouse.

#### For additional information:

Dairy Council of California (877) 324-7901 Website: www.HealthyEating.org

California Milk Advisory Board Website: www.realcaliforniacheese.com

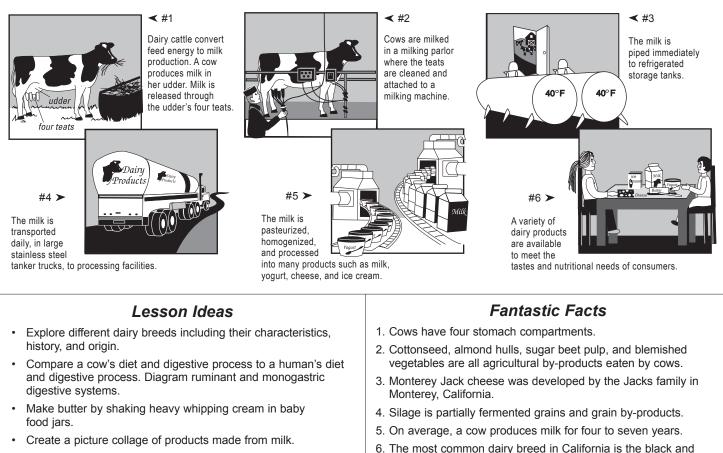


Today, California's dairy industry utilizes technology and



This is one in a series of fact sheets composed by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC). For additional educational materials: CFAITC, 2600 River Plaza Drive, Suite 220, Sacramento, CA 95833-3293 € (916) 561-5625 € (800) 700-AITC € Fax: (916) 561-5697 Email: info@learnaboutag.org € Website: LearnAboutAg.org ©2019 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. All rights reserved.

## Dairy Activity Sheet



- · Visit a dairy or milk processing facility.
- · Taste test different cheese and dairy products.
- Make homemade ice cream.
- Research the nutrients found in dairy products.

- 6. The most common dairy breed in California is the black and white Holstein.
- 7. Yogurt, ice cream, cheese, and butter are all dairy products.
- 8. Calcium is an essential nutrient found in milk.

#### Lesson Plan: Milk-From the Farm to the Family Class Book

**Introduction:** Dairy products have been around since 600 B.C. However, today's milk production and the production of dairy products is very scientific and technical.

**Objective:** Students will perform independent research on one aspect of milk and dairy product production. The class will produce a book that depicts the process.

California Standards: CC ELA: W.3-12.2, 4, 7 SL.3-12.4, 5

**Materials:** Index cards, resources including Internet access, books and encyclopedias, 12" x 18" paper, markers.

#### Procedure:

1. Write key words or phrases on index cards. These should be one card per student or pair of students. Example words include ruminant, lactation, cow diet, pasteurization, homogenization, etc.

- 2. Distribute one card to each student or partnership.
- 3. Have the students research, on the Internet and in libraries, the meaning of their word or phrase and learn how it relates to milk production.
- 4. Have the students write and roughly illustrate their findings using a standard format.
- 5. Have the students each read their page to the class. As a class, sequence the information and have the students use technology to create a professional looking page about their findings so that it blends with the work of other classmates.
- 6. Title the book "Milk: From the Farm to the Family." Bind the book and share it with other classes or at Open House.





## Ice Cream in a Bag

Explore the history of ice cream and dairy products, and the chemistry of ice, salt, and exothermic reactions.

#### Recipe

1. Fill the large bag half full of ice and add the rock salt. Seal the bag.

- 2. Put milk, vanilla, and sugar into the small bag and seal it. You can use two bags to prevent leaking.
- 3. Place the small bag inside the large one, sealing it again, carefully.
- 4. Shake until the mixture is ice cream, which takes about 5 minutes.
- 5. Wipe off the top of the small bag, then open it carefully. Enjoy!

#### **Classroom Activities**

#### English Language Arts/History

- Research the origin of the ingredients, discuss how transportation systems are part of the distribution system for these ingredients. Locate the nearest place in their community that ice cream is produced.
- Have students research the history of ice cream or other dairy products and present their findings to the class.

#### Math

- Before the activity, have students estimate the amount of milk needed for the experiment. Then, calculate actual amount needed. Calculate the cost of the milk that was used.
- Have students multiply and divide fractions to determine the amount of supplies needed for 1 scoop of ice cream for each person in the whole class, half the class, etc.

#### Science

- Create a food chain or food web with cows and humans and explain the relationships.
- Have students write down their observations and discuss the process of how milk turned into ice cream, describing the physical and chemical properties.

#### California Standards:

#### Grade 1

ELA CC: RI.1.10; SL.1.1 Math CC: 1.OA.1, 1.MD.4 Grade 2 ELA CC: RI.2.10; SL.2.1

Math CC: 2.OA.1, 2.MD.8 NGSS: 2-PS1-1, 4

#### Grade 3

ELA CC: RI.3.10; SL.3.1; SL.3.4 Math CC: 3.OA.1, 3.MD.2 NGSS: 3-LS4-3

#### Grade 4

ELA CC: RI.4.10; SL.4.1, 4 Math CC: 4.NF.4c, 4.MD.2 Grade 5 ELA CC: RI.5.10; SL.5.1, 4 Math CC: 5.NF.1, 2 NGSS: 5-PS1-3, 4, 5-PS3-1

#### **Materials**

Grades 1-5

- 1 gallon-size plastic food storage bag
- Ice cubes
- 6 tablespoons rock salt
- 1 pint-size resealable plastic food storage bag
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup milk or half & half
- ¼ teaspoon vanilla
- 1 tablespoon sugar

#### Tip

A ½ cup of milk will make about 1 scoop of ice cream; double the recipe if you want more.

Adapted from "Acres of Adventures Activity Guides" by 4-H



#### Say Cheese

Investigating the cheese-making process.

#### Mozzarella Recipe

California is a leading producer of Mozzarella cheese. Mozzarella is a fresh cheese that originated in Italy and is commonly used on pizzas and in pastas. The recipe makes approximately 12-14 ounces of fresh mozzarella cheese and takes 30-60 minutes.

- 1. Pour milk into stainless steel pot, add citric acid and stir gently to blend. Heat milk over medium-low heat to 88-90°F.
- 2. Remove from heat, add rennet and stir for 30-60 seconds to blend. Cover and let sit for five minutes. Continue to heat to 105°F as curd and whey separate.
- 3. Line colander with cheesecloth. Gently pour curds (solids) and whey (liquid) into colander to strain. Place curds in microwave-safe bowl. Whey can be retained for other baking projects like bread.
- 4. Microwave curds for 30-60 seconds on high. Remove from microwave and gently press curds with hands (draining off additional whey). Repeat process two to three more times, microwaving in 20-30 second intervals. Press curds together while cheese is warm (almost too warm to handle) and knead cheese like bread dough until it is smooth and pliable (like pulling taffy). If needed, microwave cheese in 10 seconds intervals to keep cheese warm and pliable. Then, knead in salt.
- 5. Cheese is done when it is smooth. Form cheese into a ball and place in cold water to cool. When cheese is cold, remove from water and place in plastic wrap and refrigerate. Eat within one week.

#### **Classroom Activities**

#### Science

- Have students record observations throughout the cheese-making process including descriptions of how the ingredient properties changed and the temperatures at which they observed phase changes. Have students identify the catalyst and describe the role it played in cheese making.
- Instruct students to categorize mozzarella cheese into a food group, list the number of recommended servings of that food group per day and the nutritional facts of mozzarella cheese.

#### English Language Arts

• Have students work in groups to create their own mozzarella cheese brand name, slogan, logo, and informational advertisement that persuades shoppers to purchase their product. Students can present this material to their classmates using a poster, PowerPoint, or video.

#### California Standards

**Grades 9-12** ELA CC: W.9-12.1, 4, 6; SL.9-12.1, 2, 4, 5; WHST.9-12.1, 7 NGSS: HS-PS1-1, 2, 4, 5



Look for the Seal

 ¼ teaspoon liquid or ¼ tablet rennet (dilute in ¼ cup water)

Grades 9-12

- 6-8 quart stainless steel pot (not aluminum)
- 1 gallon of whole milk
- 1 ½ teaspoons citric acid (dilute in 1 cup water)
- Dairy thermometer
- Colander
- Cheesecloth
- Microwave-safe bowl
- 1-2 teaspoons salt
- Food-grade rubber gloves

#### Tip

Take a virtual tour of California dairies and meet dairy farmers at *RealCaliforniaMilk.com* 

> Adapted from "30 Minute Fresh Mozzarella" by Utah Education Network.



## STEM: Make Your Own Yogurt

Enjoy delicious yogurt that you and your family can make at home. It's easy!

Or make cheese using the "Say Cheese" Ag-Bite from California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom:

http://learnaboutag.org/ resources/bites



#### Healthy Food Scramble

#### Ingredients:

1 quart (4 cups) low-fat or fat-free Milk 2 tablespoons Yogurt, plain with live, active cultures 2/3 cup fat-free powdered Milk (Omit if using whole milk)

Non-stick saucepan, 2 quarts or larger Wisk

Candy or general cooking thermometer Quart sized jar, container or insulated bottle

For sweetened yogurt, stir in

- 2-4 tablespoons Honey or Maple syrup
- 1-2 cups fresh or dried Fruit
- 1/2 teaspoon Vanilla

#### Preparation:

Combine milk and powdered milk in a non-stick saucepan. Wisk together and constantly stirring, heat milk to 180-190 degrees. The milk will be steaming, expanding and beginning to form bubbles.

Remove from heat and let milk cool to 115-120 degrees.

In a small container, mix two tablespoons of yogurt with two tablespoons of the heated milk and wisk until smooth.

Stir yogurt mixture into the saucepan of cooling milk and continue stirring for at least two minutes.

Pour the contents of the saucepan into a warm jar, container or insulated bottle. Cover it and keep it warm until it sets, usually 4-6 hours. You can wrap the jar in kitchen towels, place your container in an insulated cooler or place it in the oven with a light bulb on.

Once the yogurt sets, refrigerate it to firm its structure and mix in any desired flavorings.

LEARN MORE AT: http://www.healthyeating.org/Healthy-Eating/ Meals-Recipes/Browse-Search-Recipes/rid/58472/homemade-yogurt.aspx

#### Unscramble the words to finish each sentence:

Yidra \_\_\_\_\_ foods are an important part of a healthy diet.

Milk is a good source of Imccuia \_\_\_\_\_ which is important for strong bones.

Gtyuor \_\_\_\_\_ and eesehc \_\_\_\_\_ are examples of dairy foods.

Milk has rtpneoi \_\_\_\_\_ which is good for building muscle.

Children ages 9 and older, as well as adults, should eat entre \_\_\_\_\_ servings of dairy foods each day.



Content originally developed with California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. For more free agricultural education resources visit www.LearnAboutAg.org







# Mmm...Milk!



Milk is the top agricultural product in California! And our dairy farmers and processors produce that milk more efficiently than ever before.



## What's in the Dairy Aisle?

include three servings of milk, yogurt or cheese each day. Use the following list to

label the foods in the dairy aisle from the

milk cheese ice cream yogurt butter

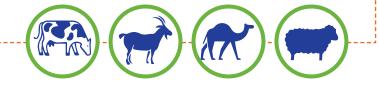
Next draw in another product you would find

Milk is a great beverage to have with

meals and can also be made into other delicious products. Children ages 9 and older and adults should

Where does milk come from?

Milk and dairy foods are rich in a wide range of nutrients that are enjoyed by children and adults. Most milk in the United States comes from cows, but goats, camels and sheep also produce milk. Beverages from plant sources like rice or almond are not true "milk."





## Check Your Price

Look in your local newspaper and find ads with dairy foods. Record the prices you find for the items listed. Compare prices from other stores or ads.

#### BONUS: Use the Serving Sizes of Dairy Products Chart

to find the price per serving. How do other healthy foods stack up per serving, like canned peaches or peanut butter?



grocery store:

in the dairy aisle.

©2017 Dairy Council of California

## #MyPlateMyState: California

California leads the nation in agricultural production. Not only do California's dairy farmers produce more milk than any other state, our farmers grow more different types of vegetables, fruits and grains than any other state.

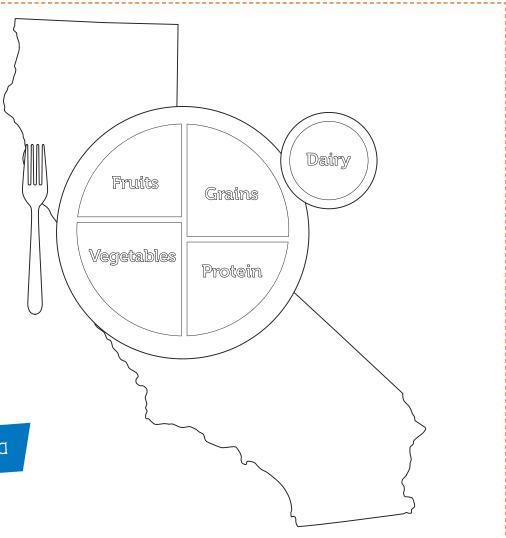
That means it's easy to find #CAonMyPlate all year long.



Fill in this outline of the state of California with some of the commonly grown or produced foods from all five food groups.

## State Products of California

State Fruit: Avocado State Grain: Rice State Nut: Almond State Vegetable: Artichoke



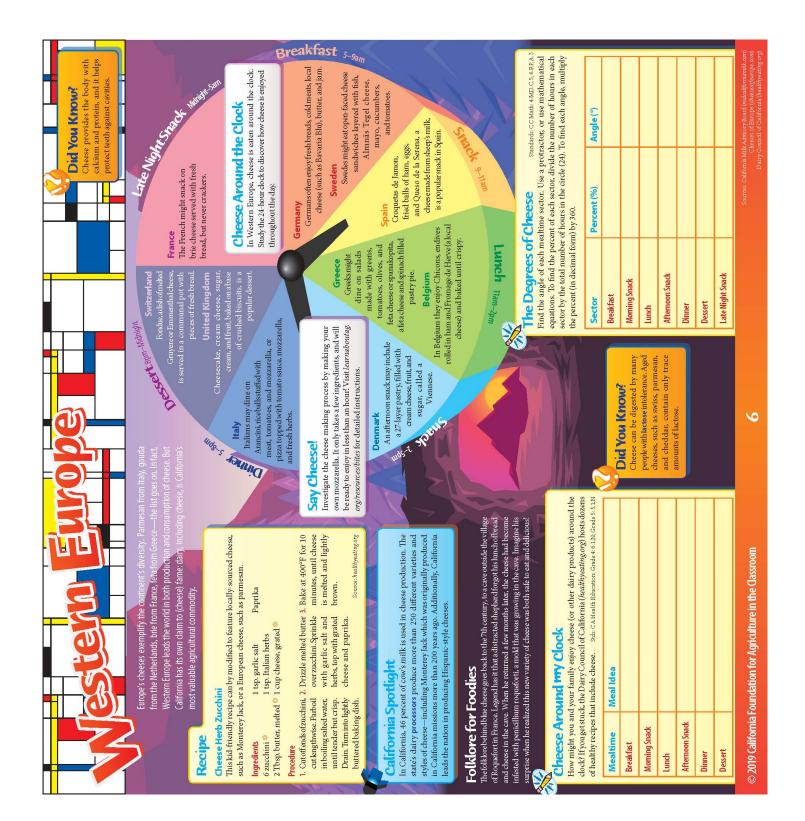
## Choose MyPlate.gov/MyState

Other California grown or produced foods: Almonds, apples, apricots, asparagus, artichokes, barley, beans, beef, black-eyed peas, blueberries, bread, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cheese, cherries, chicken, chickpeas, corn, cucumbers, dates, eggs, figs, garlic, grapefruits, grapes, green beans, honey dew, kiwi fruit, leaf lettuce, lemons, lima beans, milk, mushrooms, nectarines, oats, olives, onions, oranges, peaches, pears, pecans, peppers, persimmons, pistachios, plums, pomegranates, potatoes, prunes, pumpkins, raspberries, red kidney beans, romaine lettuce, spinach, squash, strawberries, sweet corn, sweet potatoes, tangerines, tomatoes, turkey, walnuts, watermelon, wheat, yogurt



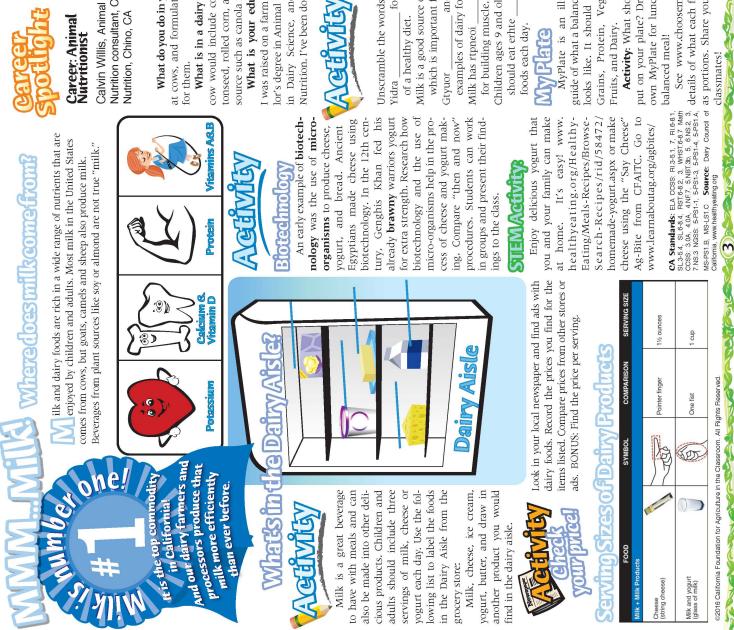


HealthyEating.org



© 2020 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. All rights reserved. This page is from the seventeenth edition of *What's Growin' On?* student newspaper. Visit **LearnAboutAg.org/ resources/wgo** to see complete past editions of *What's Growin' On?* student newspapers.







What do you do in your job? I visit dairies, look at cows, and formulate rations and supplements for them.

What is in a dairy cow's ration? A meal for a tonseed, rolled corn, almond hulls, and a protein cow would include corn silage, alfalfa hay, cotsource such as canola meal.

was raised on a farm in Arkansas, got my bachelor's degree in Animal Science, my master's degree in Dairy Science, and my PhD in Ruminant Nutrition. I've been doing my job for over 30 years. What is your education and background?



foods are an important part Unscramble the words to finish each sentence. Yidra

Milk is a good source of Imccuia of a healthy diet.

which is important for strong bones. and eeeshc Gtyuor

are examples of dairy foods.

which is good Milk has rtpneoi

Children ages 9 and older as well as adults for building muscle.

servings of dairy should eat erhte foods each day.

# WRate

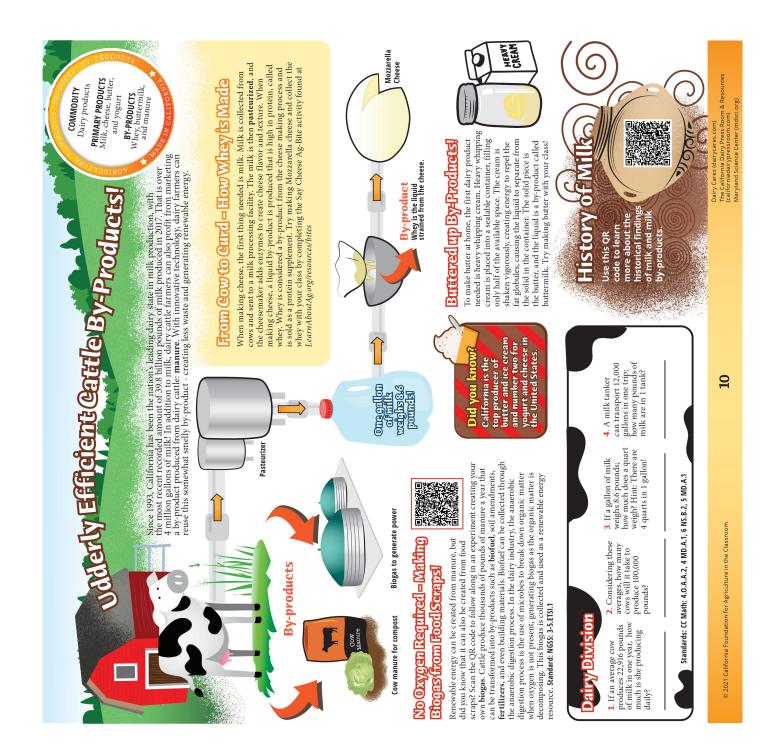
MyPlate is an illustrated looks like. It should include: Grains, Protein, Vegetables, guide of what a balanced meal Fruits, and Dairy.

put on your plate? Draw or write foods for your own MyPlate for lunch. Make sure you create a Activity: What should you balanced meal!

MS-PS1B, MS-LS1C, Source: Dairy council of as portions. Share your balanced meal with your callomia, www.healthyealthgoig classmates! 207000

© 2020 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. All rights reserved. This page is from the fourteenth edition of What's Growin' On? student newspaper. Visit LearnAboutAg.org/resources/wgo to see complete past editions of What's Growin' On? student newspapers.





© 2021 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. All rights reserved. Ali page is from the 19th edition of *What's Growin' On*? student newspaper. Visit **LearnAboutAg.org/resources/wgo** to see complete past editions of *What's Growin' On*? student newspapers.