



# 2018 Colorado Literacy Project

## Overview:

You are participating in the Colorado Literacy Project – an opportunity to teach and show Colorado students (K-4th grade) about agriculture in Colorado. This year we are focusing on dairy, using the book Little Grandpa and Me, Learning to be a Dairy Farmer, written by Colorado dairy farmer, Nora Immordino Feldpausch. All books were donated to the schools by Western Dairy Association. Additional funding for this program was provided the by Colorado CattleWomen, Inc., and the Colorado Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee.

**Book:** Little Grandpa and Me, Learning to be a Dairy Farmer

Written by a Colorado dairy farmer from the perspective of five-year-old Nina, this non-fiction book shares what is the same and different about dairy farming for Little Grandpa and for Nina and her family. Little Grandpa is Nina's great grandfather, and as of January 2018, is 102 years old!

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Grade level:** 3rd-4th grade

## Materials needed:

- If you have them, bring pictures of your farm and family
- Little Grandpa and Me book
- Access to a white board and markers

## Lesson outline:

1. Introduce yourself by sharing pictures of your farm and family – tell the students a little bit about yourself, what type of farm you have. Let them know how you interact with dairy farming (you are a dairy farmer, beef producer, etc.). Mention that about 20-25% of the beef supply is provided by dairy cows.
2. Learning Target or Focus (these learning targets are the Common Core Standards that have been identified with this lesson).  
  
*3rd grade: Say "Today our learning target is asking questions of the text, and finding answers within the text as well as learning how dairy farmers meet the needs of their animals."*  
  
*4th grade: Say "Today our learning target is explaining how this author uses reason and evidence to support their particular point in the text or book."*
3. Introduce the book, Little Grandpa and Me, Learning to be a Dairy Farmer, showing the front cover and reading the title.
4. Read the book. Beginning with the title page, read the book aloud to the students. Pause throughout the reading – can some questions be answered? What are you learning about dairy farming?

## Things to note:

Vocabulary words – model how to use text to determine meaning of the word

- Great grandpa
- Parlor
- Veterinarian

Ask questions. Allow students to ask questions.



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### 5. Check for understanding.

For 3rd grade:

- How do dairy farmers take care of their animals?
- What is the same and different between Little Grandpa's farm and Nina's farm
- Allow students to ask questions, and gain information from the text

For 4th grade:

- What was the author's purpose?
- What particular points was the author making in this book? Was there evidence to support her points? If so, give an example.
- What examples did she give for what was the same and different between Little Grandpa and Nina?
- How do farmers take care of their animals?

### 6. Summary.

"I learned..... What did you learn?"

Have students share a sentence about what they learned and what they still want to know about dairy farming.

### 7. Closing.

Thank the students and teacher for allowing you to come visit their classroom. Leave the book, Teacher's Guide, CFA Free Resources form, and the Food, Fiber and More Summer AgriCULTURE Institute from with the teacher.

