

A Trip to the Animal Fair

Objective

Students will read about the needs and care of farm animals and will compare and contrast what animals need to be healthy with what people need to be healthy.

Background

Animals need many of the same things we need—food, shelter, water, cleanliness and love. Farm animals are no different, but the people who raise them do not keep them for the same reason you keep your pets. They raise them to help provide food and other products for you and many other people. That doesn't mean they don't care for them, though. Farmers must care for their animals to keep them healthy.

Many animal owners are boys and girls not much older than you who raise and show animals as projects for 4-H or FFA (Agricultural Education). All kinds of animals are on display at the fair—from rabbits and chickens to dairy cows and even llamas. The best animals are the ones that win the largest premiums, or cash prizes, for their owners. In our country, the first fairs were started so animal owners would have a place to show off new breeds of animals and find buyers for their animals. The livestock show at the fair serves the same purpose today.

Language Arts

1. Read and discuss background and vocabulary.
 - Ask students if they have ever visited an animal barn at the county or state fair.
 - What kinds of animals did they see?
 - What were the animals doing?
 - Why were they there?
 - Ask students if they show animals at the fair or if they have older brothers or sisters who show animals at the fair.
2. Give students copies of the student worksheet.
 - Students will cut on the dotted lines and fold on the solid lines to form booklets.
 - Students will place pictures of their pets or the pets they would like to have on the cover of the booklet. They can bring photos from home, cut pictures from magazines or draw their own pictures.
 - Students will fill the remaining three pages with pictures showing the pets' needs.

Science

1. Invite students to bring photos of their pets from home.
 - Lead a discussion about what the pets need to be healthy.
 - Invite students who don't have pets to share their observations of

Oklahoma Academic Standards

KINDERGARTEN

Speaking and Listening:
R.1,2,3,4; W.1,2
Health: 1.3
Life Science: 1-1. Earth
Science: 3-1

GRADE 1

Speaking and Listening:
R.1,2,3,4; W.1,2
Life Science: 1-1
Visual Art Expression: 3.2.
Appreciation: 4.1,2,4

GRADE 2

Speaking and Listening:
R.1,2,3,4; W.1,2
Life Science: 4-1
Visual Art Expression: 3.2,4.
Appreciation: 4.1,2,4

Materials

poster board

magazines for cutting out
pictures of animals and children

scissors

glue

Vocabulary

4-H—youth organization
so called from the goal of
improving a person in head,
heart, hands, and health

FFA—Future Farmers of
America

fair—an exhibition (as of
farm products) usually with
accompanying entertainment,
amusements, and competitions

health—the condition of being
sound in body, mind, or spirit;
especially freedom from disease

livestock—animals kept or
raised; especially farm animals
kept for use and profit

premium—reward

Online Resources

Oklahoma 4-H: <http://4h.okstate.edu/>

Oklahoma 4-H Literature
Online: <http://4h.okstate.edu/literature-links/lit-online>

Oklahoma FFA: <http://www.okffa.org/>

animals in other situations (in the homes of friends or relatives, at the zoo, etc.)

2. Draw a line down the middle of a poster board to make two columns.
—Label one column “What I Need” and the other column “What Animals Need.”
—Cut out pictures from magazines that students can recognize as depicting their own needs.
—Cut out another set of pictures depicting the needs of a variety of animals: pets, farm animals, wildlife and exotic animals.
—Place all the pictures in a box and mix them together.
—Students will take the pictures from the box one at a time and place them on the board under the proper heading.
—Discuss how many of the needs for animals are the same as those for people

Visual Art

1. Students will bring crafts they have made or objects from home they want to show.
—Students will prepare their items for display and place them in categories for showing.
—Invite parents or another class to visit your fair.

Extra Reading

Geisert, Bonnie, *Haystack*, Houghton Mifflin, 2003.

Gibbons, Gail, *Pigs*, Holiday House, 2003.

Green, Emily, *Farm Animals: Goats*, Bellweather, 2007.

Green, Emily, *Farm Animals: Sheep*, Bellweather, 2007.

Harvard, Christian, *Face to Face With the Chicken*, Charlesbridge, 2003.

Kindschi, Tara, *4-H Guide to Raising Chickens*, Voyageur, 2010.

Murphy, Andy, *Out and About at the Dairy Farm*, Picture Window, 2004.

Older, Jules, and Lyn Severance, *Pig*, Charlesbridge, 2004.

Patrick, Jean LS, and Alvis Upitis, *Cows, Cats and Kids: A Veterinarian's Family at Work*, Boyd's Mills, 2003.

Peterson, Cris, *Clarabelle: Making Milk and So Much More*, Boyds Mills, 2007.

Ray, Hannah, *Goats*, Crabtree, 2008.

Ray, Hannah, *Pigs*, Crabtree, 2008.

Ray, Hannah, *Sheep*, Crabtree, 2008.

Schindel, John, *Busy Barnyard*, Tricycle, 2006.

Name _____

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<p>What my pet needs</p>	<p>What my pet needs</p>
<p>What my pet needs</p>	<p>My Pet</p> <p>My pet's name _____</p>