



GOAT

Elementary



When compared to other farm animals, such as cattle and horses, goats are small. A male goat is called a buck. A female goat is called a doe. A young goat is called a kid. Large bucks can weigh up to 300 pounds. Does are smaller and some only weigh 45 to 60 pounds. The smallest goats are pygmy and adults can weigh as little as 16 to 23 pounds. Both male and female goats have beards.

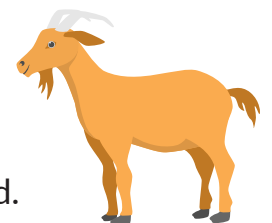


Most goats have two horns made of living bones. They are used for defense, dominance, and claiming territory. Goats are ruminants. They have four parts to their stomach. These are named the rumen, the reticulum, the omasum, and the abomasum. Goats are mammals. The females have an udder with two teats. However, the Boer goat will sometimes have up to eight teats.



Goats have horizontal, rectangle shaped pupils. Goat irises are usually pale. Their pupils are more obvious than cattle, most horses, and many sheep.

Some breeds of sheep and goats look similar. However, goat tails are short and point up. Sheep tails hang down and are usually longer and bigger. However, most sheep tails in the US are short, and longer ones are often docked.



FACT OR OPINION?

Decide whether the following sentences are a fact or an opinion. Write an F in the blank if the statement is a fact or an O if it's an opinion.

_____ Goats are small farm animals.

_____ Goats are better than cows and sheep.

_____ Goat pupils are shaped like a rectangle.

_____ Goat tails look funny sticking up.

_____ Goats have their own scent.

GOAT MATH

1. Each goat needs 250 square feet of space. The average number of meat goats in a herd in Oklahoma is 75. You have 75 goats. How many total square feet do you need?

2. To care for one goat, you will spend about \$20 each month. How much will it cost to care for all 75 goats for one month?

3. How much will it cost to care for 75 goats for a year?

BUYING GOATS



Before you buy goats, scan this to see what you will need.

FUN FACTS!

Each kid has a unique call and scent. This is how the mother recognizes it from birth.

Goats burp a lot due to their rumen. The rumen acts as a fermentation vat. Gas is made here, and this gas escapes in the form of loud, healthy burps.