



## PROGRAM GOALS

- Learn the importance of farming and the responsibilities of a farmer

## GRADES

K to 2<sup>nd</sup>

## STANDARDS

- SCI.K.1
- SCI.1.4.1
- SCI.1.3.2
- SCI.1.3.3
- SCI.2.4.2

## RECOMMENDED

### ASSESSMENT

- Ensure the students are actively engaged

## What Duties Does a Farmer Have?

Practice your students' farmer skills as they learn about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo family farm animals! A farm is used to grow crops and animals. Certain animals are able to help farmers fulfill their responsibilities. See below for a variety of questions to engage your student even further:

- Have you been to a Farm before?
- Do you know what animals live on a farm?
- Do you know the responsibilities of a farmer?
- What kind of crops can a farmer grow?
- What animals help the farmers fulfill their duties?

Have a discussion with the class about the life of a farmer. What kind of responsibilities does a farmer have? *Take responses.* A farmer does take care of animals, but they do more than take care of animals. They plant food, care for crops, prepare the land, and gather dairy products. Are there animals that can help a farmer fulfill their responsibilities? If so, what animals and how? *Take responses.* Cows are raised to produce lots of milk and meat for everyone! Chickens will provide eggs for the farmer to collect and share with his friends and family. Horses can help with raising crops by pulling plows. What kind of dairy does a farmer have? Why do you think they make their dairy? *Take responses.* A farmer can make their own butter or ice cream to feed themselves or their family! Having a farm is important to everyone because these animals provide food, clothes, activities, and other materials. Be on the lookout for the farm animals at the zoo! Share your lessons with the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. Tag #fwkidszoo or email [education@kidszoo.org](mailto:education@kidszoo.org) to express how you used these supplemental activities!

Set up stations: Grow a Crop, Milk a Cow, Make Butter, Make Ice Cream, and Collect Chicken Eggs around the classroom. Split up the class into smaller groups to participate in each station to learn the roles of a farmer. Another option is to have the whole class participate in each section together rather than having stations.



## MATERIALS

- ✦ Potting soil
- ✦ Green bean seeds
- ✦ Paper cups
- ✦ Drawing paper
- ✦ Latex gloves
- ✦ Rubber bands
- ✦ White paint
- ✦ Water
- ✦ Mixing bowls
- ✦ Wooden spoon
- ✦ Salt
- ✦ Whip cream with at least 30% butterfat content
- ✦ Spoons
- ✦ Small jars
- ✦ Art materials (crayons, markers, paints, etc)
- ✦ Gallon freezer bags
- ✦ Quart freeze bags
- ✦ 2 tablespoons of sugar
- ✦ 1 cup half and half
- ✦ ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ✦ 1 ½ tablespoons of chocolate syrup
- ✦ Ice
- ✦ ½ cup rock salt
- ✦ Hay
- ✦ Miniature eggs
- ✦ Fake chickens
- ✦ Small tweezers or tongs
- ✦ Small colored bowls

## Grow a Crop

1. Have students decorate their paper cups.
2. Fill each cup 2/3 full of potting soil.
3. Place a bean seed in the soil & cover the seed with dirt.
4. Have the students pour enough water in their cup to make the soil moist & place their cup near a window to get sunshine.
5. Students will continue to water their seed & measure their plant over the next six weeks. After six weeks, they can take their plants home.



## Milk a Cow

1. Have students draw spots on the glove to look like a cow.
2. Mix a bit of white paint with water & pour it into latex glove.
3. Close off glove with a rubber band.
4. Use a tiny needle to poke holes in each finger to create udders.
5. Have students practice milking their "cows" into a bowl.



## Make Butter

1. Take the butter out of the fridge 20-30 minutes before you begin so it is at room temperature.
2. Fill your churn or jars ½ way with the cream & screw on the lids.
3. Have students shake their jars until small lumps of butter form throughout.
4. Pour off their buttermilk into a small bowl.
5. Have students put their butter in another bowl.
6. Students can taste a small amount of butter with spoon.



## Make Ice Cream

1. Add sugar, half & half, vanilla extract, & chocolate syrup in quart-sized bag.
2. Fill gallon Ziploc bag halfway with ice. Sprinkle ½ cup of rock salt over the ice. Place the quart-sized bag inside the gallon bag and seal.
3. Double check to make sure bags are sealed tightly.
4. Shake the bags vigorously until ice cream forms!
5. Have students eat their homemade ice cream.



## Collect Chicken Eggs

1. Spread the grass across the bottom of the tray.
2. Sprinkle colored eggs over the grass & add chickens on top.
3. Have students use the tweezers to pick up the eggs & drop them into the correct color cup.
4. Have them count many eggs of each color they found.
5. The challenge is to pick up only the eggs & not a huge clump of grass.

