

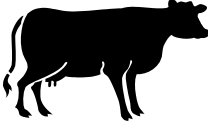

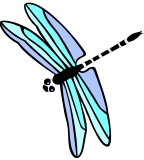




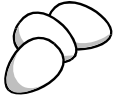


# Barnyard Banter




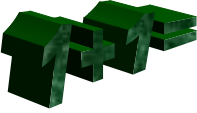

by Denise Fleming




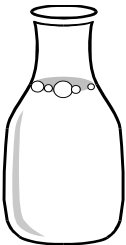
Additional Themes: Farm, Animals, Countryside


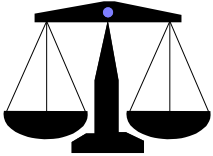

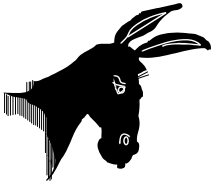


Special Note: When discussing any animal, always talk about the sound it makes, its size, what the babies are called, how it moves, what it eats, etc. Compare the animal's features with those of other animals.


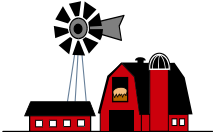


Area	Activity	Description
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Cow 	Cut out large outlines of a cow. Let two children work together on one outline. Give each child a kitchen sponge and black and white paint. Things to talk about: what a cow looks like, where milk comes from, what sound a cow makes.
LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	Rooster 	Show a picture of a rooster and talk about the body parts. Have ready a large supply of feathers and other art materials. Let the children make their own version of a rooster.
SE, LL CD, AL, MD, PH	Animal Sounds	Copy pictures of animals. Duplicate animals if necessary. Give each child a picture. Make the sound of one animal and have the child that has that picture stand up. Continue with each animal. Go slowly and then speed up.
CD, AL, MD, PH	Dragonfly 	Soak lima beans in black paint. Let dry overnight. Give a lima bean and a small piece of wax paper to each child. Let the child cut wings out of the wax paper and glue onto the bean body.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	Dominoes 	Buy animal or insect stickers. Draw a line down the middle of index cards. Place stickers on each end of the card. Make sure that each end will match at least one end of another card. Have the children play dominoes by matching one end of one domino with an end from another domino.



SE, LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<p>Egg Hunt</p> 	<p>Boil two dozen eggs, let cool and have eye dye ready. Let the children dye their eggs. At naptime, hide the eggs on the playground. When the children wake up, let them hunt for the eggs. When the children are hunting use words like near, next to, in front of, etc. to help the children find the eggs. Make sure each of the children finds some eggs. Things to talk about: colors, egg shapes, where the egg came from.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<p>Measuring Mania</p>	<p>Put rice, dirt or seeds in a large bin. Provide the children with measuring cups, sifters, bowls, etc. Discuss full, empty, etc.</p>
LL, CD, AL, MD	<p>Egg Collage</p> 	<p>Use the eggshells from your egg hunt. Break the shells into pieces. Cut egg shapes out of construction paper. Let the children brush glue onto the egg shapes and glue on the eggshell pieces. Invite the children to share their eggs.</p>
LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<p>Cat Dance</p> 	<p>Cut out cat ears from a paper plate. Punch holes in the bottom of the ears and string yarn through the holes. Tie around each child's head. Play music and have the children pretend to be cats. Stretch, yawn, crawl, scratch the floor, eat, sleep, etc.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	<p>Hay Designs</p> 	<p>Discuss with the children about using your imagination to make pictures. For example, sometimes when you look at the clouds you can see objects in them. Give two children some hay or pine needles. Tell them to discuss what they will make and figure out how to make it. Have the children share what they made and how they made it.</p>
LL, CD, AL	<p>Animal Centers</p>	<p>Place plastic or wooden animals in different centers for the children to include in center play. For example, add animals to block play to encourage the children to build a farm.</p>

SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Flight 	Talk to the children about the animals in the book that can fly. Give each child a piece of paper and have him/her try to make a paper airplane. Discuss with the children why some flew and others did not. Have the children try to improve on the previous airplanes.
CD, AL, MD	Hay Stacking	Gather bales of hay or substitute cardboard boxes and have the children crawl over, under, through the bales.
LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	Pinky Pig 	Have ready a supply of construction paper, pink tissue paper, glue, pipe cleaners, scissors, yarn, etc. Show the children a picture of a pig and discuss the body parts. Let the children make their own pigs.
SE, LL, CD, AL, PH	Matching Mongrels	Cut out two pictures of each animal. Glue onto index cards. Laminate if possible. Mix up the cards and have the children match and name the animals. Have the children play memory match with a partner.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Farm Duds 	Collect different types of clothing. Talk to the children about what would be appropriate to wear on a farm. Have the children model the clothes for the other children or classes.
SE, LL, CD, AL	Animal Math 	As you read the book, have the children count the number of each animal. At the end of the book, help the children count how many animals are in the entire book. Count how many pages the goose is on.
LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	Ready Rice 	Soak uncooked white rice in food coloring for two hours and let dry overnight. Have each color in a bowl and set in the middle of a table. Talk about the colors that are available. Give the children construction paper and glue. Let the children create a design with the glue and then add the colored rice. Talk to the children about the design they have made.

SE, LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<p>Mice Mania</p> 	<p>Have ready a good selection of colored pom-poms, glue, yarn, wiggly eyes, construction paper, etc. Talk about the body parts of a mouse. Talk about what they eat and where they live. Have the children decide what they are going to make and then use the provided material to make it. Have the children share their creations and tell stories using them.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<p>Incredible Eggs</p> 	<p>Show the children a couple different kinds of eggs (brown, white, ostrich, etc.) Break open a chicken egg and show the inside of the egg. Cook the egg and compare it to one of the uncooked eggs. Talk about the parts of an egg. Give the children art materials and have them create pictures of an egg in any stage.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<p>Great Gardens</p> 	<p>As weather permits, assist the children in planting a garden outside or planting potatoes or carrot tops inside. If you can plant outside, have the children use child-sized hoes, rakes and shovels. Have the children assist you in all aspects of gardening. Explain each step and discuss where to plant, when to water, etc.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, PH	<p>Milk Tasting</p> 	<p><b>**Be aware of food allergies. **</b> Have ready post-it notes, with one for each child's name, a chart with white, chocolate and strawberry written on the top, pitchers of white, chocolate and strawberry flavored milk, and small plastic cups. Give each child a small taste of each kind of milk and have the child choose his/her favorite. Have the child place the post-it note with his/her name on it in the column of the favorite choice. Help the children count the number of post-it notes in each column and decide which is the favorite flavor of the class.</p>

LL, CD, AL, MD, PH	<b>Mud Painting</b> 	<p>Prepare a box of chocolate pudding according to the directions on the box. Cover a section of the table with wax paper or butcher paper. Scoop the pudding onto the paper and let the children finger-paint. Talk about how the pudding feels, tastes, smells, etc.</p>
SE, CD, AL, LL, MD, PH	<b>Weigh Too Much</b> 	<p>Have a scale with a large bucket of uncooked rice on a table. Have the children pour rice into one side of the scale. Have the children find objects in the room that will equal the weight of the rice. Let the children experiment with the scales and weighing various objects.</p>
CD, AL, MD	<b>Braid Painting</b> 	<p>Give the children several pieces of hay or a few pine needles/straw. Have the children try to braid them and then dip in paint to use as a brush. Have the children paint pictures using the hay.</p>
SE, CD, AL, LL, MD	<b>Donkey Decorating</b> 	<p>Cut a large outline of a donkey out of butcher paper. Cut off the back legs and put to the side. Show a picture of a donkey and talk to the children about what they could use to decorate the donkey, Have the children decorate the body and the back legs. Attach the back legs with brads and have the legs kick.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	<b>Feather Painting</b> 	<p>Provide the children with paper, long feathers and bowls of paint. Let the children dip the feathers into the paint and paint on the paper. Talk about the colors that they are using and how it is different when you paint with a paintbrush and paint with a feather.</p>
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	<b>Stone Art</b> 	<p>Go on a nature walk and have the children pick up very small stones. Have groups of two or three children each paint a piece of cardboard. Let dry. Have the children choose a shape or design and draw on the</p>

	Stone Art (Continued)	cardboard. Let the children glue the stones onto the design. Tell the children that they may paint the stones if they like. Have each group share their art and discuss why they chose the design.
LL, CD, AL, MD	Frog House 	Have ready green and blue cellophane, construction paper, scissors, glue, etc. Discuss where a frog lives and what it eats. Have the children make a frog habitat.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Farm Scene 	Display different pictures of farms (dairy, poultry, tree, etc.) Have a group of children decide which type of farm they would like to make. Have them decide what they will need from the materials available. Have them gather the materials and make pictures of farms on large pieces of butcher paper. Have each group share and display their farms.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Animal Charades 	Talk to the children about how to play charades. Make sure that they know that they cannot talk. Have each child act out his/her favorite animal. Let the other children guess which animal the child is imitating.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Farm Book 	For each child, fold four or five pieces of white paper in half. Place a piece of construction paper around the paper to make a cover. Staple the folded edge to form a book. Write "Farm Book" on the front cover. Have the children draw, create, cut out pictures of animals and fill the book. Have the children share the book with a peer.
CD, AL, MD	Pretty Peacocks	Cut out a pear-shaped outline and give one to each child. Provide colored feathers, wiggly eyes, glue and construction paper. Let the children create peacocks.
SE, LL, MD, PH	Puppet Stories	Provide the children with a variety of puppets. Have each child tell a story to a small group of children using the puppets.

SE, LL, CD, AL,	On A Farm	Collect pictures of various farms and display for the children. Discuss what kind of farm is indicated in the picture and why they reached that conclusion. Let the children sort the pictures by type of farm.
SE, LL, CD, AL, PH	Noisy "Neigh"bors  	Write the names of some of the animals in the book on index cards. Hold the cards face down on your lap. Make the noise of the animal on the first card. Have the children guess the name of the animal. After they guess hold up the card so that they can see the written name of the animal. After you have practiced this activity a couple of times, hold up the card and have the children make the noise.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Hen House  	Give each child craft sticks and various other art materials. Show the children a picture of a hen house and talk about the sides, roof etc. Talk about what would be the best way to build the hen house. Let the children experiment making a hen house.
SE, LL, CD, AL, MD	Hoe Down	As a culminating activity, have a hoe down. Play country music, eat food, wear farm-type clothing, etc. Invite parents to participate.

**Additional Books:**

- One Windy Wednesday by Phyllis Root
- Big Fat Hen by Keith Baker

# Recipes, Fingerplays and Songs

**\*\*When preparing recipes, be aware of food allergies. \*\***

## Yummy Muck

Prepare chocolate pudding according to the directions on the box. Give each child a baggie with four to five Oreos inside. Let the children crush the Oreos. Pour the pudding into a container or a new, clean flowerpot. Have the children sprinkle the crushed Oreos on top of the pudding. Garnish with a clean plastic flower and/or gummy worms. Chill and eat.

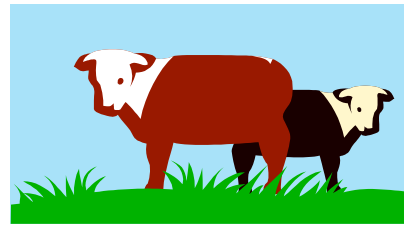
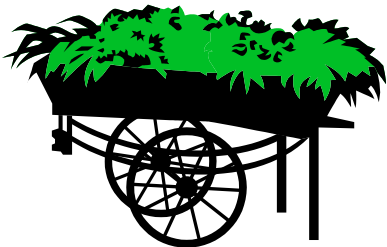
## Chocolate Covered Crickets

Give each child a paper plate, three miniature marshmallows, and pretzel sticks. Display a picture of a cricket near the table. Talk to the children about the body parts of a cricket. Help the children make a cricket by using the marshmallows as the body and pretzel sticks as the legs. Cover with chocolate syrup if desired.



## Haystacks

2 6-oz. packages of butterscotch morsels  
1 5-oz. can Chinese noodles  
1 6½ oz. can salted peanuts  
Melt morsels, stirring constantly. Add peanuts and noodles. Spoon onto wax paper and cool.



## This Little Calf

This little calf eats grass.  
This little calf eats hay.  
This little calf drinks water.  
This little calf runs away.  
This little calf does nothing.  
But just lies down all day.

## Five Little Ducks

*Five little ducks went out to play,  
Over the hills and far away.  
Mama duck said,  
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
But only four little ducks came back.  
(additional verses, count backwards)  
Four little ducks... only three little ducks  
came back.  
Three little ducks... only two little ducks  
came back.  
Two little ducks... only one little duck  
came back.  
One little duck... no little ducks came  
back.  
No little ducks... five little ducks came  
back.  
No little ducks went out to play,  
Over the hills and far away.  
But when daddy duck said,  
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
All five little ducks came back. (Sing fast)*