

## Milking Time

By Cindy Grigg

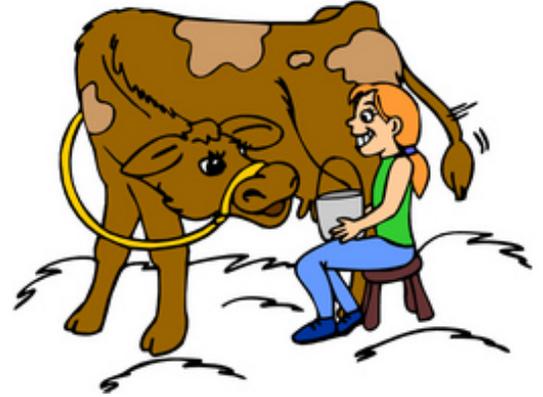
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Every morning, Jessica gets up at 5:00 a.m. She has an important job. She helps her dad milk the cows. Their cows are named Elsie and Betsy. The cows are waiting for them in the barn. The cows will be milked again before sundown.

First, Dad leads both cows to the milking stands. Then Jessica carefully cleans each cow with a warm cloth. Dad puts a bucketful of feed into each trough. Jessica puts a clean bucket under Elsie. Dad puts a clean bucket under Betsy. Dad sits on a milking stool. Jessica crouches down beside Elsie. The cows stand calmly and eat their feed.

With gentle and steady hands, Jessica and Dad milk the cows. Warm milk squirts into their buckets. Jessica leans her head against Elsie's warm body. It takes about twenty minutes to get all the milk. Jessica gives Elsie a pat as she leads her out of the barn.

Later, the milk is taken to the kitchen. Dad pours it through a strainer. He puts it into gallon jars in the refrigerator. The buckets must be washed and readied for the next milking. Jessica thinks nothing tastes better than a glass of cold milk!



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## Questions

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The purpose of this story is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. entertain the reader with humor
  - B. persuade the reader that everyone should milk their own cows
  - C. explain a sequence of events to the reader
  - D. inform the reader how milk is made
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. How many times must cows be milked?
- A. three times each day
  - B. twice a day
  - C. once each day
  - D. The story doesn't say.
3. How do you think Jessica feels about milking? What words in the story make you think this?

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