

Old McMicky's Farm

Curriculum Guide K-5



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Welcome!

The Old McMicky's Farm curriculum guide is designed to give students in grades K-5 an opportunity to investigate, observe and experience what life is like on an American farm.

This curriculum was designed to be used effectively with students in grades K-5, and can be modified as needed. The curriculum provides students with activities that will prepare them for their visit, by engaging them in conversations, informational text, science experiences and more. Additionally, pre and post tests are included as a way for teachers to gather data on the impact the field trip experience had on each student.

The curriculum is designed to be started in the classroom. These concepts and understandings that begin in the classroom will be enhanced, expanded and illustrated during the visit to Old McMicky's Farm. After the students return to the classroom, follow-up activities, including the post assessment, are designed to extend, enrich and apply the concepts learned at the Farm.

Our goals at Old McMicky's Farm are:

- ⚙ To help children develop the concept of what life is like on an American Farm.
- ⚙ To increase knowledge about relationships between farm animals and humans.
- ⚙ To provide children with experiences that allow them to use their five senses to observe the natural world around them.
- ⚙ To acquaint children with common farm animals, their role and importance.

Standards addressed in this curriculum guide and field experiences at the Farm:

Next Generation Sunshine State Science Standards

Big Idea 14 (SC.1.L.14) All plants and animals, including humans, are alike in some ways and different in others. All plants and animals, including humans, have internal parts and external structures that function to keep them alive and help them grow and reproduce. Humans can better understand the natural world through careful observation.

Big Idea 16 (SC.1.L.16) Offspring of plants and animals are similar, but not exactly like, their parents or each other. Life cycles vary among organisms, but reproduction is a major stage in the life cycle of all organisms.

Common Core Standards for Reading

LACC.1.RI.1.2 Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.

LACC.4.RI.4.10 Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social sciences, science and technical texts.

Common Core Standards for Writing

LACC.1.W.1.3 Write narratives in which students recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.

LACC.4.W.1.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Pre and Post-test procedures

The pre and post-tests are located at the end of the curriculum guide. There are two versions of the test: one designed for grades K-2 and one designed for grades 3-5. The tests can be given either verbally or written, depending on the individual needs of students and their abilities. Here are the answer keys for both tests.

K-2 Answer Key

1. Female- hen, male-rooster, baby-chick
2. 240/year
3. Female-cow, male- bull, baby-calf
4. 4 stomachs
5. Female- jennie, male- jack, baby- foal
6. Female-doe, male- buck, baby-kid
7. No. Female goats sometimes have horns too, depending on the breed.
8. Female- sow, male-boar, baby-piglet
9. No. They must have mud or water to remain cool.
10. Female-doe, male- buck, baby- kitten
11. No. They are born without fur. The mother pulls her fur out to make a warm nest for the kittens.
12. Female- hen, male- tom, baby- poult

3-5 Answer Key

1. Female- hen, male-rooster, baby-chick
2. 21 days
3. 240/year
4. No. The color of the egg does not affect its taste.
5. Baby chicks are born with a small tooth on their beaks. They use this to break open their eggs when they are first born.
6. Female-cow, male- bull, baby-calf
7. 4 stomachs
8. Cows give us milk (butter, cream, etc), beef and leather
9. Female- jennie, male- jack, baby- foal
10. Donkeys are stronger than a horse of the same size.
11. Female-doe, male- buck, baby-kid
12. Yes. Goats are excellent swimmers!
13. No. Female goats sometimes have horns too, depending on the breed.
14. Female- sow, male-boar, baby-piglet
15. 3 months, 3 weeks, 3 days (and some farmer's say at 3:00 in the morning!)
16. No. They must have mud or water to remain cool.
17. Female-doe, male- buck, baby- kitten
18. A hare is a wild rabbit. They are not domesticated.
19. No. They are born without fur. The mother pulls her fur out to make a warm nest for the kittens.
20. Female- hen, male- tom, baby- poult
21. True. Turkeys eat grains, insects, plants and seeds.
22. The loose skin is called a caruncle. It acts as the turkey's thermostat, controlling its body heat.

Pre-visit

- ⚙ Stop by the Old McMicky's Farm website and take a look around. As a teacher, we want you to be just as excited to visit as the children are! <http://www.oldmcmickys.com/> (K-5)
- ⚙ Farm animal images for children from National Geographic Kids <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/photos/gallery/farm-animals/> (K-5)
- ⚙ Fun facts about dairy cows. http://www.southwestdairyfarmers.com/fun_facts (K-5)
- ⚙ Create a KWL chart. Do the KWH before your visit and the L when you return! <http://www.ncsu.edu/midlink/KWL.chart.html> (K-5)

Post-visit

- ⚙ Create a paper plate chicken. Write a story about your experience catching a chicken! <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mplate-chicken.htm> (K-2)
- ⚙ Make a cow paper bag puppet. Use it to tell the story about your experience milking a cow! <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mbagcow.htm> (K-2)
- ⚙ Make a donkey using this fun template! <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mpaperdonkey.htm> (K-2)
- ⚙ Create a paper goat! <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mgoat2.htm> (K-2)
- ⚙ Make a pig using simple geometric shapes! <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mepig.html> (K-2)
- ⚙ Watch a video of chicks hatching from their eggs. <http://bit.ly/nYWiNs> (K-5)
- ⚙ Writing prompt: Write about one thing that surprised you about the farm you visited. (K-2)
- ⚙ Writing prompt: What two senses did you use most at the farm? (K-2)
- ⚙ Writing prompt: How can visiting a farm help you understand the world around you? (K-5)
- ⚙ Write step-by-step directions for something you did at the farm (catch a chicken, milk a cow). (K-5)
- ⚙ Send us a Thank You card! We love to hear from our visitors! (K-5)

Literature & Read Alouds

- ⚙ [Farm Alphabet](#) by Jane Miller
- ⚙ [Barnyard Banter](#) by Denise Flemming
- ⚙ [The Runaway Pumpkin](#) by Kevin Lewis
- ⚙ [The Trouble With Chickens](#) by AJ Telly
- ⚙ [Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type](#) by Doreen Cronin
- ⚙ [Miss Wishy Washy's Farm](#) by Jay Cowley
- ⚙ [Open The Barn Door](#) by Chris Santoro
- ⚙ [Barnyard Dance](#) by Sandra Boyton
- ⚙ [Charlotte's Web](#) by E.B. White
- ⚙ [The True Story of the Three Little Pigs](#) by Lane Smith



K-2 Pre/Post Test Name_____

1. What is a female chicken called? A male chicken? A baby chicken?
2. How many eggs do hens lay in a year?
3. What is a female cow called? A male cow? A baby cow?
4. How many stomachs does a cow have?
5. What is a female donkey called? A male donkey? A baby donkey?
6. What is a female goat called? A male goat? A baby goat?
7. Do only male goats have horns?
8. What is a female pig called? A male pig? A baby pig?
9. Do pigs sweat?
10. What is a female rabbit called? A male rabbit? A baby rabbit?
11. Are baby rabbits born with fur?
12. What is a female turkey called? A male turkey? A baby turkey?

3-5 Pre/Post Test **Name** _____

1. What is a female chicken called? A male chicken? A baby chicken?
2. How long does a hen care for her eggs?
3. How many eggs do hens lay in a year?
4. Does the color of an egg affect its taste?
5. What is an egg tooth?
6. What is a female cow called? A male cow? A baby cow?
7. How many stomachs does a cow have?
8. What products do we get from cows?
9. What is a female donkey called? A male donkey? A baby donkey?
10. Which is stronger: a donkey or a horse of the same size?
11. What is a female goat called? A male goat? A baby goat?
12. Can goats swim?
13. Do only male goats have horns?
14. What is a female pig called? A male pig? A baby pig?
15. How long does a sow carry her young before they are born?
16. Do pigs sweat?
17. What is a female rabbit called? A male rabbit? A baby rabbit?
18. Are rabbits and hares the same?
19. Are baby rabbits born with fur?
20. What is a female turkey called? A male turkey? A baby turkey?
21. True or False: Turkeys are omnivores.
22. What is the loose skin that hangs on a turkey's neck called? What's its purpose?