

Farm Jobs: Machines and Animals

Grade Level: 1st

Season: Fall/Winter

Larger IGS Unit: Farms

Essential Question: What are the jobs on a farm? What does a farm do?

Objective: Students will identify the various jobs on a farm. Students will make the connection between jobs that animals do, and jobs that machines do.

1-LS1-1: Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.

Materials:

Farm animal note cards (see last page)

Farm machine note cards (see last page)

Farm Jobs worksheet

Introduction:

Review farm animals – what are some of the products that come from farm animals? Now, to make sure a farm is running properly there are lots of other jobs that must be done.

Ask students, “What are some jobs on a farm?” Make a list on the board.

Go through the jobs and ask students *who* does each of these jobs. Do animals? Do humans? Do machines?

Activity:

Hand out note cards – both animal and farm machine – to students. One per student. Give students 2 minutes to read their card to themselves. Ask if anyone has a question about any words on their card.

“Meet and greet” : students walk around the room, and shake hands with one another, introducing themselves as either their animal or their machine. When they find someone who has the same “farm job” as they do, they stand aside. Continue the game until everyone has found a match.

Wrap up/ Assessment:

On their *Farm Jobs* worksheet, students draw a picture of an animal and a machine that fulfill the same farm job. They also write a sentence about why that job is important on the farm.

Extensions:

Jobs of a farmer:

Business Manager
Carpenter
Weather forecaster
Milker
Harvester
Planter
Mechanic
Scientist
Veterinarian

Farm Machines:

Planter – a machine that plants seeds (farmer/gardener)
Scythe – a tool that cuts the hay, or grain (farmer/gardener)
Combine – a machine that harvests grain, by reaping, threshing, and winnowing
Thresher – a machine that removes the grain from the stalk (donkeys)
Rototiller – a machine that tills the soil (chickens)
Tractor – a machine that moves heavy material around the farm (horses)
Lawnmower – a machine that cuts the grass (cows, sheep, horses)
Fertilizer spreader – a machine that spreads fertilizer (all animals)
Brush cutter – a machine that cuts down bigger plants, and bushes (goats)
Pesticide sprayer – a machine that sprays chemicals that kills the bugs on the plants
Spade – a tool that digs up soil (pigs)

Farm Animal jobs:

Cows – fertilize, mow, make holes for planting
Horses – fertilize, pull carriages, moves material around the farm
Donkeys – fertilize, thresh grains
Pigs – fertilize, eat our food waste, root around in the soil
Sheep – fertilize, mow
Chickens – fertilize, till up the soil
Goats – fertilize, browse (eat brush, bushes, etc.)
Ducks – eat unwanted bugs off the plants

Farm Animal Note Cards (cut and paste)

I am a cow. I mow the grass on the farm as I eat.

I am a horse. I help move heavy things around the farm.

I am a sheep. I fertilize the soil which helps the grass grow.

I am a pig. I dig up the soil with my snout.

I am a goat. I cut down brush as I browse different plants around the farm.

I am a duck. I eat bugs, like slugs, in the garden which helps the plants grow.

I am a chicken. I till up the soil with my sharp claws.

I am a donkey. I thresh grains by stomping on them with my hooves.

Farm Machine Note Cards (cut and paste)

I am a lawnmower. I mow the grass on the farm.

I am a gardener. I dig holes with my hands to plant seeds in the garden.

I am a tractor. I move heavy things around the farm.

I am a fertilizer spreader. I fertilize the soil which helps the grass grow.

I am a spade. The farmer uses me to dig up the soil.

I am a brush cutter. I cut down brush around the farm to make more room for pasture.

I am a planting machine. I make holes in the soil for the seeds.

I am a rototiller. I till up the soil to make it ready for new seeds and plants.

I am a combine. I harvest, thresh, and winnow the grains from the fields.

I am a scythe. The farmer uses me to harvest the grains from the fields.

I am a thresher. The farmer uses me to thresh the grains from the fields.

I am a plow. I break apart the soil to get it ready for planting.

I am a cultivator. I get rid of the weeds around the crops.

I am a silo. I am a tall building on the farm that holds all of the farmer's grain to feed the animals through the winter.

I am a sheepdog. I help to herd the animals in the fields.