



Consider taking your class on a field trip to one of the following:

- § *A dairy processing plant – that produces milk, cheese, and/or ice cream*
- § *A dairy farm (contact your local U.S.D.A. extension agent for a list of farms that offer tours)*
- § *A farm in the zoo*
- § *A farm in a historical settlement*
- § *A state or county fair*

*To get the most out of your dairy field trip, try some of the **Before the Trip, During the Trip and/or After the Trip** activities.*

Before the Trip...

- Gather books about dairy farming, farm life, dairy processing, and dairy products for your class (see the list of suggested resources on the back of this page).
- Have students hypothesize what they will see on the field trip. Help them generate a list of questions they'd like to have answered. Assign different questions to different students.
- Do one or more of the following activities with your class:

Virtual Reality (All ages)

Some children are surprised on their first visit to a dairy farm. So, it's a good idea to prepare students for the smells of the farm and the size of the cows.

Discuss how pony rides smell at carnivals. Or discuss the smell of organic fertilizer used on lawns and gardens. Let them know that dairy farms often have a similar smell.

Explain that cows are about 5-5½ feet tall. Measure that height on the wall. Have students compare their own height to it. Have them identify objects/people who are as tall as cows.

3-Dimensional Name Tags (Primary)

Have your class prepare 3-dimensional name tags to wear on the field trip. This way, everyone can see at a glance that your students belong with your group.

Using empty yogurt or pudding containers, make the name tag in the shape of a cow bell with a jingle bell attached to the bottom. Be sure to write the name of your school on the back of each name tag.



During the Field Trip....

- § Remind students to ask the questions generated during the "Before the Trip" discussion.
- § Bring along a camera or camcorder for you, students, or a chaperone to record the highlights of the field trip.
- § Conduct an **A, B, C Scavenger Hunt**. Have primary students listen for farm terms starting with each letter and tell them to the designated adult "list writer."



<p>After the Trip...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">§ Have students discuss what they saw and what they liked. Look over any items you brought back from the trip.§ Work with primary students to make an experience chart about the trip.§ Have the class write thank you letters to the farmer, processing plant manager, or a specific cow.§ Send a field trip picture to the school newspaper or a community newspaper.§ Do one or more of the following activities with your class: <p>Name Tags Revisited (Primary)</p> <p>When you return from the field trip tip, have students write down one thing they learned from the trip on the front of their cow bell name tag. Or they might write down one food that comes from a cow. The name tags could then be hung from the ceiling to decorate the room.</p> <p>No Moo Without You! (All ages)</p> <p>Have your class brainstorm a list of all the things they would have to do without if there was no milk. In addition to dairy products, the list should include foods made with milk products, like pizza, tacos, pudding, etc.</p> <p>Cow to You...Plus You! (All Ages)</p> <p>While on the field trip, be sure to take photos of your students either as a class or in small groups. Also take photos of the dairy farm employees and any parent chaperones. Cut out the figures of the people from the photos and glue them to a poster.</p>	<p>Field Trip ABCs (Primary)</p> <p>On the field trip, take photos of as many individual objects as possible (e.g., a cow, the barn, hay, a milking machine, etc.) (Be sure and include students in the photos too.)</p> <p>Once the photos are developed, have your students help label the object in each photo with its beginning letter. Then have students put the photos in a small album in alphabetical order.</p> <p>Send the album home with each student for a night to share with their families. Or display the album on parent's night or during an open house.</p> <p>Class Accordion Book (Primary)</p> <p>Create a class accordion book out of a long sheet of butcher paper. Fold the sheet into equal segments – one per student. (Remember, you can use both the front and back sides.) Have students decorate the cover and give the book a title.</p> <p>Ask each student to draw a picture or write a sentence or two about the field trip for a page in the book.</p>	<p>Book for Primary Grades</p> <p><i>Extra Cheese, Please!</i> By Cris Peterson Honesdale, PA:Boyd's Mill Press, 1994</p> <p><i>What's It Like to be a Dairy Farmer?</i> By Susan Poskanzer Mahwah, NJ:Troll Associates 1989</p> <p><i>Look at a Calf</i> By Dare Wright New York:Random House, 1974</p> <p><i>Dairy Cows</i> By Kathy Henderson Chicago:Children's Press, 1988</p> <p><i>Milk From Cow To Carton</i> By Ailiki New York:Harper Collins Publishers, 1992</p> <p><i>No Milk!</i> By Jennifer Ericsson New York:Tambourine Books, 1993</p> <p><i>The Milk Makers</i> By Gail Gibbons New York:Macmillan Publishing Company, 1985</p> <p><i>Ice Cream:Where Does This Come From?</i> By H. I. Peebles Chicago: Contemporary Books, Inc., 1988</p> <p><i>Ice Cream</i> By Stella Keller Milwaukee:Raintree Publisher, 1989</p>
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