



Teaching Plan – Level One

The Farm

Teacher Prep

Prepare bulletin board with colored paper. Brown for dirt, green for fields, yellow for the cornfield...

Have cut outs of farm buildings, animals, crops, machines, etc. ready to go.

1. Intro - Brainstorm about the things that are on a farm.

General discussion questions:

Who has been to a farm? What did you see there? What did you do there?

Read a book about the farm.

Next break lessons down to particular parts of the farm.

Animals, Crops, Buildings...

Discuss each, using books, songs, games, rhymes, art, science, etc. to expand and reinforce the children's knowledge.

2. What kind of **buildings** do you see on the farm? Some of these words may be new to the children, discuss their meaning and what they are used for. Talk about each and place picture on board.

Barn – used to store animals, crops and equipment.

Farmhouse – Where the farmer and his family live

Chicken coop – Where the chickens live

Pigpen or sty – Where the pigs live

Stable – Where the horses live

Warren – Where the rabbits live

Silo – Where the grain is kept.

Shed – Where tools are kept

3. Can you guess the **animal** I am talking about?

What farm animal has spots?

What farm animal has a mane?

Which animal has a curly tail?

Who has webbed feet?



What about horns?
Which animal has a woolly coat?
Which animal hops?
Which animal lays eggs?
What is a wattle? Who has a wattle?

As they guess the animal, discuss what the animal eats, names of babies, moms and dads etc. Place them in an appropriate area on the board.

4. Ask the children what **foods** come from a farm.

Read "Food From Farms" by Nancy Dickman/" Lunchbox-The Story of Your Food" by Chris Butterworth

Discuss farm crops in raw form and then what we can make from them and the crops that need to be processed before we eat them, wheat, oats and what food we make from them.

Apples – pie, butter
Berries – jam, pie
Pumpkins – pie, seeds, soup
Corn – bread, chips
Tomatoes – sauce, ketchup
Wheat – bread, cereal, pasta, cake, muffins
Oats – cereal, cookies, bread

Also discuss - What about animals? What food do we get from farm animals?

Pigs – ham, bacon, hot dogs
Cows – steak, hamburgers, milk (cheese, yogurt)
Chickens, ducks and turkeys – eggs, meat
Goats – milk (cheese, yogurt), meat
Lamb – meat

Song List:

Old MacDonald Had a Farm
The Sounds the Animals Make
Oats and Beans and Barley Grow
The Farmer in the Dell

Book List:



Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown
The Grumpy Morning by Pamela Duncan Edwards
Seed, Soil, Sun by Cris Peterson
The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle
On the Farm by David Elliot
The Little Red Hen by Paul Galdone
The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
Eating the Alphabet: Fruits and Vegetables From A to Z by Lois Ehlert

Rhymes:

Five friendly farmers

Five friendly farmers
Wake up with the sun,
For it is early morning
And the chores must be done.
The first friendly farmer
Goes to milk the cow.
The second friendly farmer
Thought he'd better plow.
The third friendly farmer
Feeds the hungry hens.
The fourth friendly farmer
Puts the piggies in their pens.
The fifth friendly farmer
Picks the ripe corn.
And waves to the neighbor
When he blows his horn.
When the work is finished
And the evening sky is red
Five tired farmers
Tumble into bed!



Barnyard Gate

Had a little rooster by the barnyard gate,
That little rooster was my playmate,
That little rooster went cock-a-doodle-doo,
Dee doodle dee doodle dee doodle dee doo.

Had a little cat by the barnyard gate,
That little cat was my playmate,
That little cat went meow, meow, meow,
That little rooster went cock-a -doodle -doo,
Dee doodle dee doodle dee doodle dee doo.

Other Verses:

....dog went arf, arf, arf....
....duck went quack, quack, quack....
....pig went oink, oink, oink....
....sheep went baa, baa, baa....
....cow went moo, moo, moo....
....horse went neigh, neigh, neigh....

Science Projects

Churning Butter

Explain that milk comes from a cow's udder. Give each child a clean glass jar labeled with their name -- baby food jars are good for this. Fill the jars about $\frac{3}{4}$ full with heavy cream. Screw on the lid as tightly as possible. Now let the children shake their jar. It could take a lot of shaking, so you may need to take some breaks. (Perhaps have them shake as you read a farm story or as they march to the beat of some music). Eventually, the fat and the whey will separate. Pour off the liquid whey – letting each child taste it if they like. Each child will now have a jar of their own hand-churned butter. (You may want to add a little salt for flavour.) Try a little on crackers and then have the child take the rest home to share with family. You can use this activity to discuss solids and liquids, measurements -- measure the cream before and the butter and whey after, then



compare -- or just talk about the components of milk and its origin. An advanced lesson could go on to use the homemade butter and other farm products to make baked goods or snacks and lunches (ex. Sandwiches with bread, butter, lettuce, tomato and ham, chicken or beef).

Magnifying Glass

Put out large plastic trays and magnifying glasses. Provide different kinds of seeds, chicken feathers and wool or fleece for the children to study. You can also add lengths of wool yarn and small knitted squares or woven wool cloth to the trays and talk about how the raw wool gets turned into strands of yarn and then into clothing. (A more advanced activity could include students actually making yarn bracelets after making their own yarn from raw wool.)

Incubate a Chick

It is very rewarding to students of all ages to watch eggs incubate and hatch into baby chickens in the classroom. It is important to have new homes available for the chicks after they are about four days old. Chicken eggs take about 21 days from fertilization to hatch. Some incubator set-ups require eggs to be turned manually -- this can be a stimulating experience for children and an important lesson in responsibility and caring for others.

Bean plants

Ask students about the plants we eat and where they come from. Ask and discuss what plants need to grow (sunlight, water, soil). Cut up a variety of fruits and vegetables and show the students the seeds (afterward you can leave these items on the science table for students to examine).

Set up 3 plastic glasses. Plant 3 bean seeds in soil, one in each cup.

Give one seed water and sunlight, the next only water, the last only sunlight. Ask students for predictions on what will happen and discuss as the plants grow (or not!)

Rainbow Carnations

After talking about how plants grow and their need for water, this exercise demonstrates that the plants do indeed "drink" the water in the glass.

In seven clear glasses, use food coloring to make the colors of the rainbow. Place a white carnation in each glass and watch over the next few days as the flowers turn the color of the water.

Also teach the names of the colors, color mixing and the colors of the rainbow.

Math

Songs and Rhymes:



"5 little Ducks"

Five little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hill and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."
But only four little ducks came back.

Four little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hill and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."
But only three little ducks came back.

Three little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hill and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."
But only two little ducks came back.

Two little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hill and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."
But only one little duck came back.

One little duck
Went out one day
Over the hill and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."
But none of the five little ducks came back.



Sad mother duck
Went out one day
Over the hill and far away
The sad mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack."
And all of the five little ducks came back.

Piggies

"It is time for my piggies to go to bed,"
The nice, big, fat mother pig said.
"So I will count them first to see
If they have all come back to me.
One little piggie, two little piggies,
Three little piggies dear.
Four little piggies, five little piggies.
Yes, they are all here!
Why, they are the cutest piggies alive.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5!"

10 Little Piggies

1 little, 2 little, 3 little piggies,
4 little, 5 little, 6 little piggies,
7 little, 8 little 9 little piggies,
10 little piggies in a pen.
(repeat verse counting backward)

Matching games with things from the farm: Farm dominoes and lotto.
Sorting things from the farm by color, feather and fur, bird or animal...

Pattern, sorting, counting, and adding sheets: James, can we use or do we have to make up our own?

Simply go to Google Search – Images and search for: animal counting work pages

Language

Once the bulletin board is filled with farm pictures you can ask:



Find something on the farm that begins with the sound “b”, “p”, “c”,...

Vocabulary – baby, mom and dad names group names, herd, etc.

Language handouts:

Simply go to Google Search – Images and search for: farm animal phonics work pages

Art:

Hand print turkey

Paper plate farm animals

Paint stamping with vegetables

Necklace with dyed pasta

Snacks:

Vegetables – talk about where they come from and how good they are for our bodies.

With dip? Dairy based, again where did it come from?

Crackers with handmade butter - Try a variety of crackers from different grains and talk about them (wheat, rice, rye...) Which do you like best?

Crackers with different types of cheese (cow and goat)

Popcorn

Cookies made with wheat, oats, raisins, cranberries, eggs, butter... Talk about how every ingredient comes from the farm.

Yogurt



Fieldtrips

Bring a petting zoo to your classroom. Let the children experience the feel of the sheep's wool, see firsthand where their eggs and meat come from.

Tour a farmers' market to take in all the sights, smells, and tastes of fresh produce.

Tour a farm or visit a farm stand to take in all the sights, smells, and tastes of farm fresh foods. Ask the farmer to talk about the crops or livestock that he/she raises and how the food gets from the farm to us.

Arrange to tour the produce section of a local grocery store. Meet a store manager and have him/her highlight the produce and dairy sections. Sample something new and different as part of the tour.