

Adventures Around the Farm



Whether living in the country, a small town, or a big city, people depend on farms for food, clothing, and many other things used every day. Farmers produce crops such as fruits, vegetables, nuts, and grains. They also raise livestock such as cattle, pigs, chickens, and sheep. Without the crops and livestock that come from farms, we would all go hungry.

In the song, Old MacDonald had a little bit of everything on his farm. A long time ago, many farmers raised a wide variety of livestock and crops, but only a small amount of each. Over time, farms have changed dramatically. Today, family farms usually raise just one kind of livestock or two or three crops. Now we have grain farms, cattle farms, poultry farms, and so on.

The lessons and materials in this kit will help students understand what a farm is, what farmers do, and what comes from farms. They will also learn that there are many different kinds of farms. Students will learn that while we purchase our food from the store, it begins with plants or animals raised on farms, which are the heart of the agriculture industry. From the farm, products are transported, processed, marketed and distributed, involving a multitude of agricultural careers in this chain of events. Through this kit, students will discover that they all depend on agriculture every day of their lives.



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Kit Objectives

1. To promote the incorporation of agricultural concepts into the classroom curriculum.
2. To provide an easy-to-use collection of valuable resource materials in order to help pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade teachers create or enhance an agricultural unit on a topic or theme such farming or farm animals.
3. To provide a selection of activities and necessary supplies to teach about the chosen topic or theme while addressing Illinois Learning Standards across all subject areas.

Some Notes on Using the Kits:

Kit Contents - The kits are intended to be “resource materials” kits. Due to the number of activities included in the various books and guides only a limited number of hands on supplies are provided.

Illinois Learning Standards – Illinois Learning Standards have been identified and are listed in each subject area.

Web sites - To further assist teachers and students seeking information on agricultural topics, a list of related web site addresses has been provided in each kit in the More section of the notebook.

Teacher Input - Please feel free to add your own favorite activities that relate to this kit to the **More** section of this binder.

Each Kit also includes:

- **Cover Page for each discipline addressing Illinois Learning Standards**
- **Prices and Inventory Page of the kit and materials**
- **Student reading page in Language Arts/Poetry**
- **Vocabulary Cloze Activity in Language Arts/Poetry**
- **Logic Puzzles in Math**
- **Glyphs in Math** - *What is a glyph?* According to the 1992 Webster's College Dictionary a glyph is a pictograph or hieroglyph; any symbol bearing information non-verbally such as a handicap accessible symbol in the restroom. *Why use glyphs?* Glyphs allow students to collect, display, and interpret data about themselves and other meaningful topics. This activity will also allow the student to practice using a legend in the creation of the glyph.

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Table of Contents

- **General Introduction**
- **Vocabulary/Top Terms**
- **Arts & Crafts**
- **Music & Rhythm**
- **Snackactivities**
- **Language Arts/Poetry**
- **Math**
- **Science**
- **Social Studies**
- **Reproducible**
- **More** – List of websites, videos, books and posters (not found in kit)