

Interactive Fun: Animal Care

Objective:

Educate children about the needs of farm animals and how they are cared for on farms.

Key Messages:

- Farmers work hard to care for their animals, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Many people work together (farmers, veterinarians, researchers, nutritionists, etc.) to ensure that farm animals are given top notch care.
- There are Recommended Codes of Practice (like owner's manuals) to help farmers know what their animals need to be healthy and comfortable.

Things to Bring Along:

- Ropes, scales, pails, and other containers to demonstrate how much and how big
- Examples of how farmers meet the various needs of animals:
 - Feed: hay, samples of hog or poultry feed, a mineral or salt block
 - Water: water bowls/troughs/drinkers to show the different ways that poultry and livestock are provided access to fresh water.
 - Housing: bedding (straw, shavings), a piece of slatted flooring

Hints:

- The more visual your presentation, the more impact you will make.
 - Examples:
 - Instead of saying: "A dairy cow produces 27 litres of milk per day," show them 27 empty 1: milk cartons.
 - Instead of saying: "On my farm, pig pens are x big," bring a rope of the appropriate length to show them how big the pens are.
 - Instead of saying: "A market hog weights 120 kg, have a few children stand together on a scale to show them how they measure up.
 - Avoid comparisons to humans and pets. Likening a livestock ear tag to a human earring is the only comparison that should be used.



FARM & FOOD
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