

Grades K-2

Farm to Fork: Where Food Comes From

What Will I Find on the Farm?

Learning about farms, animals, and plants

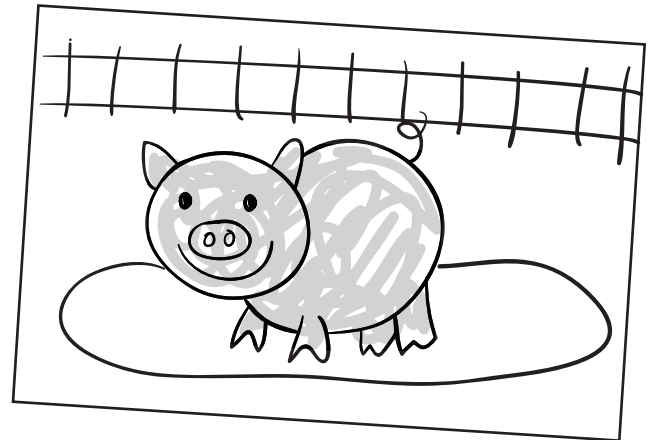
Ask your students to share their ideas about where their food comes from. Some may not know about any source beyond the local supermarket! Lead students in a discussion about farms and farmers, explaining that some farms raise animals, some raise crops, and others do both. Brainstorm a list of plants, animals, and equipment students might see on a farm.

Next, get insight on what aspects of the farm students are most interested in by creating a class book. Give each child a large index card and invite him to draw one thing he'd like to see on a farm. Then have him flip the card over and help him write clues about the item on the other side, including characteristics such as the color, the shape, and what sound it makes. Cut a simple barn shape from red construction paper and bind students' cards behind it. Title your book "Down on the Farm." To wrap up, lead students in singing a class version of "Old MacDonald," using students' favorite plants, animals, and equipment in the verses!

Extend the learning: Give students a chance to try their hand at growing plants with this mess-free option! Purchase seeds and soak them in water for 24 hours. Show students the seed packet covers and explain what plant they'll be growing. Then give each child a paper towel and a resealable plastic sandwich bag. Have each child moisten his paper towel, place it inside the bag, and then press several seeds inside the folded towel. Seal the bag, label it with the student's name, and tape it to a window that receives sunlight. Once the seeds begin to sprout, send the seedlings home with students to plant.

Fun Fact:

There are about 2 million farms in the United States. The average US farmer raises enough food to feed 155 others.



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