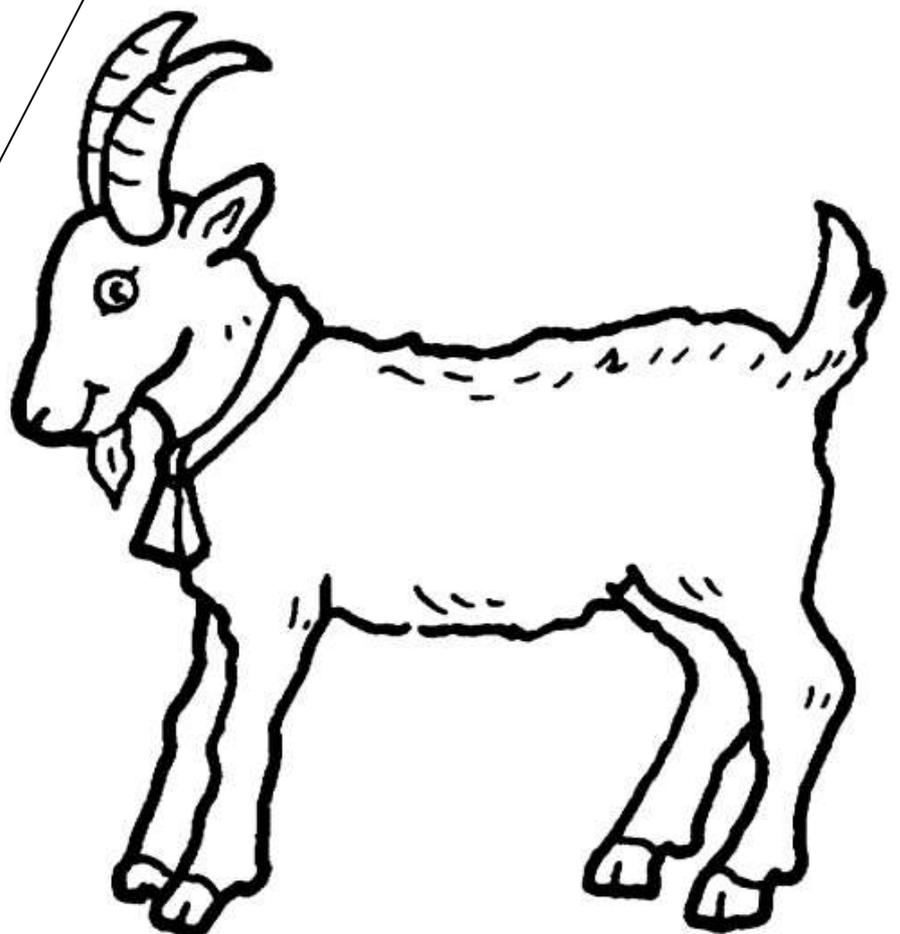


Education Pack

Farm Animals.

Here at Belmont Farm we have lots of different animals. In this booklet you can find out about the farm animals we have here, as well as other animals and breeds around the world.

Happy learning!



A few key words you will need to know.

Throughout this pack there may be a few words that you don't know the meaning of. Let's go through them now.

BREED: In the animal kingdom there are lots of different types of the same animal. These are called "breeds" and each type has a different name. For example dogs:

This dog is a border collie.
That is his breed.



This dog is a Rottweiler.
That is his breed.



Domesticated: This is the term used for an animal that lives with people. This could be on a farm or as a pet.

This is a domesticated Pig
from Belmont Farm.

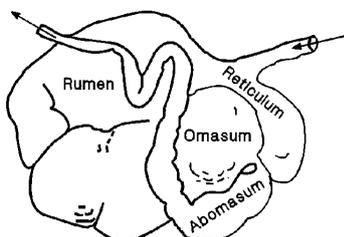


This is a wild Boar.
He lives in forests and
woodland areas.

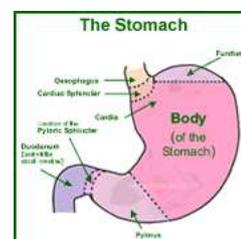


Ruminant: This is when an animal has four compartments in their stomachs to digest food. Animals such as cows, deer, sheep and goats have this.

This is a ruminant
Stomach.



This is a non-ruminant
stomach, like ours.



GOATS!

Let's start with goats! Goats are well known for being super greedy! But did you know these facts about our food loving friends.....

Goats have been transported all over the world. This means that no one is really sure where they came from.

They are very good climbers! Some goats live on mountains and hills and have to climb to survive... others have learnt how to climb to get something they want (i.e. food!!!)

However along with the ability to climb comes an expert ability to escape!

Goats are well known for being greedy, they will eat almost anything!! Even clothes!

Different breeds of goat include:

Pigmy, Anglo- Nubian

And Boer

All of which we have at Belmont Farm.



FUN FACTS!

They are used by humans for milk, meat, hair and skins AND kept as pets!

A male goat is called a "Billy" and a female goat is called a "Nanny" But if they live in the wild the male is a "buck" and the female is a "doe".

A baby goat is called a "kid" a term often used for a human child too!!

A Group of goats is called a trip.

SHEEP!

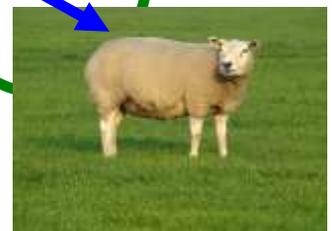
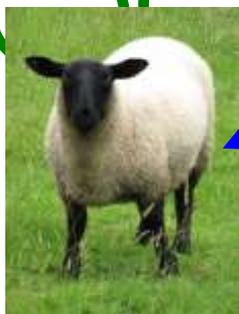
We have lots of different breeds of sheep at Belmont Farm. But first lets go through the basic facts!

Sheep have a fleece... this is their coat and is made of wool. Wool can be used to make all sorts of things like hats, scarves and jumpers.

Sheep can be milked just like cows and goats. They are used for milk, wool and meat all over the world.

A Ewe can look after up to two lambs at a time. If she has more, they either have to be adopted onto another Ewe or the farmer has to bottle-feed them until they are old enough to go into the fields.

Here at Belmont farm we have 4 different breeds of sheep. Jacobs, Herdwick, Suffolk and Texel.



FUN FACTS!

A Male sheep is called a Ram.
A Female Sheep is called a Ewe and a baby sheep is called a lamb.

Sheep are ruminants, which is where they have stomachs compartments to digest (break down) their food! We only have one!

The world's most famous sheep was called Dolly.
She was the first mammal to be cloned, it was successful after the 276th time!

Have you seen the movie "Babe"?
That film used 550 sheep altogether!
Can you imagine!

Cattle.

We have a very special cow here at the farm. Her name is Treacle, and her calf is Toffee. Different breeds are used for different things... find out more in the fact bubbles!

We have a Jersey cow here at Belmont Farm. Jersey cows are known for being a slightly smaller breed of cow and they have very thick and creamy milk.



Friesian cows are most popular in the UK as dairy cows. They produce more milk per day, on average, than most other cows. Other breeds are used more in other countries.

The Aberdeen Angus and the Hereford breeds are mostly used for meat. This is because the meat is leaner and tastes nicer.

Cows have four stomachs. The special name for this is "Ruminants". This means that they break down their food so carefully to make sure they get all the nutrients out of it a possible.

Fun Facts.

Cattle is the plural for lots of cows, bulls, or calves.
The term "Cows" just means a group of females.

A male cow is called a bull.
A female cow is called a heifer.
A baby cow is called a calf.

Cattle will chew grass for hours, they swallow it and it goes into one of their 4 stomachs compartments. Then it will come back up and they will continue to chew it!!! This is called cud.

Pigs!

Pigs are a favourite here at the Farm. But I bet there are lots of things you didn't know about them...

Pigs come from all over the world. They were domesticated 1000's of years ago!

Wild pigs are commonly known as "wild boars", they are very dangerous to hunt, as pigs are naturally aggressive animals. Even domestic pigs can be dangerous.

Pigs have a great sense of smell. They are used in lots of countries to find truffles, which are a type of rare special fungi that grow in the ground.

Pigs are used mainly for meat. Here at Belmont Farm we are proud to sell our sausages and pork rolls. It is important to know where your food has come from, so you know that it is well looked after from the very beginning.



FUN FACTS!

Most farm animals don't have a lot of teeth, but pigs have very sharp teeth both on the top and bottom of their mouth.

Pigs are often called dirty animals because they are always muddy. Pigs use mud to keep their body cool because they don't have sweat glands. It also protects them from the sun. After all they can't go to the supermarket and buy sun cream can they?!

Pigs are seen differently by lots of different religions and cultures. Many do not eat pigs as they are seen as unclean animals, and some religions only eat Ruminant animals, which pigs are not.

Alpaca!

Alpacas are often mistaken for Llamas but they are not the same thing! They are much smaller than Llama's...but enough about that let's find out some more information about Alpacas.

Alpacas, like sheep, have to be sheared every year because their fleece is so thick. Alpaca wool is very expensive and can be used to make all the same things sheep's wool can.

Alpacas are very sociable animals; If they are ever on their own they make a funny noise that sounds like they are crying. They love to be with their friends.

There are only two breeds of alpaca. The Suri and the Huacaya. The Suri has fibre that grows really long and forms dreadlocks!! The Huacaya has a more condensed fleece, which makes it fluffier to touch.

A baby Alpaca is called a Cria. It takes 11 and a half months for a baby alpaca to grow inside its mummy. Crias are up and walking about 90 minutes after being born.



Fun Facts.

Alpaca's can be used as guard dogs! Farmers put them in with flocks of sheep with lambs to protect the flock from fox attacks.

During the summer months you can walk the Alpacas here at Belmont Farm! They are very friendly animals and love to walk around!

Alpaca's wool is hypoallergenic. This means people with very sensitive skin can use the wool for clothes and not be affected.

We have 6 alpacas here at Belmont. 2 look after our sheep and 4 come on the farm.

Rhea

The last animal in our farm pack is the Rhea... this is often mistaken for an ostrich but they are quite different! Find out how below...

There are two breeds of Rhea. The Rhea Americana (meaning great rhea) and the Rhea Pennata (meaning lesser rhea).

Rhea's and Ostrich's are often mistaken, but they come from completely different places. The rhea comes from South America, while the ostrich comes from South Africa. Rhea's are also a lot smaller standing at 1.5 metres tall.

Male Rheas will build the nest for the females to lay the eggs. The Males will then sit on the eggs until they hatch. It takes 38 days to incubate a Rhea egg

Rheas eat a lot of fruit, seed and small animals such as frogs.



Fun Facts.

Rheas are very inquisitive this means they are nosey!! But they can be quite aggressive if they feel threatened.

We have two rheas here at Belmont Farm. A male and a Female, hopefully we will be having baby rheas very soon!

Rheas are used on farms mainly for meat. In America where they are most common, farmers will have huge farms full of rheas. It is a bit like having chicken for dinner.