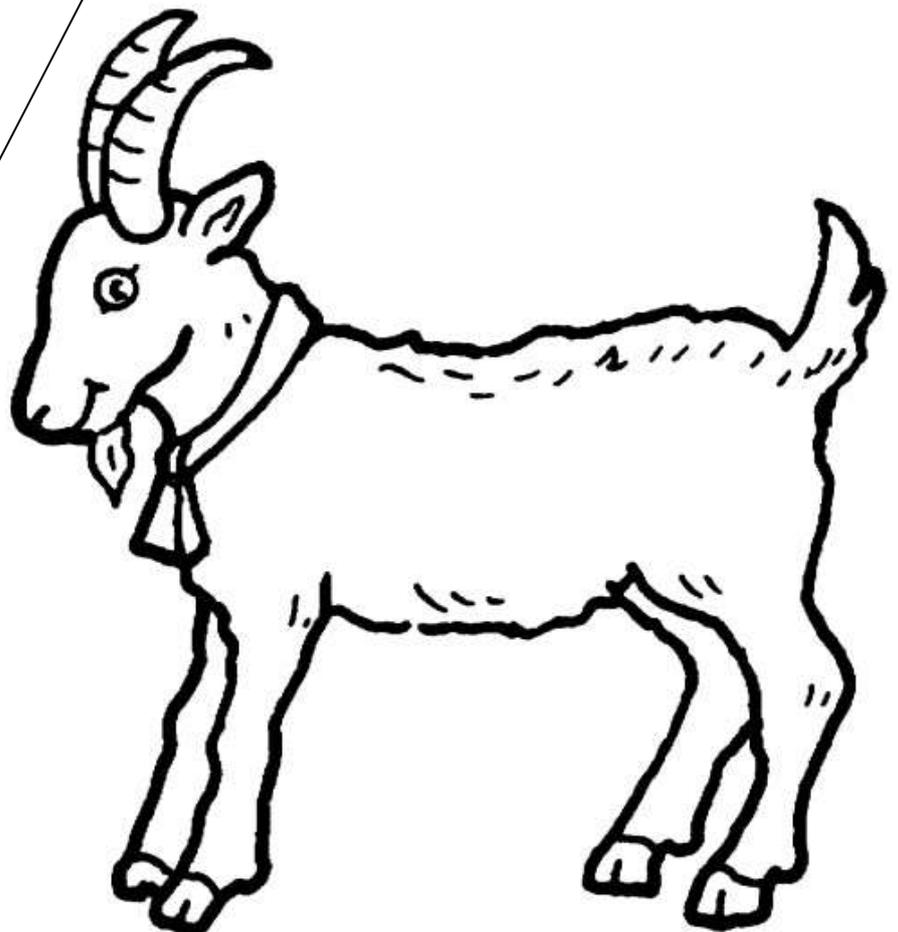


Education Pack

Non Native Animals

Here at Belmont Farm we have lots of different animals. In this booklet you can find out about the non native animals we have here, these are the ones that don't normally live in England, especially in the wild.

Happy learning!



Wallabies

Wallabies are often mistaken for Kangaroos, they are from the same family but wallabies are a lot smaller. Here are some other facts about wallabies...

Wallabies come from Australia. That's all the way on the other side of the Earth. Australia is such a big country that the climate changes all the time. In some places it is really hot but others it is just like the weather here, that's how the wallabies can adapt so easily.

Wallabies don't often go around in groups. They like to be alone or with one or two others.

Wallabies have large feet, which mean they can jump around. They can jump quite high but they can't jump backwards!!!

We have two types of wallaby at Belmont Farm.

The Bennet's wallaby, the biggest breed of wallaby

Parma Wallaby, which are the small ones!



FUN FACTS!

Wallabies don't have sweat glands. This means they have to keep themselves cool when it's hot so they lie in the shade and pant quickly.

There are lots of different names for male and female wallabies. A male can be called a buck, boomer or a jack and a female can be called a doe, flyer or a jill.

A baby wallaby is called a Joey. The Joey will be born inside the mothers pouch and live there for several weeks.

Owls

We have some Snowy owls here at Belmont Farm, but there are lots of different breeds of owl.

Many owls are nocturnal, this means they only come out at night. Because snowy owls are from the Arctic where they have really long days, snowy owls do most of their hunting during daylight hours.

Owls have very sharp talons (claws) for hunting. Owls will eat any small animal from mice, chicks and sometimes even fish. They are known as Birds of Prey,

Owls are found all over the world. The snowy owls are from the Arctic, so they are not native to here, however we do have some native owls such as the Barn owl and the Tawny owl.

Sometimes our owls do not stay at Belmont Farm. This is because they go off for training to be in films and television programmes.



FUN FACTS!

A group of owls is called a parliament.

Most owls have heart-shaped faces.

Owls have special feathers to enable them to fly silently. This is so the animals they are hunting do not hear them coming.

An owl can turn its head all the way round without moving its body! In fact, an owl can actually turn its head 280 degrees. This is a hunting technique, used to remain silent while searching for its prey.

Storks

We have two storks here at Belmont Farm. They are often seen flying up high on buildings and have a very special place in mythology.

Wild storks migrate from place to place when the weather gets colder, like most birds.

Storks live in open farmland, close to marshland or some form of pond, so they have access to lots of food. Storks will eat small animals such as chicks, frogs, insects and mice.

They have a very special skill in order to fly long distances. They use warm air currents to fly so when they migrate their flight path has to be over land.

Storks make many different noises, even though they don't have a "song" like most birds do they can hiss, croak and grunt as well as make the famous clattering noise with their beaks.



Fun Facts.

A female stork will lay 3-5 eggs normally and incubate (sit on them) for 33-35 days. It takes 4 years for a stork to become an adult.

Many believe that storks mate for life. This is not necessarily true. Storks always come back to the same place to mate every year and often end up with the same mate by coincidence.

Storks are very famous in mythology. They are said to bring good luck and fertility and in some stories they are the bird that brings babies to families.

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.