

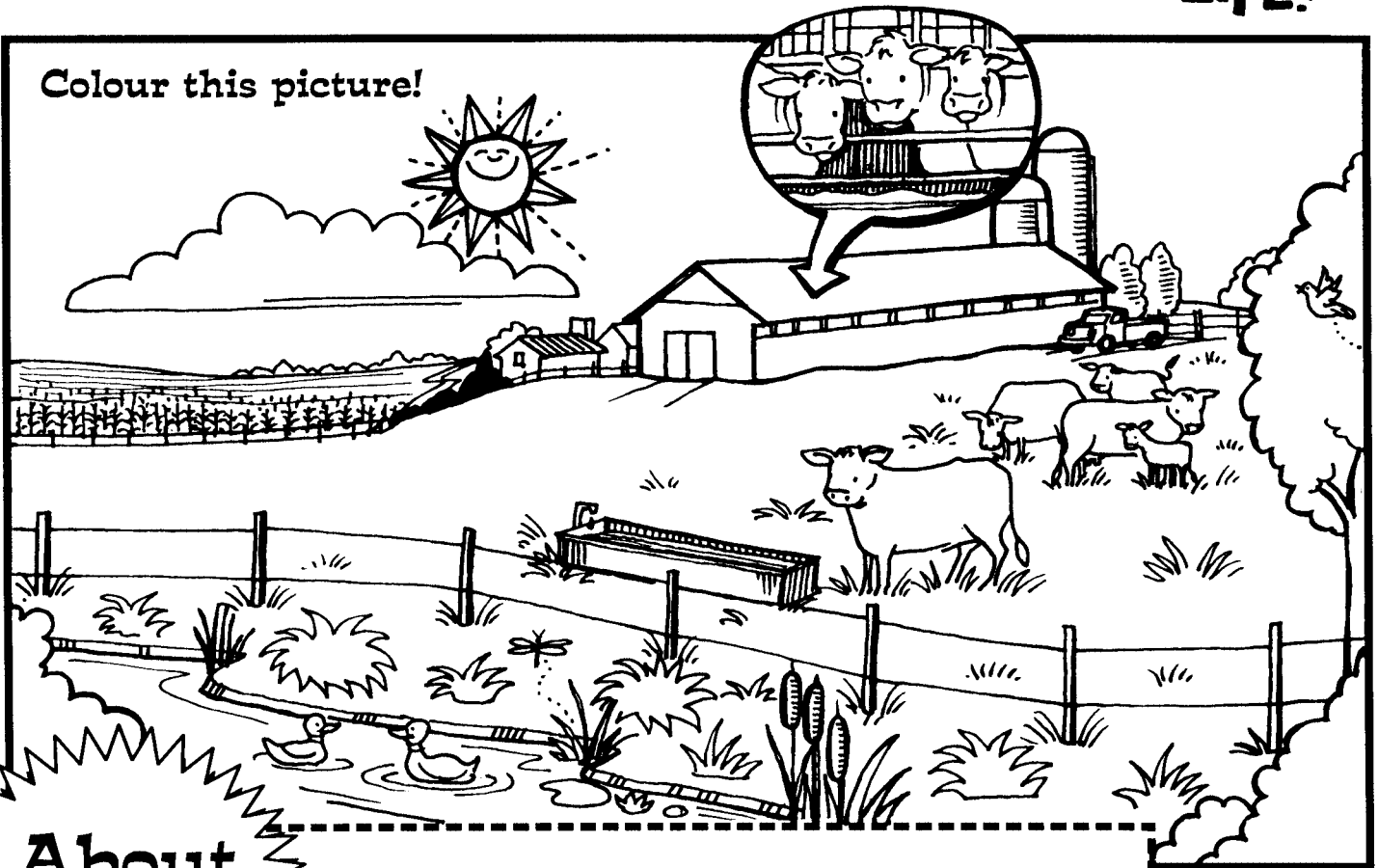
THE BEEF-it-up

Activity book



Have some fun as you learn about beef...

Colour this picture!



About BEEF

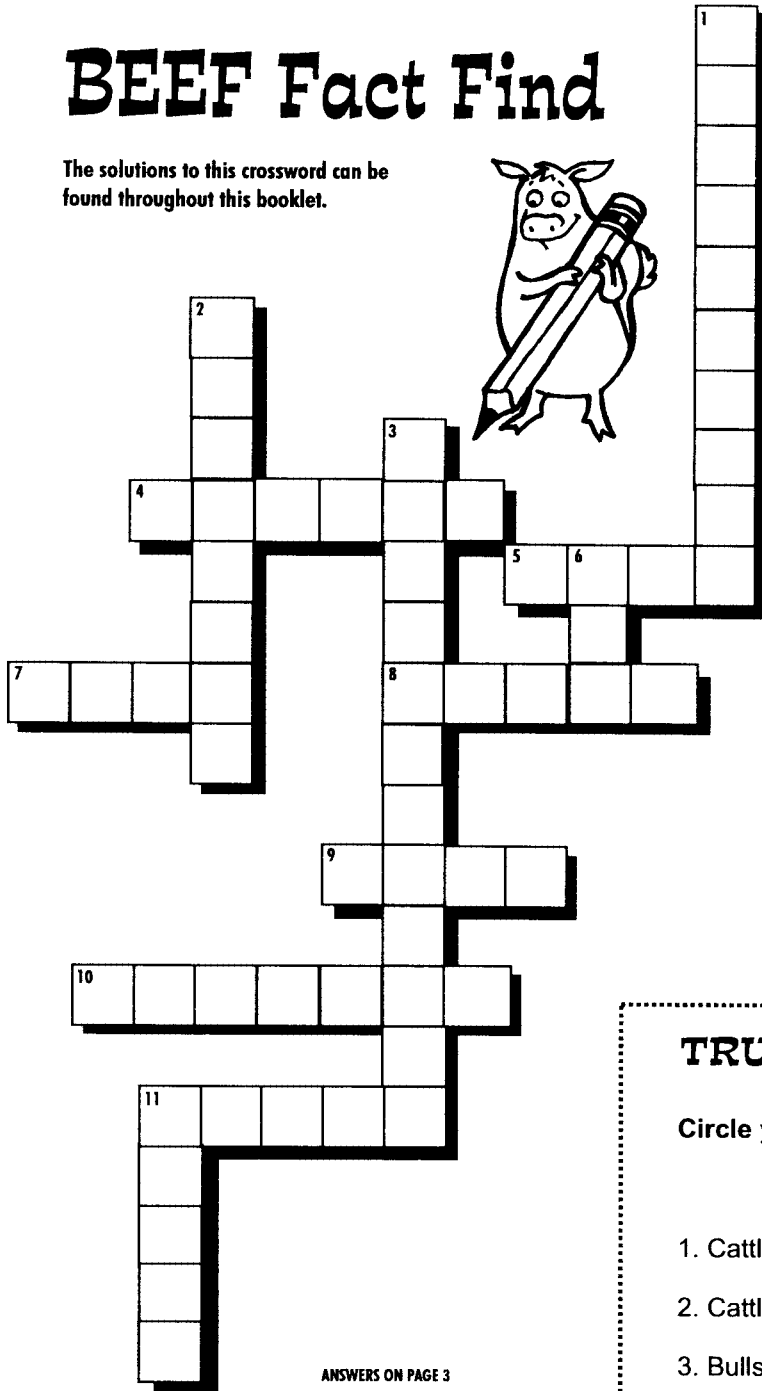
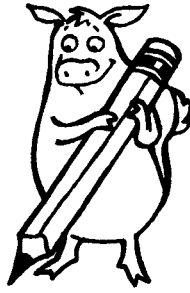
Beef cattle are born on cow/calf farms where they are raised with their mothers and live outside on pasture fields. For the last few months before they are ready for market, beef cattle live in feedlots (see inside the barn) where they receive special feed to produce high quality beef.

Look at the drawing to see some of the ways farmers care for the environment. Farmers plant trees and shrubs to provide shade for the animals and homes for wildlife. The trees and grass also serve as a wind break to keep the soil from being washed away by water or blown away by the wind. Farmers also protect water. In the drawing, a fence keeps animals out of the stream so the water stays clean. Water is pumped to a trough for the animals to drink.



BEEF Fact Find

The solutions to this crossword can be found throughout this booklet.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 3

ACROSS

4. The person who looks after cattle every day.
5. The number of stomachs cattle have.
7. In winter, most cattle live in these.
8. The name of cattle's largest stomach.
9. What a newborn beef animal is called.
10. Beef is a good source of this.
11. Cattle also eat different types of this, including corn and barley.

DOWN

1. Cattle manure is a natural source of this.
2. Like humans, cattle also need these to stay healthy.
3. A doctor for animals that helps keep cattle healthy.
6. The number of times a cow gives birth every year.
11. What beef cattle eat when they are out in a pasture (field).

TRUE or FALSE???

Circle your answer



- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. Cattle have four stomachs | True | False |
| 2. Cattle chew on chewing gum. | True | False |
| 3. Bulls don't like the colour red. | True | False |
| 4. Humans need one serving of protein in their diet each day. | True | False |
| 5. Cattle eat grain that usually is not suitable for people to eat. | True | False |
| 6. Cattle produce manure which is a natural fertilizer. | True | False |
| 7. Cows have five calves each year. | True | False |

ANSWERS on page 3

Beef Terminology:

Bull: a male beef animal

Calf: A young beef animal

Heifer: A female beef animal that hasn't had a calf yet

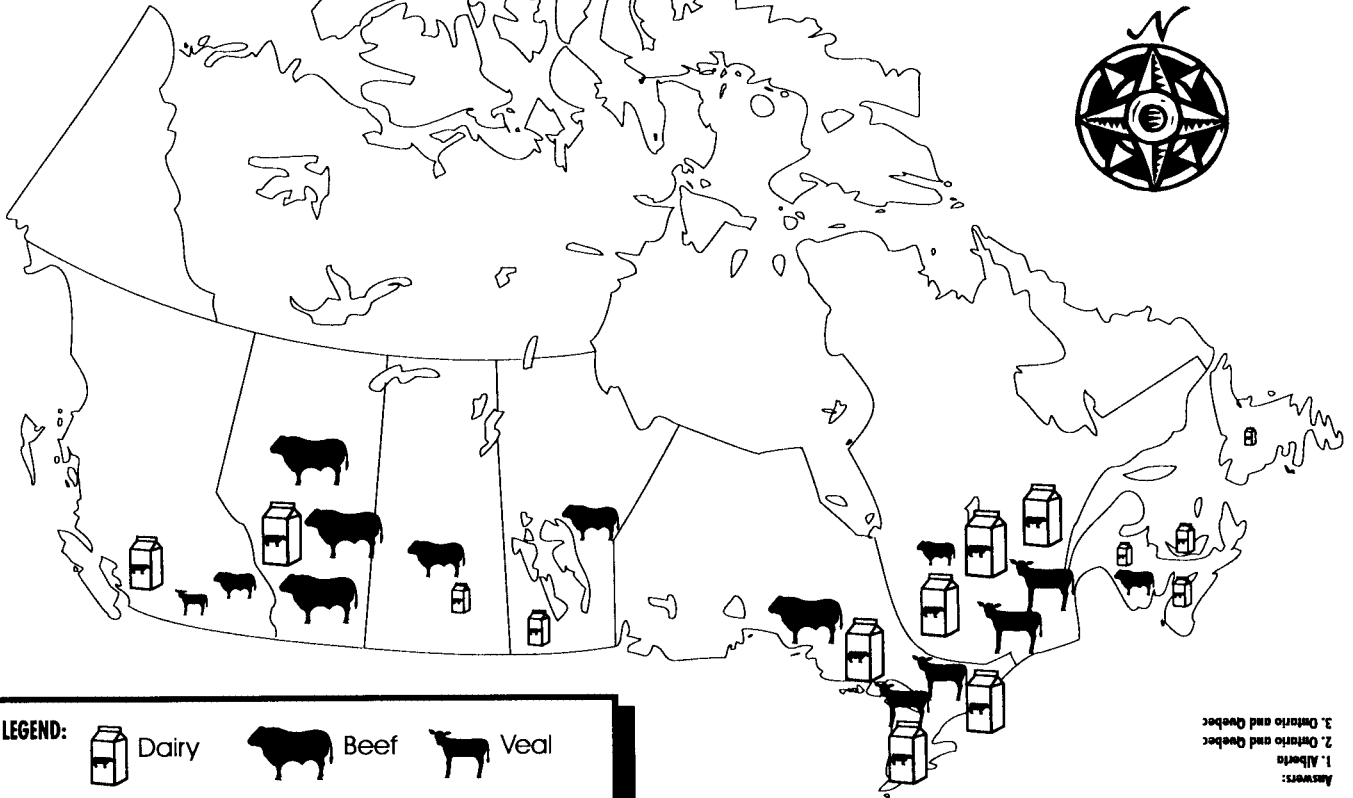
Cow: A female beef animal that has had a calf

Steer: A male beef animal that has been castrated

Veal: A young male Holstein (dairy) animal

Canada Quiz

- 1) Where is the majority of beef produced in Canada? _____
- 2) Who produces the most dairy? _____
- 3) Where is veal produced? _____



Answers:
 1. Alberta
 2. Ontario and Quebec
 3. Ontario and Quebec

LEGEND: Dairy Beef Veal

DID YOU KNOW...?

More About BEEF

- Agriculture is an important business in Ontario. There are 25,000 beef farmers in Ontario.
- Ontario farmers raise about 18% of Canada's cattle.
- Beef is eaten more often at restaurants than chicken or pork.
- The average Canadian eats almost 23 kg of beef each year.
- A veterinarian is a doctor for animals.
- The average newborn calf weighs about 41 kg (90 lbs). It will drink about 2 kg of its mother's milk every day.
- Because cattle are fed grain for such a short time, it takes only about 2.2 kg of grain to produce 0.5 kg of beef purchased at a grocery store.
- There are more than 100 breeds of beef cattle in Canada.
- Cows can jump. If they are running fast enough, they can even jump over a fence.
- Cattle are generally ready for market when they weigh about 544 kg (1200 lbs).

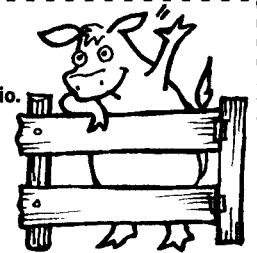


Illustration and Design by Debbie Thompson Wilson, Illustration



Check out our website for more information about beef cattle:
www.cattle.guelph.on.ca

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