

# Follow the Dairy Farmer

## TEACHER GUIDE (Grade 4)

### GOALS:

- Explore a Manitoba dairy farm to discover where their food comes from
- Identify all the components of a dairy cow habitat
- Design a dairy cow habitat that meets the needs of dairy cows

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Grade 4 Science	
Cluster 1: Habitats and Communities	
4-1-02	Recognize that each plant and animal depends on a specific habitat to meet its needs.
4-1-03	Identify the components of an animal habitat. Include: food, water, living space, cover/shelter.
4-1-12	Use the design process to construct a model of a local or regional habitat and its associated populations of plants and animals.

### Materials Needed:

1. Follow the Farmers Dairy Farm video - use either:
  - o Option 1 - [Signer Dairy Farm video](#)
  - o Option 2 – YouTube recording - [Signer Dairy Farm video with Q&A with Stefan Signer](#)
2. [Follow the Farmers Signer Dairy Kahoot](#)
  - o Plus, one device (tablet, laptop, computer, cell phone) per student or student team
3. [Design a Dairy Cow Habitat Worksheet](#) (found on the Follow the Farmers Program page) - 1 per student or student group
  - o Plus, any or all of the following design materials:
    - » Paper and pencil
    - » Shoe box, paper, scissors, glue
    - » Lego
    - » Minecraft

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

snapAG sheets from Agriculture in the Classroom - Canada:

- [Dairy Cows](#)

## ➔ Activate

### BEFORE SHOWING THE VIDEO

- Discuss and/or review with your students what a habitat is.
- Ask students to:
  - Describe what they think a habitat for dairy cows would be like.
  - Make a list of all the things dairy cows would need in their habitat to survive and thrive.
  - Answer the question: Since dairy cows are domestic animals and not wild animals, who is responsible for providing a habitat for the cows that meets all their needs?

A **habitat** is where the animal or plant lives and is able to meet its basic needs.

Domestic animals are animals that:

- Have been selectively bred by humans over many generations
- Are genetically distinct from their wild ancestors
- Depend on humans for food, water, and shelter

Examples include: cows, pigs, sheep, chickens, dogs, cats

## ➔ Acquire

### DURING THE VIDEO

- Have the students watch for all the components or things that Stefan provides for his dairy cows so that they stay healthy and comfortable in their farm habitat.

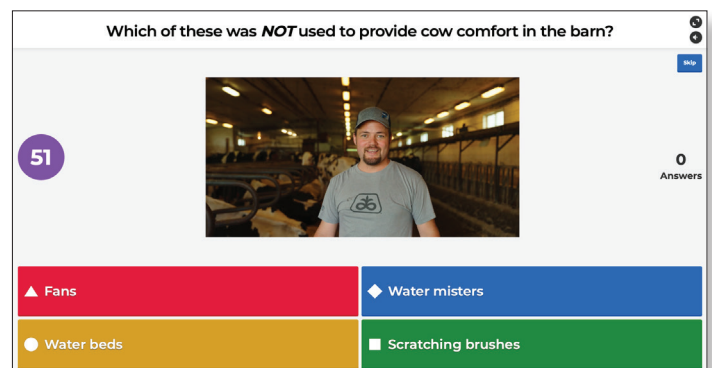
### AFTER THE VIDEO

- Revisit the list of things dairy cows would need that your class made during the 'Activate' portion of the lesson plan. Add any additional things that Stefan provides or uses in the cows' habitat to meet their needs and keep them healthy and comfortable.

## ➔ Assess

Assessment ideas:

1. Have students complete the [Follow the Farmers: Signer Dairy Kahoot](#).
  - Students can play individually or in teams.
  - Each individual student or team will need a device and kahoot.it open in their browser.
2. Have students work individually or in small groups to complete the [Design a Dairy Cow Habitat Worksheet](#) (found on the Follow the Farmers Program page). Once students have completed their designs they could:
  - Present their design to the class or a group of students.
  - Display their design. (Optional – have students write a description of their design, the components they have included and why, as part of their display.) Have a gallery walk to view all the designs.
  - Use the following rubric for self, peer, or teacher evaluation of their habitat design.



## DESIGN A DAIRY COW HABITAT WORKSHEET RUBRIC

	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point	Points
<b>Dairy cow barn habitat</b>	Design meets all 5 of the cows' needs for food, water, living space, shelter, and cow comfort.	Design meets only 3 or 4 of the cows' needs for food, water, living space, shelter, and cow comfort.	Design meets only 1 or 2 of the cows' needs for food, water, living space, shelter, and cow comfort.	
<b>Presentation of design</b>	Design components were clearly identifiable and overall design was well suited for dairy cows.	Some design components were clearly identifiable and overall design was suitable for dairy cows.	Design components were not easily identifiable and overall design was not well suited for dairy cows.	
<b>Neatness of work</b>	Very neat and easy to read, view and explore the design.	Somewhat neat and mostly able to read, view and explore the design.	Lacks neatness making it difficult to read, view and explore the design.	
<b>Careers needed to build the cow barn habitat</b>	Student circled 12 or more careers and added 1 or more to the list.	Student circled 12 or more careers.	Student circled less than 12 careers.	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>				