



Knowledge Organiser	Subject: Understanding the World	Topic: Farm Animals	Year: Reception
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What should I know?

Animals are living things.

There are different types of animals.

Parent and baby mammals include cow and calf, sheep and lamb, and cat and kitten.

Parent and baby birds include duck and duckling, chicken and chick, and goose and gosling.

Key Questions

What are the baby animals called?

- What does a farmer do on a farm?

- What grows on a farm?

- What is harvest?

- Are all farms the same?

Do they all have animals?

- What food might we get from a dairy/arable/livestock farm

Key Photographs

Animals and their young



Pig and piglets



Cow and calf



Sheep and lamb



Lioness and cub



Chicken and chicks

Interesting Facts

- Cows have best friends and become stressed if they are separated from them.
- Pigs are very intelligent animals, known to be as clever as dogs!
- Chickens have a variety of sounds; they cluck, squawk, and even sing!

Key Knowledge and Skills

Identify and name at least five different farm animals.

Explain the roles of farm animals and the products we get from them (e.g., milk from cows, eggs from chickens).

Understand the basic life cycle of a farm animal, from baby to adult (e.g., chick to hen).

Recognise the importance of farms and the different types of farming (e.g., dairy, poultry).

Important Events and Concepts

Introduction to Farm Animals

Discuss what a farm is and introduce animals found on a farm.

Exploring Each Animal

Focus on individual animals: Cow, Pig, Sheep, Chicken, Horse.

Importance of Farm Animals

Understand how animals help us: milk, eggs, wool, and meat.

Farm Animal Life Cycle

Explore how animals grow and introduce baby animals (calf, piglet, chick).

In Reception children will:

Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants; • Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class; • Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

Key Vocabulary	
Farm	A place where animals are kept and crops are grown.
Animal	A living organism that is not a plant; often refers to creatures that move and respond.
Cow	A large farm animal kept for its milk and meat.
Farmer	A person who works on a farm, taking care of animals and growing crops.
Egg	A round or oval object produced by female birds; chickens lay eggs.



Linking Thinking Across Our Learning Journey						
Early Years	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
The natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.	Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, including pets)	Notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults		Recognise that living things (including those in the locality) can be grouped in a variety of ways.	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.	Classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (such as insects, spiders, snails, worms) and vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals). Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals.