

UNIT III - ANIMALS IN SOCIETY

Lesson 1: The Importance of Animals

Competency/Objective: Describe the importance of animals.

Study Questions

1. **Why are animals important to us?**
2. **What are the major types of production animals in agriculture?**
3. **What are the major types of companion and specialty animals in agriculture?**

References

1. *Exploring Agriculture in America* (Student Reference). University of Missouri-Columbia: Instructional Materials Laboratory, 2000, Unit III.
2. Transparency Masters
TM 1.1 Livestock in Missouri
TM 1.2 Animal Terminology
3. Activity Sheets
AS 1.1 Animal Industry Terms
AS 1.2 Services and Products

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Lesson 1: The Importance of Animals

TEACHING PROCEDURES

A. **Introduction**

Animals and the products and services they provide are essential to humans. Early man hunted animals for food, used their hides for clothes, used their bones for tools, and used them to provide a means of transportation and service. Animals were domesticated and continue to provide food, clothing, medicine, and many valuable products.

B. **Motivation**

Break the class into small groups of three or four and have them brainstorm the following statements. After 10-15 minutes, have the groups report their ideas to the class as a whole and generate a discussion on the importance of animals.

- List all of the ways animals are important in your everyday lives.
- List all of the ways your lives would change if people could not use animals for food or have pets as companions.

C. **Assignment**

D. **Supervised Study**

E. **Discussion**

Q1. **Why are animals important to us?**

A1. **People need animals for food, clothing, and a variety of products.**

Animal agriculture, along with being essential to civilized humanity, also contributes to the agricultural economy. Show TM 1.1 to show students the importance of animals in Missouri agriculture.

- a) **Food**
- b) **Clothing**
- c) **By-products**
- d) **Medicine/medical research**
- e) **Recreation/companionship**
- f) **Specialized services for the disabled and for law enforcement**

Discuss the services and products animals provide and have students complete AS 1.2. Have students think of as many animals and their uses as possible to expand the list, stressing the point that animals are valuable to society in a variety of ways.

Q2. **What are the major types of production animals in agriculture?**

A2.

- a) **Beef cattle**
- b) **Dairy cattle**
- c) **Sheep**
- d) **Swine**
- e) **Poultry**
- f) **Goats**

- g) Ostrich and emu
- h) Bison
- i) Fish
- j) Bees

Show TM 1.2 to discuss types of animals in agriculture. Have students complete AS 1.1. It is important for people studying animal science to be familiar with the terms used in animal agriculture.

Q3. What are the major types of companion and/or specialty animals in agriculture?

A3.

- a) Horses
- b) Dogs
- c) Cats
- d) Birds
- e) Rabbits

F. *Other Activities*

1. Have students prepare a report on one of the following topics:
 - The domestication of animals
 - The functions of animals
 - Animal by-products and their uses
2. Have students choose a species of animal and create a poster illustrating the products and services provided by that species.

G. *Conclusion*

Whether through food, clothing, by-products, medical research, or recreation, animals improve society and the agricultural economy in a variety of ways. Important production animals include beef and dairy cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, goats, ostrich and emu, bison, fish, and bees. Important companion and specialty animals include horses, dogs, cats, birds, and rabbits. The domestication of animals made it possible for early man to settle and develop from basic hunters into the civilized society of today.

H. *Answers to Activity Sheets*

AS 1.1 Animal Industry Terms

1. J
2. E
3. A
4. D
5. H
6. B
7. G
8. I
9. C
10. F

AS 1.2 Services and Products

The instructor should determine if the answers are appropriate. Suggested answers are listed below.

Animal	Use	Product
Beef	Food	Beef
Dairy	Food	Milk, cheese
Swine	Food	Pork
Sheep	Product	Wool
Poultry	Food	Eggs, chicken, turkey
Goats	Food	Goat milk, goat cheese
Bison	Food	Bison meat
Ostrich	Food	Ostrich meat
Fish	Food	Fish meat, fish oils
Bees	Product	Beeswax, honey

I. ***Evaluation***

A unit test is provided at the end of this unit. If a lesson quiz is needed, use questions pertaining to this lesson from the unit test.

Livestock in Missouri

(1999 Value)

	Total Value
All Cattle and Calves	\$2,420,000,000
All Hogs and Pigs	\$ 158,400,000
All Sheep and Lambs	\$ 7,650,000

Source: *1999 Missouri Farm Facts*, Missouri Agricultural Statistics Service

Animal Terminology

CATEGORY	CATTLE	SHEEP	SWINE	CHICKEN	TURKEY	HORSE
Mature male	Bull	Ram	Boar	Rooster	Tom	Stallion
Mature female	Cow	Ewe	Sow	Hen	Hen	Mare
Young male	Bull	Ram Lamb	Shoat	Cockerel	Poult	Colt
Young female	Heifer	Ewe Lamb	Gilt	Pullet	Hen Poult	Filly
Castrated male	Steer	Wether	Barrow	Capon	Capon	Gelding
Group	Herd	Flock	Herd	Flock	Flock	Herd
Young Animal	Calf	Lamb	Pig	Chick	Poult	Foal

Lesson 1: The Importance of Animals

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Animal Industry Terms**Objective:** Students will become familiar with animal industry terms.**Directions:** Place the letter in the blank that correctly matches its definition.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. ____ A male chicken of breeding age | A. Herd |
| 2. ____ A male beef animal castrated for meat purposes | B. Bull |
| 3. ____ A group of beef or dairy cattle | C. Gelding |
| 4. ____ A male sheep of breeding age | D. Ram |
| 5. ____ A female swine who has given birth | E. Steer |
| 6. ____ A male beef animal of breeding age | F. Stallion |
| 7. ____ A male swine of breeding age | G. Boar |
| 8. ____ A mature female sheep | H. Sow |
| 9. ____ A castrated male horse | I. Ewe |
| 10. ____ A male horse of breeding age | J. Rooster |

Lesson 1: The Importance of Animals

Name _____

Services and Products

Objective: Students will identify animals that are important to people in a variety of ways.

Directions: Beside the use for each animal, list one appropriate product provided.

Animal	Use	Product
Beef	Food	
Dairy	Food	
Swine	Food	
Sheep	Product	
Poultry	Food	
Goats	Food	
Bison	Food	
Ostrich	Food	
Fish	Food	
Bees	Product	

