

Where does our food come from?



Who lives on a farm? What are the animals doing there? What does a farmer do? Where does milk come from and how does it end up on our cereal? Let's put our wellies on and find out! Through this project, we'll learn that a farm is an area of land used for rearing animals and growing crops. With a focus on the animals at the farm, we will learn that some of the food we eat is produced by animals and goes through a process before ending up at our local shop and on our plates.

To begin, we have planned an exciting trip to a local dairy farm where we we'll meet Farmer John and his herd of cows. The children will be able to explore where the cows eat, sleep, are milked and raise their calves.



Through the experience, the children will begin to understand that milk is produced by a cow and will learn that the production of milk begins at a farm.

We will follow the process from beginning to end, considering how the milk is made safe to drink and learning where it goes in between the farm and shop. We'll then journey to a local shop ourselves to see how the milk looks as a final product and the children will have the opportunity to practise important life skills such as sourcing and buying items. Can the children find any other products that contain milk? How does milk make cheese, yoghurt and cream? Back in the classroom, we'll answer those questions and use our purchases to make, taste and explore some of the products ourselves.



Alongside lessons, extra-curricular activities such as barn dancing, music therapy and pony riding, will immerse the children in the project's theme, and the environment will inspire the children's imagination as they pretend to be farmers and farm animals in the classroom. In the book corner there will be a range of fiction and non-fiction books as well as our project stories;





The children will learn to observe, explore, notice, predict, sequence, hypothesize and conclude again as we dive into another science-based project with a different focus! The children will be exposed to this language alongside the following project-related vocabulary;

Nouns; farm, farmer, field, straw, tractor, cow, bull, calve, milk, udder, barn, shop, dairy produce, countryside, herd

Verbs; to milk, to feed, to squeeze, to pasteurize, to buy, to make, to produce, to graze

Adjectives; wet, muddy, big, smelly, dirty, noisy, busy

Prepositions; in, at, under

Supporting your child at home. At home you could support your child with this project by:

- Making a trip to a local farm or going for a walk past fields with animals in them. Make comments about what the animals are doing there and open up a discussion.
- Have a look in your fridge at home, what foods contain milk? Can the children spot if and where *milk* is written in the ingredients?
- Go shopping with your child and practise finding dairy products. Comment on the similarities and differences between them. What do they notice about the produce? Do they notice that the produce all seems to be in the same aisle or place, for example?
- Have a go at making different foods and drinks from milk. You could make a milkshake, rustle up some pancakes or simply pour it on your cereal.