

Follow the Dairy Farmer

TEACHER GUIDE (Grade 4)



OUR MANITOBA FARMER!

Stefan Signer and his family run a 2nd generation dairy farm, Signer Dairy, near Kleefeld, Manitoba.

GOALS:

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

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.

Materials Needed:

1. Follow the Farmers Dairy Farm video - use either:
 - o Option 1 - [Signer Dairy Farm video](#)
 - o Option 2 - [Livestream event recording with video and Q&A recording](#) (1:03:43)
2. [Follow the Farmers Signer Dairy Kahoot](#)
 - o Plus, one device (tablet, laptop, computer, cell phone) per student or student team

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Foundations of Manitoba Agriculture:

- [Dairy](#)
- snapAG sheets from Agriculture in the Classroom - Canada:
- [Dairy Cows](#)

Lesson Plan

➔ 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 this complementary resource, [Design a Dairy Cow Habitat Worksheet](#)

