

Getting Ready for Farm Animals Week

Books: (Many available in my store)

On the Farm by Diane James
James Herriot's Treasure for Children
Beatrice's Goat by Page McBrier
Pancakes, Pancakes! By Eric Carle
Sheep out to Eat, Sandpiper paperbacks
The Milk Makers (Reading Rainbow Book)
Sounds on the Farm by Gail Donovan
1001 Things to Spot on the Farm (Usborn Books)
Tille Lays an Egg by Terry Golson
Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown
On the Farm by David Elliott

Songs and Fingerplays:

Here is the barn (Form a roof shape with your hands)

Where I like to go (Walk in place)
It's as tall as a tree (Point up overhead)
And cozy, you know (Hug body with arms)
Here is the barn, (Make a roof shape with your hands)
I'll go there with you (Walk in place)
To pet a sweet lamb (Pretend to pet a lamb)
And cuddle it, too! (Pretend to hug a lamb)

Five little pigs (to the Elephant on the Spider's Web tune)

Five little pigs rolled in the mud
Squishy, squashy, squishy squashy felt so good.
The farmer took one piggy out.
"Oink, Oink, oink," the pig did shout!

Continue with four, three, so forth, then...
No little pigs rolled in the mud.
They all looked so very clean and good.
The farmer turned his back and then,
Those silly pigs rolled in the mud again.

I'm a little Piggy (sung to "I'm a little Teapot")

I'm a little piggy
Short and stout
Here are my ears
Here is my snout
When I see the
Farmer in the dell,
I oink, oink, oink
and wiggle my tail.

Over in the Barnyard to the tune of "down by the station"

Over in the barnyard
Early in the morning,
See the yellow chickies
Standing in a row.
See the busy farmer
Giving them breakfast.
Cheep, cheep, cheep, cheep.
Off they go.
(Substitute other barnyard animals.)

Baa-baa Black sheep, Have you any wool?

Yes, sir, yes sir! Three bags full!
One for my master, one for my dame,
One for the little boy who lives down the lane,
Baa-baa, black sheep have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir, three bags full!

Dramatic Play: Post pictures of baking, showing eggs and milk next to a mixing bowl. Put a clean milk carton and empty egg carton in toy kitchen area. Add pie tins, fry pan with spatula, muffin tin, etc. in toy kitchen area – toy size, or yours.

Farm Play: Add buckets, work gloves, old saddle, dishpan for feeding chickens, work hats, step ladders (to go to hay loft) Put a shoe box filled with Easter "grass" to pretend to feed farm animals.

Blocks: Put toy farm animals, tractors, dump trucks, farm fences, trees, troughs, and people in blocks area. Hang pictures of farm activities, including a farmer milking a cow.

Materials to gather:

1. Pictures of barns, animals, sun, fence, etc. – cut from magazines. Construction paper, crayons.
2. wool: examine wool clippings, lanolin, dyed yarn, yarn spun into thread, wool cloth, sheepskin, wool mittens or socks
3. Pig shape cut from pink construction paper, shaving cream, brown paint.

Raising Creative Children by Lorelei Sieja

4. Poster board cut into pig shape, pink tissue paper, watered glue, paint brush
5. Farm puzzle
6. Yellow finger paint, white finger paint paper (freezer paper okay)
7. Sort and match. If you have adult/baby animal toys, child matches correct baby up to parent. Or try to match the animal up with what it gives us: toy cow, milk. Toy sheep, wool. Etc.
8. Buckets, bean bags.
9. Construction paper, yellow craft feathers, orange beak, a wiggly eye
10. Large ball, stick or cane
11. Cow shape, black washable ink pad
12. Old blanket
13. Goat shape, gray paint, old toothbrush, sandbox sifting toy, or square of screening.
14. 9x12 piece of black felt. Small felt shapes cut from many colors, circles, triangles, squares, etc. Child builds animals from shapes, rearranging felt shapes on the solid piece.
15. Video about a farm, if unable to take field trip
16. Do you have Tonka type trucks to play in the dirt with? Check yard sales for used toys this summer
17. Farmer shape cut from paper, fabric scraps, wiggly eyes. Six sheets of construction paper to make a book. Yarn or stapler to attach pages.

Animal shapes at the end of unit are from First School's free coloring pages.

Farm Animals: Monday

Date: _____

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words: cow, horse, duck, goose, pig, sheep, goat, trough, stable, pig pen, poultry, livestock, pasture, field, dairy, fence, farm, hay, silo, stall, barn, herd. Teach: "Here is the barn." Sing Baa-baa black sheep, if child remembers that from before.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Look at examples of animal feed with a magnifying glass, like corn, hay, wheat, oats, dog food. Let child explore eating without using his hands. Substitute shredded wheat for hay, candy corn for corn, animal crackers for dog food.
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Pick up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack: (Animal Crackers, anyone?)
10:15	Outside time. Use wagon and a trike like a farm tractor. Could clean up twigs from the "farm".
11:15	Project: Barn collage. Cut out pictures of barns, animals, water, etc, and glue to lg. green construction paper. Add crayon finishing touches. (Adult can pre-cut pictures for younger children).
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time: Lg. Balls. Let child pretend to be a goat and head-butt the ball.
4:30	Inside, clean up, potty, wash
4:45	Project: Muddy Pigs. Cut pink pig from construction paper. Squirt out shaving cream and tint it brown with paint. Child can help their pig play in the "mud".
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Farm Animals: Tuesday

Date: _____

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words. Teach “Five Little Pigs”.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Examine wool, or do a farm puzzle.
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Pick up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time. Take small farm animals out to sand box. Bring a pail of water. Use a hand shovel or trowel to build a sandy farm.
11:15	Project: Pink Pigs. Cut a piggy shape from white poster board. Cover it with pink tissue paper and glue. Don’t fluff up the tissue paper this time – lay it flat and “paint” the tissue paper on with watered glue and a paint brush. Overlap the tissue paper. If you have several different shades of pink, that’s even better. SAVE for Friday project!
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time: Pretend to be a horse. Or throw an old saddle over a log for a horse. Wear cowboy hats.
4:30	Inside, clean up, potty, wash
4:45	Project: Finger paint with yellow paint on white paper. (Freezer paper works well). Let picture dry and save for tomorrow.
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Farm Animals: Wednesday

Date: _____

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words. Teach “I’m a little piggy”.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Sorting game. Adult to baby, or animal to it’s product.
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Pick up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time. Bean Bag Toss. Label empty Ice Cream buckets (or any available container) with a number – what ever numbers your youngster doesn’t yet know. 1, 2, 3 for younger children, up to 12 for older preschoolers. Toss the bean bag in a bucket. If child makes it, he calls out the number on that bucket.
11:15	Project: Parent cuts a duck shape from the yellow finger painting made yesterday, and mounts it to a background sheet of construction paper. Child can glue a few yellow feathers on to his duck. Glue on an orange triangle beak, a wiggly eye or make a black dot for eye. SAVE for Friday project
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time: Drive pig to market. Use a large ball for a pig. Child drives the pig across the yard or through an obstacle course by pushing the ball along with a stick or cane.
4:30	Inside, clean up, potty, wash
4:45	Project: Cow picture. Cut a cow shape out of white paper. Use washable ink pad, stick black finger prints all over cow for spots. SAVE for Friday project
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Week Thursday

Date: _____

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words. Sing “Down by the Barnyard” or other farm song. Play Farmer in the Dell.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Playdough (If you have, or can afford it, Playdo makes a farm set to make horses, cows, and chickens out of playdough. Playdo hay, etc. Really cute)
8:15	Free Play
9:45	Pick up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time. Pig Roll. Spread a blanket on the ground, encourage child to roll across blanket like a pig in the mud. Later, spread blanket over chair or table to make a dog house or barn for pretend play.
11:15	Project: Goat. Cut goat shape from paper. Child splatters gray paint on it, using paint, screen, and old toothbrush. (I never have screen, but a sandbox sifter will work) Save.
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time: Trikes, wagon, farm play again – after reading farm stories, and talking about farm animals for several days, see if the play is more involved than it was on Monday.
4:30	Inside, clean up, potty, wash
4:45	Project: Horse. Cut out horse shape from paper, color it brown with crayons, pastels, or colored pencils. SAVE.
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.

Week Friday

Date: _____

7:00	Wake up, go potty. Get dressed, Brush hair
7:30	Do Calendar activity. Practice vocabulary words, sing songs. Talk about the field trip to the farm.
7:45	Breakfast
8:00	Table Activities: Felt board shapes
8:15	Free play: Unless you need to leave now for field trip to farm
9:45	Pick up toys. Go potty, wash up for snack
10:00	Snack
10:15	Outside time. Take a field trip to a farm! If not possible, select a good video about the farm from your children's library to share with your child.
11:15	Project: spend time at the farm.
12:00	Lunch. Go potty, read a story, sing & cuddle
1:00	Nap
3:00	Up from nap. Make bed, go potty, wash.
3:15	Snack
3:30	Outside time: Dig in the dirt. Move dirt around with Tonka trucks. Add water for a good, muddy time.
4:30	Inside, clean up, potty, wash
4:45	Project: Cut out farmer shape. Paste felt or fabric onto figure for clothes. Glue Farmer to sheet of construction paper. Print: Farmer, Farmer, what do you see? On the page. Glue horse, cow, pig, duck, goat to other sheets, print "I see a horse (cow, duck, etc.) looking at me." Gather all pages together into a book by stapling, or punch holes and string through with yarn. Have your child read the book with you.
5:15	Clean up. Read a story, free play time
6:00	Dinner
6:30	Put away food, load dishwasher
7:00	Bath time. Get in Pajamas, read stories, or play a quiet game together
8:00	Bed.











