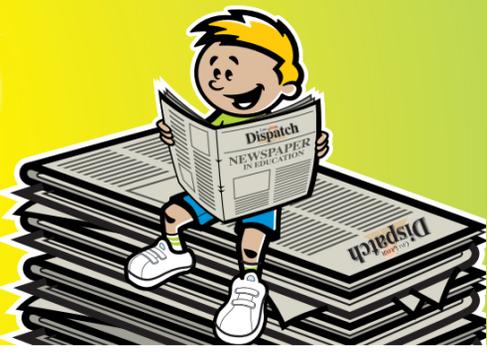
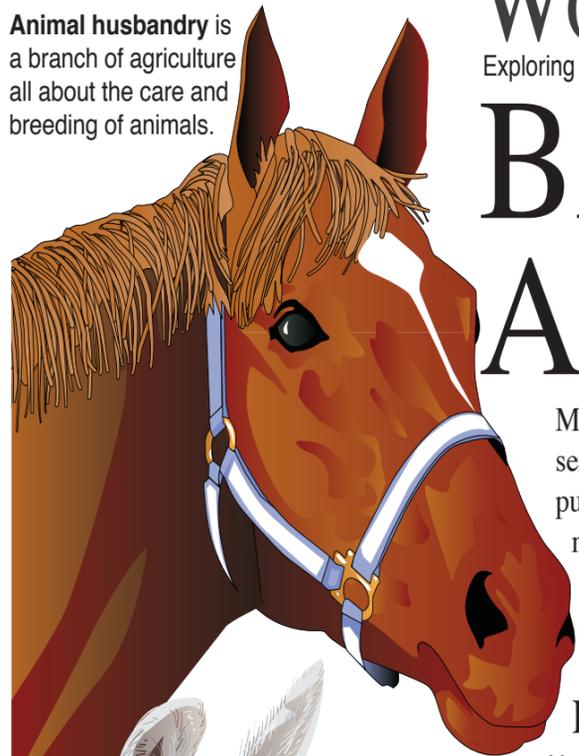


KEEPING STUDENTS WELL INFORMED AT HOME DURING SUMMER VACATION



WORLD OF WONDER Exploring the realms of history, science, nature and technology BARNYARD ANIMALS

Animal husbandry is a branch of agriculture all about the care and breeding of animals.



Most animals on a farm serve more than one purpose. Grazing animals keep the weeds down, and their manure can be used to fertilize fields.

Horses

Horses were domesticated 6,000 years ago. Before the invention of the tractor, horses did the heavy work on a farm. Today, most farm horses are used as transportation for the farmer and to help move cattle or sheep.

Llamas

Llamas are peaceful, hardy animals. Their thick coats allow them to thrive in extreme climates. Over the centuries, they have provided meat, wool and fuel and have served as pack animals to the people of northwest Argentina, northern Chile and the high Andes of Peru.

Llamas are good guard animals and can be used to protect sheep from coyotes, foxes and other predators.

Dogs

Dogs have been domesticated for thousands of years. Many working dog breeds live on farms. Some are trained to herd sheep or cattle. The border collie is a good example of a herding dog. Other dogs work by protecting livestock from predators.

Cats

Farm cats are usually somewhat feral and live mostly outdoors, sheltering in barns and sheds. They are helpful to farmers because they keep rodent populations low.

Cattle

Cattle are ruminants (cud-chewing mammals). Females are called **cows**, males are called **bulls** and offspring are **calves**. Domesticated by early Neolithic people, cattle have been raised for their strength, their hides, their meat and their milk.

Donkeys

Also known as **burros** or **asses**, donkeys are members of the Equidae family, which also includes horses and zebras. Domesticated for more than 5,000 years, these beasts of burden have served humans by carrying, pulling and plowing. In many countries around the world, donkeys continue to play an important role as working animals or as companion pets.

Sheep & goats

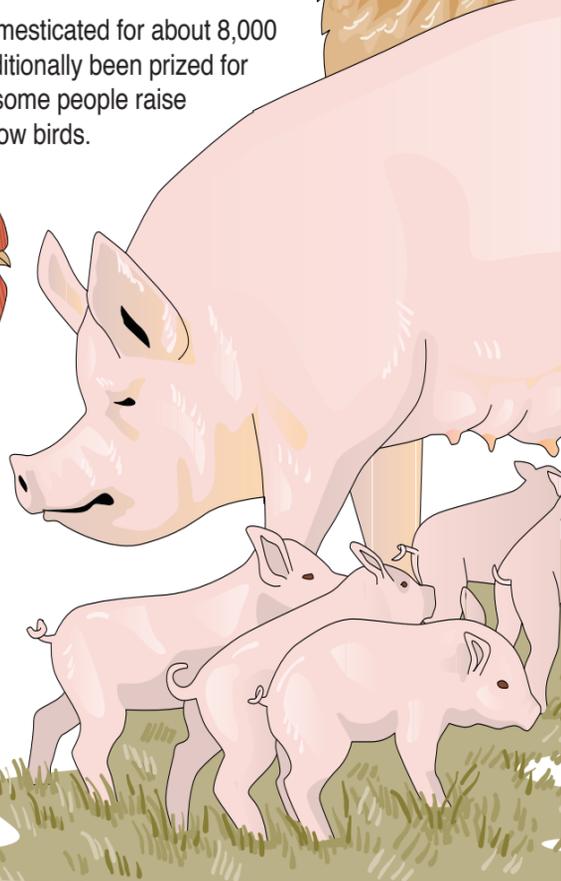
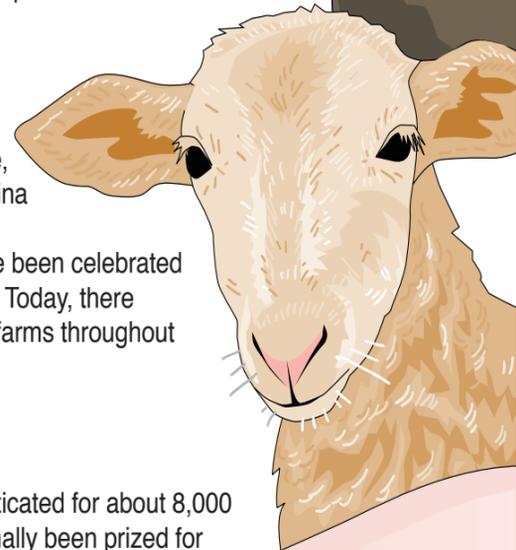
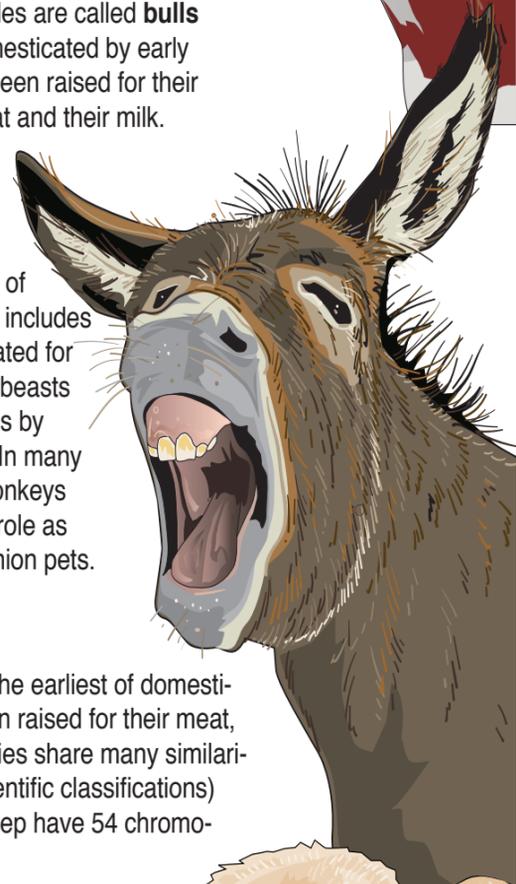
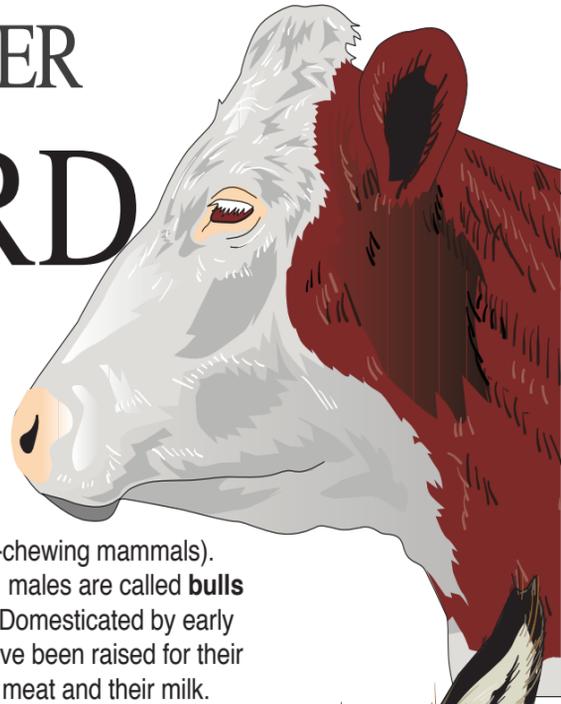
Sheep and goats are among the earliest of domesticated animals. Both have been raised for their meat, fleece and milk. The two species share many similarities, but their taxonomies (scientific classifications) are separate and distinct. Sheep have 54 chromosomes, while goats have 60.

Pigs

Also known as **hogs** or **swine**, pigs were domesticated in China about 9,000 years ago. These intelligent, social animals have been celebrated and raised as food for people. Today, there are about 860 million pigs on farms throughout the world.

Chickens

The chicken has been domesticated for about 8,000 years. Chickens have traditionally been prized for their meat and eggs, but some people raise chickens as pets or as show birds.



SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; <https://www.mspca.org>; <https://www.worldanimalfoundation.com>; <https://animalcorner.org>

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