

Try this with:

- Levels 1 - 3
- Students who like to work collaboratively

Learning areas:

- Social Sciences
- Science
- The Arts

Key words and phrases:

- Farm
- Dairy farm
- Milking
- Seasons
- Spring
- Summer
- Autumn
- Winter
- Reward

Key competencies:

- Thinking
- Relating to others

Resources required:



- www.godairy.co.nz/life-on-the-farm/a-year-on-the-farm
- Rosie's Calf Club game
- www.rosiesworld.co.nz
- www.godairyeducation.co.nz

Values:

- Innovation, inquiry and curiosity
- Integrity

Principles:

- Inclusion
- High expectations
- Coherence

Essential question

What does everyday life on a dairy farm involve?

What are we learning?

- What happens on a dairy farm.
- The different parts of a dairy farm.
- How people on a farm interact with the animals and the land.

Motivation

- Explore the term 'dairy farm' and come up with a definition of this. You could use pictures of cows and milking sheds to give clues.
- Introduce the students to the concept of seasons. What do they already know?
- Explore <http://www.rosiesworld.co.nz/about-farms> and <http://www.godairy.co.nz/life-on-the-farm/a-year-on-the-farm>
- Identify what happens on a dairy farm and categorise this under each season.
- Read a selection of picture books to generate discussion about the people who live on farms, and their lives.

Here are some we recommend:

- *Farmer John's Tractor* by Sally Sutton
- *Young MacDonald had a Farm* by Anna Crosbie
- *Hetty Hackett's Farm* by Jill Eggleton
- *Gypsy Day on the Farm* by Jennifer Beck & Lisa Allen
- *Cow Power* by Kim Riley
- *Old MacDonald's Farm* illustrated by Donovan Bixley

The challenge

- Students to complete Rosie's Calf Club game in groups of four. Take it in turns to do the daily jobs and look after the virtual calf. The groups might want to complete the final quiz and together.
- Over the duration of the game collate a daily list of rewards each group earns for their farm.
- Complete a class brainstorm of everything that is involved with dairy farming. *Categorise into people, animals, jobs and equipment.*
- Rewrite *Old MacDonald had a Farm* using ideas from the class brainstorm. *Each group could contribute a verse from a different category.*
- Turn these in to a class book. Students could illustrate the book with printed 'screenshots' from their Calf Club farms and their own drawings or photos.

Rosie would love to see your versions of *Old MacDonald had a Farm*.

Why not send them to her? rosie@rosiesworld.co.nz

Success criteria

- Students can use the *Old MacDonald had a Farm* original to check they have their verse written correctly with just their own personalised bit changed.
- The students will earn their Calf Club certificate and virtual ribbons when they complete the 12 days of Rosie's Calf Club game.

Assessment

- Students can check each others work using the format of the original Old MacDonald as well as the class brainstorm to check the new content is relevant.
- Have they used a variety of the aspects of farm life to add to their verse?
- Are the new verses relevant to life on a farm?
- Can they articulate what they know about life on a dairy farm?