

Lesson 3: Dairy and Our Environment: Going Round and Round

Lesson Introduction

Dairy farms play a very important role in protecting our environment. Farmers take good care of the land where they live and work. They use environmentally friendly practices on their farms to make sure that the air and water are kept clean and healthy. The lesson will also highlight the career of being a dairy herd manager.

Lesson Objectives

- Students will explain the role that dairy farmers play in protecting our environment.
- Students will name three ways dairy farmers recycle manure on their farms.
- Students will identify two ways consumers can take care of the environment.
- Students will list the skills, education, and responsibilities of being a dairy herd manager.

Time: 45 – 60 minutes

Standards: See the [Discover Dairy website](#) for complete listing by grade level.

Vocabulary

- Crops, dairy herd manager, environment, field, manure, methane, methane digester, nutrients, recycle, and soil

Materials Needed

- Computer
- Lesson Presentation: [PDF](#), [Canva](#)
- Multimedia Projector and Screen
- Activity Sheets
- Writing Prompt
- Internet Access
- [Discover Dairy in Our Environment Video](#)
- [Introducing Cow Pots: A Better Biodegradable Video](#)
- [Dairy Herd Manager Career Spotlight](#)
- Pencils

Activities

- [In Our Environment Video Discussion Guide \(With and Without Word Bank\)](#)
- [Milk Carton Recycling Activity](#)
- [Word Search Puzzle](#)
- [Writing Prompt](#) (Picture and No Picture)
- [Kahoot! Game](#)

Procedure

Introduction (10 minutes)

- Go over the essential vocabulary terms and their meanings for this lesson.
- **Activating Strategy:** Let's discover how dairy farmers recycle water and manure on their farms by watching the video, [Discover Dairy in Our Environment](#).

Going Round and Round (8-15 minutes)

- Introduction
- Discuss the ways dairy farmers recycle manure on their farms using slides 5 to 11 and [Introducing Cow Pots: A Better Biodegradable](#) video.
- Closure: You learned about how dairy farmers recycle manure and take care of the environment on their dairy farms every day. Tell us one way that dairy farmers recycle their cow manure.

Career Spotlight: Dairy Herd Manager (6 minutes)

- Introduction
- Facilitate the Career Spotlight on Dairy Herd Managers. Use the [video](#) and slides 12-17 to discuss the responsibilities and education.
- Closure: Dairy Herd Managers care for both cows and people on dairy farms.
 - Tell us one way that dairy herd managers care for dairy cattle.
 - Are you interested in being a dairy herd manager when you grow up?

Summative Activity (30 minutes)

- Do an introduction using slides 18-19.
- Pass out the Milk Carton Recycling Activity Directions and materials to students. Allow students class time to recycle their milk carton into a bird feeder or seed pot.
- Walk around, offering help and answering questions as needed.
- Go over ways students can recycle things and protect the environment.
- **Lesson Closure:** Today we discussed how dairy farmers recycle things like manure and water on their dairy farm. But we also can recycle here at school and at home. Tell us one way you can take care of the environment like dairy farmers do.

Extension Activities (10-15 minutes)

- Other activities such as the [Word Search Puzzle](#), [Writing Prompt](#), and [Kahoot! Game](#) can be used instead of or in addition to the summative activity.

Career Spotlight

[Dairy Herd Manager](#)

Summative Assessment

Students will recycle a milk carton into a usable bird feeder or seed pot or complete another activity to a mastery level of 80% or better.

