

Read each of the scenarios below and circle whether the situation involves recycling or not:

- ◆ A farmer stores the water he uses to wash his milking equipment in a tank and then uses it to wash down the alleys on which the cows stand.



- ◆ A farmer drains the water he uses to wash his milking equipment into a holding tank that is used to irrigate the crops.



- ◆ A farmer lets the water he uses to wash his equipment go down the drain. The drain empties into the manure storage pit and eventually is spread onto the field.



The nutrients in manure and water are two things recycled on a dairy farm. Circle which one fits the following descriptions.

1. It is used to produce electricity for the local community.



2. It is used to irrigate the crops in the field.



3. It is used to quickly cool the milk from the cows.



4. It is used to fertilize the crops in the field.



**Writing Enrichment:** On a separate piece of paper, compare and contrast how you recycle at your house with how a dairy farmer recycles on the farm. What things do you recycle, and what things does the farmer recycle? How are each recycled?



# Worksheet 3.2: Dairy and the Environment

Answer the questions below and complete the graph as described.

1. Name two things that can be recycled on a dairy farm:

Water                      Manure/Waste

2. Name two things that cow waste or manure can be recycled into:

fertilizer                      electricity

3. What government agency has outlined regulations for farmers to follow to protect the environment?

Environmental Protection Agency

**HIGHER LEARNING ACTIVITY:** Use the graph below to record data from the additional classroom activity outlined in the lesson plan. Chart how many marbles each role player has left in their bag and label each axis accordingly.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
COW																
FEED																
FIELD																
ELECTRICITY																
COMMUNITY																
BUSINESSES																
MANURE																
METHANE DIGESTER																
FOOD																
MILK																
US																
FARM																

LABEL Y AXIS:

LABEL X AXIS: \_\_\_\_\_

