

Recommended for children in grades five and six.

Activity: A Mixed-Up Story

Preparation: Photocopy ten copies of the handout. Set five copies aside to pass out. For the remaining five copies, cut apart the words that appear at the bottom. Each handout that is cut up will give you one set of words. As each set of words is cut apart into strips, put them in an envelope. You should finish with five envelopes.

Participant learner outcome: Children will demonstrate their understanding of farm animal behavior, while practicing the use of context clues.

1. Divide participants into five groups. Pass out one worksheet and one envelope containing a set of words to each group. Tell participants they are to turn over all the slips of paper so the words do not show. Then they are to select one person in the group to read the story aloud. Each time the reader comes to a blank, he or she should turn over one slip of paper and read what it says. Explain that this will make for a fun nonsense story.
2. Have the groups arrange the words in the correct order to tell the story properly.

Answers: 1. jobs; 2. friends; 3. hay; 4. hello; 5. mothers; 6. fields; 7. people; 8. pigs; 9. dirty; 10 chickens; 11. sticks; 12. dogs.



A Mixed-Up Story

Directions: 1. Have one person in your group cut apart the slips of paper with words on them that appear at the bottom of this page. Turn all the slips of paper over so that you cannot see the words on them.

2. Have someone in the group read the story aloud. Each time the reader comes to a blank, he or she should turn over one slip of paper and read what it says.

3. When the story is finished, turn over all the slips of paper. As a group, put the slips of paper in the correct order so that the story makes sense. Have someone in the group read the story aloud with the blanks filled in correctly.

My Farm Animal Friends

My uncle John has an educational farm in the country where kids can go to meet and learn about farm animals. I really like to go there because he has so many animals that I can make friends with. One of my favorite things to do is to help feed the animals. Uncle John says that making sure the animals have enough good food and water is one of the most important ___1___ on the farm. I get up early in the morning and go out to feed the animals and make new ___2___. First I go to see the chickens. I throw feed to them that I carry in a big bucket. The mother hen shows her baby chicks how to peck at the ground for food with their beaks. Chickens are amazing animals. They can recognize and remember about 100 other chickens. And they show their feelings with a lot of different calls and movements. After I feed the chickens I go out to the pasture where I feed ___3___ to the cows. When they see me coming they call out a loud moo to say ___4___. I give them lots of fresh water to drink. One of the cows just had a baby calf. If several calves are born in one herd, their ___5___ will share babysitting duties. After I feed the cows I walk out to the ___6___ where all of the pigs spend their day. Some ___7___ think that ___8___ are ___9___ but that isn't true. Pigs don't sweat like people do. They keep their skin cool on hot afternoons by covering themselves with mud. I laugh at one of the pigs because he is sleeping, and one of the ___10___ is standing on his back. I guess that they must be pretty good friends too. Pigs keep their sleeping areas very clean. When they build a new bed, they let their piglets help to pick up litter and ___11___. Piglets love to play together, and when they are older, they like to chase each other for fun. Pigs are very smart too. Uncle says that pigs are even smarter than ___12___. I really love farm animals a lot! They make great friends!

jobs	hay	dirty	pigs	chickens	fields
friends	hello	mothers	sticks	dogs	people