



Animal Comparisons

While students are working with or looking at the animals on the Farm, the adult can promote discussions about each animal. How many toes? How many legs? Notice full udders and teats of the mothers and compare the loose udders of those not nursing. What kind of teeth--upper, lower, or both? What kind of body covering--feathers, fur(wool), scales, or hair? Notice the length of tails and ears. Why do the farmers raise these animals? Transportation, milk, meat, fur, as pets?

The following chart provides a way of organizing information about each Farm animal that results from your discussions and observations. This sort of chart is an excellent way of teaching children to organize a mass of information so that it can be used in a useful way. The careful observation that it takes to collect this information is an important scientific skill.

You may want each student to keep their own chart or fill out the chart as a small group.