Humane Education Advocates Reaching Teachers (HEART) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to develop a generation of compassionate youth who create positive change for animals, people, and the natural world. As an award-winning full-service humane education provider in New York City, Chicago, and Indianapolis, HEART conducts in-school and out-of-school student programs, offers professional development programs for teachers both nationally and internationally, develops educational resources, and advocates for the implementation and expansion of humane education.

As the nation’s first farm animal rescue and protection organization, Farm Sanctuary has cared for thousands of animals at its sanctuaries in New York and California. The organization has educated millions of people about the plight of farm animals and the negative impacts of factory farming on health, the environment, and social justice, and it advocates for laws and policies that prevent suffering and promote compassion.

Farm Sanctuary’s humane education program educates thousands of students each year through classroom presentations, inspires student action through our Youth Leadership Council, and empowers teachers with standards-aligning curriculum on issues of our food system.
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## About the Guide
An introduction to the guide’s purpose and the pedagogy behind the activities.  

## Lessons and Activities

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<td>Students listen to stories about rescued farm animals. They practice their reading comprehension by answering who, what, where, when, and how questions and by developing their own questions. Based on what they learn from the stories, they discuss how they think farm animals should be treated.</td>
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Exploring the Lives of Farm Animals

What Do Farm Animals Want You to Know? (K–1)
Students create cow, pig, or chicken puppets. Using their puppets to “speak” as the animals, they share what they think farm animals want people to know about them.

Learning Stations

Feeding Time (K–3)
Students learn to care for the needs of farm animals by pretending to feed them using sensory bins filled with dried grains that represent the farm animals’ food.

Mud Painting (K–3)
Students learn why mud is important to the physical and mental health of pigs. Then, they create their own “mud,” which they use to make paintings.

Building a Sanctuary (K–3)
Using sculpting clay or building blocks, students build their own models of a farm animal sanctuary and discuss how their creations meet the needs of farm animals.

Taking Action Projects

Enrichment Toys for Chickens (K–3)
Students make enrichment toys for chickens to donate to farm animal sanctuaries. They are encouraged to use their creativity and construction skills to create fun, interesting toys that will enrich the lives of rescued birds.

Educational Posters About Farm Animals (K–3)
Students demonstrate what they learned about farm animals by creating posters that explain how people can help farm animals and why it is important to do so.

Wholesome Snacks (K–3)
Students learn how to make guacamole and fruit smoothies from scratch and learn about the benefits of eating wholesome, plant-based foods.
Educator Resources

Tips for Selecting a Children's Book About Farm Animals
Learn how to identify problematic messages about farm animals in children’s literature, get tips for selecting books that accurately portray farm animals’ lives in an age-appropriate way, and review a list of suggested books curated by humane educators.

Appendix
Find resources about farm animals and related issues. These resources can be used directly with students or to help you, as an educator, to learn more about these topics.

Standards

Standards, Competencies, and Skills Charts
See which standards, competencies, and skills are addressed in each lesson, activity, learning station, and project.

Standards, Competencies, and Skills Index
Review the full details for each standard and competency. See which standards, competencies, and skills are addressed in each lesson, activity, learning station, and project.

Modifications for Virtual Learning
A chart that provides guidance and suggestions for how to utilize the activities and lessons in a remote learning environment.

We Want to Hear From You!
Teachers, parents, and/or guardians who have implemented at least one activity from Exploring the Lives of Farm Animals: Lessons that Teach Compassion are eligible for a $50 Amazon gift card by completing our curriculum survey and submitting at least three photos per lesson taught to Farm Sanctuary & HEART. These photos may be of 1) students in action participating in the lesson, 2) completed student worksheets, and/or 3) completed student projects from the lesson. Please e-mail education@farmsanctuary.org for the survey and to submit your photos.