

Follow the Beef Farmer

TEACHER GUIDE (Grade 4)



GOALS:

Students will:

- Explore a Manitoba beef farm to discover where their food comes from and how it is produced.
- Identify all the components of an animal habitat and how the farmers provide those components for their cows.
- Discover how the beef cow is well adapted to live in Manitoba.
- Identify the nutrients provided by beef and its place on the Canada Food Guide plate.
- Identify some of the careers involved in producing sustainable, safe, and nutritious beef.

OUR MANITOBA BEEF FARMER!

Andre Steppler and his family run a 3rd generation farm, Steppler Farms Ltd. near Miami, Manitoba.

Along with beef cattle, they farm grain, and honeybee hives.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Grade 4 Science Cluster 1: Habitats and Communities	
4-1-02	Recognize that each plant and animal depends on a specific habitat to meet its needs.
4-1-03	Identify the components of an animal habitat. Include: food, water, living space, cover/shelter.
4-1-04	Identify physical and behavioural adaptations of animals and plants, and infer how these adaptations help them to survive in a specific habitat
4-1-09	Recognize that plant and animal populations interact within a community.

Materials Needed:

1. Follow the Beef Farmer video - use either:
 - o Option 1 - [video only](#) (7:02)
 - o Option 2 - [Livestream event recording with video and Q&A with Andre Steppler](#) (59:07)
- [Follow the Beef Farmer Kahoot](#) (optional)
- o Plus, one device (tablet, laptop, computer, cell phone) per student or student team
- [All About Beef Student Activity Booklet](#) (optional)
– 1 per student

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

For a quick overview of beef production in Manitoba check out the beef information on our [Foundations of Manitoba Agriculture hub](#).

Lesson Plan

➔ Activate

BEFORE SHOWING THE VIDEO

- Discuss and/or review with your students what a **habitat** is.
- Ask students to:
 - Make a list of all the things a beef cow would need in its habitat to survive and thrive?
 - Answer the question: Since beef cows are **domestic animals** and not wild animals, who is responsible for providing a habitat for the beef cows that meets all their needs?

➔ Acquire

DURING THE VIDEO

- Have students watch for:
 - Ways that farmer Andre meets all the needs of his cattle and keeps their habitat healthy.
 - Adaptations that cows have that help them survive in their Manitoba farm habitat.

➔ Assess

AFTER THE VIDEO

- Have a class discussion about the cow habitat on Andre's farm. What does Andre provide for his cows? Where do the cows live year-round. How are they adapted to be outside year-round?
- Have students complete the [Follow the Beef Farmer Kahoot](#)
 - Students can play individually or in teams.
 - Each individual student or team will need a device and kahoot.it open in their browser.
- Have students complete the [All About Beef Student Activity Booklet](#).

Habitat is where the animal or plant lives and is able to meet its basic needs.

Domestic animals are animals that:

- Have been selectively bred by humans over many generations
- Are genetically distinct from their wild ancestors
- Depend on humans for food, water, and shelter

Examples include: cows, pigs, sheep, chickens, dogs, cats