



Beef Cow or Dairy Cow?

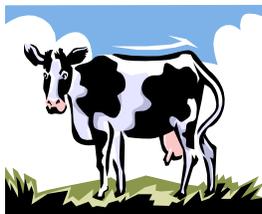


Cows are large, heavy farm animals. They are raised for two different purposes. Did you ever wonder how they are different? Let's see what we can discover!



Beef cattle are raised by farmers for their meat. Their bodies are thicker and they have shorter legs than dairy cows. From beef cattle, we get wonderful things to eat.

Beef cattle provide steak, beef burgers, and roast beef. The parts of beef cattle that we don't eat are turned into other useful things. From beef cattle we get leather baseballs and gloves. Gelatin from beef cattle is used in making marshmallows and gummy worms. Fat from beef cattle may be found in soap. Beef cattle give us food and a whole lot more.



Dairy cattle are raised by farmers for their milk. Dairy cows have large udders, which contain milk. At least twice a day, the farmer milks the dairy cows. Milk from the cow's udder is piped into a holding tank on the farm. A trucker comes to the farm to pick up the milk. At the processing plant, milk is homogenized and pasteurized. Then, the milk is made into many things you like to eat. From the dairy cow's milk, we get cream, butter, cheese, yogurt, and ice cream too!



Even though beef cattle and dairy cows are different in some ways, they are alike in other ways. They both eat grass, hay, corn, and soybeans. Sometimes they graze in pastures and at other times they are fed by farmers. They both provide foods we all enjoy!

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Name _____ Date _____

Use the Venn diagram to list ways beef cows and dairy cows are alike and different.

