

Sheep

Objective: To introduce children to different breeds of sheep as well as the body parts of a sheep and byproducts of sheep

Materials:

- Small Paper Plates
- Poster board
- Velcro
- Cut-outs with names of sheep body parts for poster board
- Glue
- Scissors
- Magnets
- Ribbon
- Cut outs (below)
- Products from sheep (shampoo, conditioner, tape, marshmallows, makeup, baseball, thread, hand cream, etc. See below.)

Byproducts: 10 Minutes

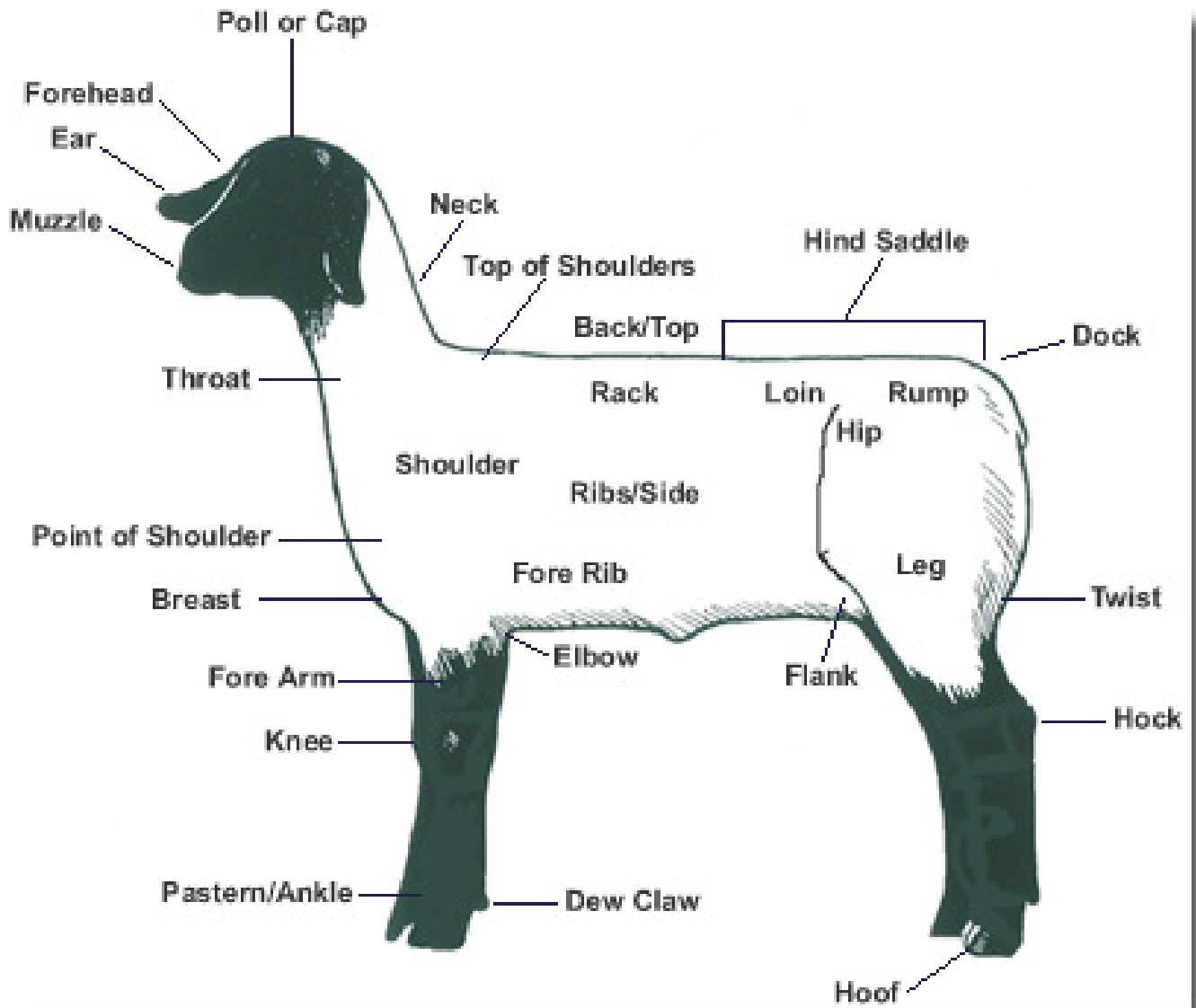
Pass around pictures of different products produced from sheep...do not let children know what connects the pictures and allow them to guess the common thread.

Many will be surprised at the variety of things that can be made from sheep.

- From horn, hooves, and bones - shampoo and conditioner, bone china, collagen and bone for plastic surgery, horn and bone handles, bone jewelry, adhesive tape, gelatin capsules, bone charcoal pencils, marshmallows, piano keys, gelatin desserts (ice cream, yogurt, and jello), film
- Minerals from manure
- Fat - makeup, cosmetics, tanning lotion, shaving cream, and hand cream
- Wool - baseballs, thread

Parts of a Sheep: 20 Minutes

Make a poster board with the body of a sheep. Velcro cut-outs labeling the parts of the sheep. Then take off the words and allow students to place them where they think they go on the body.



<http://openclipart.org/media/files/ArtFavor/882> Blank sheep to use for poster board

- Then discuss various sheep breeds and show pictures of these breeds

Suffolk



- Used primarily for meat production
- Originated in England
- Shown in youth and adult shows
- Rare breed
- Have a black face
- Both male and females have horns

Shropshire



- Some say they have ‘wool from the tip of their nose to the tips of their toes’
- Their fleece can weigh 6 to 10 pounds
- No horns
- Gentle nature and medium size make it popular for young exhibitors

Columbia



- Heavy, white fleece
- One of the first breeds of sheep developed in the United States

Rambouillet



- Used for both wool and meat
- Developed in France from the Spanish Merino sheep
- Rams have horns, ewes are hornless

Cheviot



- Originated on the Cheviot Hills, on the borders of France and Scotland
- No wool on face or legs
- Hornless
- Hard, black feet keep them from getting foot rot

Southdown



- Developed in England before they moved to Pennsylvania
- Can adapt to wet and varied climates
- Hornless
- Gray- brown face and lower legs

Dorset



- All white
- There are more hornless than Dorsets with horns
- Second largest breed in the U.S., only less than Suffolk sheep

Hampshire



- Noted for their rapid birth and efficient feed conversion
- Black face and legs
- Popular meat breed

Paper Plate Sheep Craft: 15 Minutes

- Spread glue all over the front of a plate and glue on pieces of cotton balls. They can even rip the cotton balls in half to make the lamb look "fluffier"
- Let them cut out the pieces to the face and ears and glue them on in the proper place (found below)
- Optional: Tie a bow out of ribbon and attach in front of one of the ears.
- Attach a magnet on the back and they can hang it on the refrigerator

Fun Facts about Sheep: 10 Minutes

- Sheep usually live to be about eight years old but can sometimes live to be as old as twenty!
- There are 914 different breeds of sheep in the world, with 35 breeds in the U.S.
- Sheep have rectangular pupils.
- Sheep have oil glands between their toes.
- As they are grass eaters, sheep only have bottom teeth.
- Each sheep has a different face, just as humans do, and flockmates recognize each other, even if they've been separated for years.
- Sheep can see 270 degrees around (three-quarters of a circle!), without turning their heads. Sheep also have better vision than cats and dogs do.
- Sheep prefer to climb uphill rather than going downhill, they don't like to get their feet wet, and if they sense danger, they tend to walk backwards, so they can keep their eye on the "enemy."
- New Zealand farmers have to pay a "gas tax" because of the methane emissions (gas) that come from their millions of sheep. Methane gas is a threat to the Earth's ozone layer.

Marshmallow Sheep Craft: 15 minutes

- Glue two marshmallows together (flat side to flat side) to create the body
- Make legs by cutting a marshmallow in half lengthwise and then cutting the halves in half again longwise (this will create all four legs)
- Glue the legs with the rounded sides out
- To make hooves cut another marshmallow in half long ways and cut one of the halves again - the quarters should be cut in half again to make four hooves. These are then glued to the ends of the legs and painted black
- For the head, glue a marshmallow to the body

- Use foam or felt and glue them to the back of the head for ears.
- Eyes, nose, and mouth can be drawn on with marker
- All over the body where you wish to place the fur, smear glue
- Then take little pieces of white yarn and glue them onto the body for fur
- Finished product should look like this



Pieces to the lambs face

