



Lessons presented by  
**Oklahoma State University**  
*Ferguson Family Dairy Visitor Center*  
 With Southwest-Southland Dairy Farmers

<b>Instructor</b>	Jaycie Heath
<b>Grade Level</b>	3-5
<b>Lesson Title</b>	Dairy Careers (Scheduled In Person)

### TEACHER PREPARATION

Learning Goals & Standards/Performance Indicators	
Learning Goals	Standards
1. Upon completion of this lesson students will be able to identify key careers related to the dairy industry.	1. <u>SS: 3.4</u> The student will identify and describe basic economic activities creating prosperity in the state of Oklahoma. 2. <u>SS: 3.4.3</u> Examine how the development of Oklahoma’s major economic activities have contributed to the growth of the state, including, mining and energy industry, agriculture, aviation, tourism, tribal enterprises, and military installations.
Resources and Materials	
<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">National Ag in the Classroom</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Discover Dairy</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Study.com Job Descriptions</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Balance Careers- Dairy Inspector</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Balance Careers- Dairy Herdsman</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Agriculture Business Careers</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Linkedin- Dairy Public Relations Search</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Holstein Foundation Job Description</a> <input type="checkbox"/> Visuals in the center <input type="checkbox"/> Student tour guides	
Announcement and Other Preliminaries	
1. Welcome students to the Ferguson Family Dairy, introduce self and what you do for the dairy, etc.	

### LESSON DELIVERY

#### Anticipatory Set

- What are some of your parents’ jobs? (take a few answers)
  - That’s cool! Did you all notice that everyone’s parents have different jobs?
- Explain that your job is working here at the dairy and describe to students what a day in the life of a dairy employee looks like
  - There are about \_\_\_\_ student workers employed here at the dairy.
- Working in the dairy industry doesn’t just have to be working with cows, there are lots of different careers at dairies and today we are going to learn about five of the

main careers that keep dairies running.

## Direct Instruction

**1<sup>st</sup> Learning Goal:** Upon completion of this lesson students will be able to identify key careers related to the dairy industry.

Content Outline	Instructional Strategies
<p><u>Dairy Herdsman</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A dairy herdsman is an employee who works with the cows every day to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Maintain cow health.</li><li>○ Ensure cows get feed and water.</li><li>○ Milk the cows (some larger dairies have people who ONLY milk the cows, in those situations a dairy herdsman may not milk)</li><li>○ Keep record of the cows' health.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Today our record keeping is aided by technology, like special tags that record when cows go to the feeder or when they go into the robotic milker.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• May also: treat minor injuries, give vaccination shots, trim hooves, or help with calving.</li><li>• These people work with the cows the most, as they see them every day.</li></ul> <p><u>Veterinarian</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like a doctor for the animals, you might have taken your dog or cat to a vet with your parents before</li><li>• Responsible for giving the animals regular medical care:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Treat illnesses.</li><li>○ Prescribe medicine.</li><li>○ Perform surgery.</li><li>○ Provide regular health checks.</li></ul></li><li>• These people may work with one farm or many farms within an area. They may also specialize in large animals (beef and dairy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It would be good to have images or prerecorded video of people performing each job.</li><li>• Could also have tools, feedstuffs, example medications, etc. For students to view and associate with each career.</li></ul>

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cows, horses, etc.) or they may work with large and small animals (dogs, cats, etc.)

#### Nutritionist

- They make different feeding programs for each stage of the dairy cow's life by working with the herdsmen at the dairy to determine the cows' nutritional needs.
  - *Point out to students that just like how adults eat differently than they do, adult cattle eat differently than calves.*
  - They must know all about different kinds of feed and how different breeds of cattle will respond to those types of feed.
    - *Point out that we have Holsteins and Jerseys and how each breed has different nutrient requirements due to size, milk production rates, etc.*
- These people do not have to work as closely with the cows as Veterinarians or Herdsmen. Their primary role is observing how the cows perform when fed the rations they created. Some of this observation may even be done by the herdsmen so the nutritionist doesn't have to work directly with the cows.

#### Equipment Service Technician

- It is their job to maintain, upgrade and fix equipment used in the dairy industry. This includes:
  - Cleaning internal parts of machines
  - Repairing milkers
  - Checking to make sure the equipment is running like it should.
  - Helping to install new equipment or upgrade what is already there.

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- Rarely do these people work with the cows directly, it is their job to make sure equipment is taken care of, not that the cows are.

Public Relations Manager

- People who work in public relations manage social media accounts (like Facebook or Instagram), work with people who visit the dairy, and sometimes they even help with planning the best ways to sell products.
- Their job is to promote the dairy and encourage people to visit or buy products from the dairy.
- These people don't work with the cows, instead they work with the people who work with the cows.

**Learning Activity**

- Students should be asked to partner up and share which career they liked the most and why. They should then be encouraged to share their answers aloud.

**Assessment**

- As students share the careers they are most interested in, ask questions like
  - What do you think makes that career interesting?
  - Do you think you would like to work with the cows?
  - What do you think would be one challenge of that career?

**Closure**

**Closing Announcements/Reminders**

- Answer any questions they may have
- Show them the robot and viewing windows one more time
- Thank students for coming to the Ferguson Family Dairy