



CONSCIOUS CONSUMERS

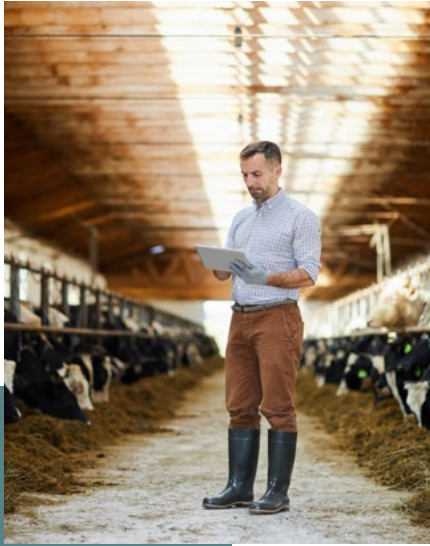
Animal Welfare

Workbook

Name _____



A fresh look at agricultural science and food



This project aims to start conversations about topics of importance to society by looking at overlapping topics of Food Miles, Plant-Based Diets, Personalised Nutrition, Rewilding, Animal Welfare and Climate Change.

There is a lot of information on social media and in the news about these topics but it's often hard to know what to believe when stories seem to contradict each other. These workshops will give you an introduction to some of the key facts and encourage you to look more closely at sources of information available online to determine how reliable they are.

We all have to make choices, particularly around the food we eat and our choices as consumers really do have the power to shape the world we live in.

Following each workshop, we invite you to undertake further research and encourage others to become more Conscious Consumers!



The Food and Farming Discovery Trust coordinate and communicate existing food, farming and countryside educational activity in Norfolk.

They also develop new activity and support educators and providers to enhance the learning outcomes for all young people in Norfolk through food, farming and the countryside.

 discoverytrust.org.uk



The Science, Art and Writing (SAW) Trust is a science education charity (no.1113386) developed in 2005. SAW takes a fresh approach to science education, using intriguing images to initiate exploration of scientific research through activities in practical science, creative writing and visual arts, aimed at as wide an audience as possible.

 sawtrust.org



A skills award to support and inspire the next generation into Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medicine (STEMM). Students aged 13-19 can register through their school or at home and start working towards a bronze, silver or gold level award. Ask your teacher about how you can get involved or visit our website.

 ysawards.co.uk

Funded by:



What is animal welfare?

Animal welfare broadly refers to the emotional and physical wellbeing of an animal.

Encompassing the impact of the environment in which it lives, human attitudes and practices, and resources available to it. Countries provide different laws for the treatment of wild, farmed and captive animals.



The Five Freedoms:

These are the internationally accepted standards of care.



From Thirst and Hunger

By easy access to fresh water and diet to maintain health.



From Discomfort

By providing an appropriate environment.



From Pain, Injury and Disease

By prevention, rapid diagnosis and treatment.



To Express Normal Behaviour

By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company.



From Fear and Distress

By ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid suffering.

Farm animal welfare

The United Kingdom was the first country in the world to enact animal welfare legislation (WAP, 2020). Legislation applies to all animals bred or kept for farming purposes and ensures that owners or keepers take all reasonable steps to ensure the welfare of animals under their care, for example, in relation to inspections, record keeping and freedom of movement, buildings and equipment, and the feeding and watering of animals.



What animal welfare standards are you aware of?

Intensive Animal Farming

Intensive animal farming, also known as factory farming, aims to maximise production while minimising costs. To achieve this, farms keep livestock at high densities on a large scale, with some being kept indoors their entire lives with limited ventilation. Many intensively reared chickens have been bred to grow very quickly, allowing them to be slaughtered sooner.

An intensive farm counts as a farm that holds at least:



40,000
Birds



2,000
Pigs



750
Breeding sows (Female pigs)



73%
of farmed animals in the UK are kept in intensive farms



86%
of intensive farms are poultry



19 chickens per m²
That's the equivalent to each chicken having a space no more than an A4 piece of paper.

Food Labeling

Food labels can be very confusing, due to the lack of a single labelling scheme that covers all animal welfare guidelines in the UK. As a result, very few products provide information on welfare standards and there is no motivation for producers to provide such information. But there are some to look out for.

Common Labels



RSPCA Assured

Ensures greater space, bedding and enrichment materials are provided.



Soil Association

Offers better animal welfare, lower stocking densities and restrictions on antibiotic use.



Red Tractor

Ensures products are traceable from producer to retailer and has recently revised standards.



Activity Sheet One

Investigating international animal welfare legislation and policies

Using the WAP (World Animal Protection) Animal Protection Index, compare the aspects of animal protection two each countries. We suggest that one of the countries you compare is the United Kingdom. This will enable you to see what our standards are like. **Make notes on the four following aspects of animal protection; Sentience, Legislation, Governance and standards.**

	Country one: _____	Country two: _____
Sentience (- the capacity of an animal to experience different feelings such as suffering or pleasure.)		
Legislation		
Governance		
Standards		



Things to think about:

What information stood out most to you?

Did any of the aspects of animal protection from either country surprise you?

What aspect of animal protection do you think is most important?



Activity Sheet Two

Food Labeling

We have briefly outlined some of the standards that RSPCA Assured enforces and guarantees with its certification. However, there is no mandatory animal welfare labelling scheme enforced in the U.K like that of the FSA nutritional labelling scheme. The FSA traffic light labelling system will tell you whether a food has high, medium or low amounts of fat, saturated fat, sugars and salt. It will also tell you the number of calories and kilojoules in that particular product.

A. Challenge: design an enforceable animal welfare labelling scheme.

B. Here are a few things to consider and space to write notes:

What aspects of animal welfare need to be represented on the food label?

- consider aspects that are covered by the 'Five Freedoms' and all stages of the animals life cycle.

How will these aspects of animal welfare be measured and monitored?

- for example, what organisation is in charge of monitoring the level of welfare the animals receive and how will it be assessed.

How will the information be presented?


- What will your label actually look like, maybe a table of information or a traffic light scheme. Remember its important to make it easy to understand and recognisable.

Still curious? Here's some further resources



Welfare of Farmed Animals (England) Regulations 2007

Regulations regarding the care and code of practice of farmed animals in England.

 [www.legislation.gov.uk/
ukxi/2007/2078/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2007/2078/contents)


Farming UK

Hear about the latest topics and news within the farming industry.

 www.farminguk.com

European Union Animal Welfare labeling

Current EU labelling on animal welfare, including voluntary marketing standards.

 [https://food.ec.europa.eu/
animals/animal-welfare/
other-aspects-animal-
welfare/animal-welfare-
labelling_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-welfare/other-aspects-animal-welfare/animal-welfare-labelling_en)



Conscious Consumers Topics

Now that you have completed the Animal Welfare topic, why not try one of the other Conscious Consumers topics?



**Animal
Welfare**



**Plant-based
Diets**



Food Miles



Rewilding



**Personalised
Nutrition**



**Climate
Change**