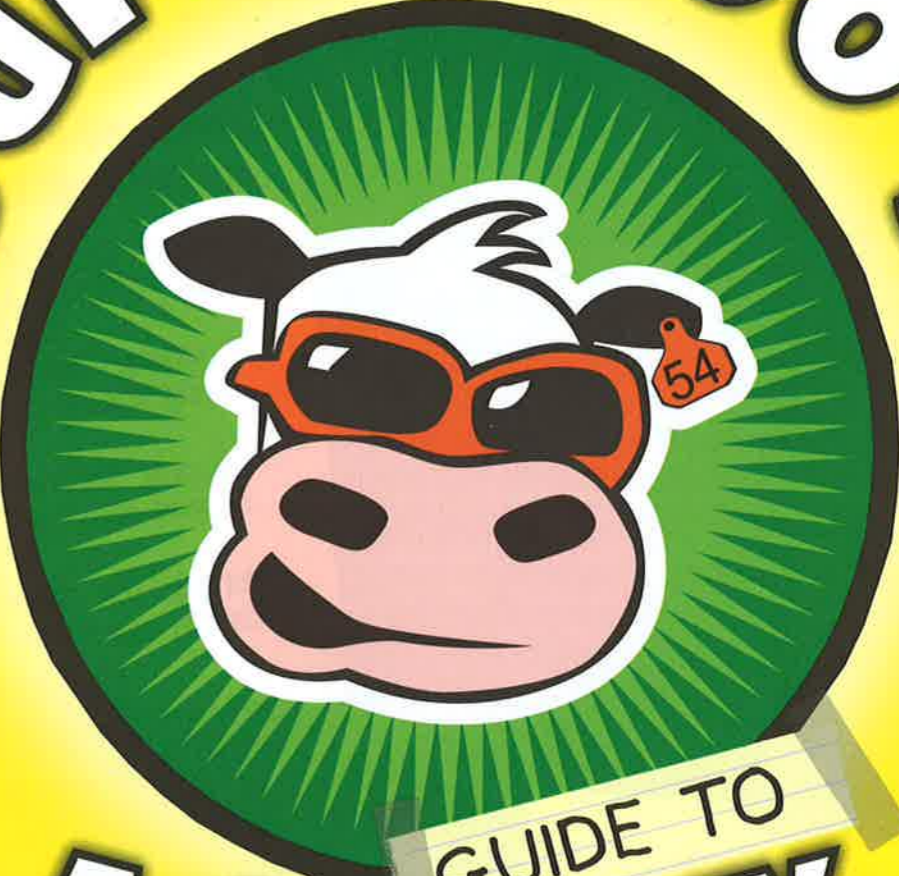




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SUPER MOO'S



AG DAY

GUIDE TO

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This is my favourite time of year. I love meeting the young animals as they are so much fun - although sometimes they misbehave!

Of course I was always a good calf - well most of the time! I had a great time at Ag Day and loved my carer as she brushed me, stroked me and fed me lots of food.

You don't have to bring a calf to Ag Day, you can also bring lambs, goats, chicks or any suitable pet - just check with your teacher first.

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CALVES



Let's start with calves. There are four classes you can enter:

- 1** Leading
- 2** Rearing
- 3** Dairy type
- 4** Beef type

1 LEADING CLASSES

You will need to put a halter and lead rope on your calf because you are going to have to lead your calf for the judges.

You will need to make your calf stop and change direction. Sometimes this can be tricky as us cows can be quite stubborn at times! But if you practice and keep calm, you'll get the hang of it.

It's best to stand to the left of your calf by its shoulder, hold the lead with your right hand about the length of a pencil from the halter, and your left hand holding the rest of the lead.

The judge will be watching your calf to see how well it behaves with you. They want to see it walking by your side with you leading and turning and stopping when you ask it to.

Be careful as the following actions will lose you points:

- Letting go of the lead with your right hand
- Touching the calf with your hand during the competition
- Slapping the calf with your hand or lead rope
- Jerking the halter or pushing the calf in any way

2 REARING CLASSES

This class is all about how well you have reared your calf; that is how you've fed, groomed and cared for your calf.

Calves must be really clean:

- Brush their body so there are no loose hairs, dirt or dust (we quite like this)
- Wipe their hooves clean with a cloth
- Use a soft cloth to clean around the outside of their ears, their nose and eyes
- Make sure the halter and lead are clean too

The judge may ask you questions about your calf – its name, how old it is, the breed and what you have been feeding it.

The judge will also be looking at your calf to see if it's a healthy, good example of its breed.

The judge will check:

- Its mouth to see if its teeth are in a line so it can chew grass well
- Whether its eyes are bright and its ears are on the same angle
- Are its legs straight and strong?
- Its body – the judge will run his/her hands over its back and ribs and check girl calves have four teats on their udder
- Whether the calf is balanced when walking and standing

3 DAIRY TYPE

The judge will be looking for the same things as the Rearing Class, but they will also see if your calf is a great example of a future dairy cow for producing milk.

4 BEEF TYPE

The judge will look at all the points for the Rearing Class and will also see if your calf is a good example of a dairy/beef crossbred suitable for growing to an adult.

LAMBS



If this is your first Ag Day/Pet Day and you've never led a calf before, you may want to start with a lamb. They have a lot of energy, but they are smaller and easier to hold onto and move around.

There are three classes for lambs:

- 1** Early lambs
- 2** Late lambs
- 3** Most obvious pet

When you are called for your class, line up with the other children and lambs and watch carefully what is required. The judge will talk to you about your lamb; he or she will want to know its name, when it was born and its breed.

Lambs are very lively, so any training will really help, and you'll be very proud when your lamb stands quietly as the judge looks at its face and feels around its body to feel its coat (lanolin) and how much condition (weight) it has.

You will have to lead your lamb for the judge. The judge will want to look at your lamb and see it standing still.



Super Moo
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To remember:

Before you leave home on Ag Day, make sure you have water and feed for your animal as we're always happier with full tummies. You'll also need a bucket, cloths and brushes to keep your animal clean – we can get dirty pretty quickly!

