



ARRIBA ABAJO LEARNING GUIDE



THE TWO COWS

This song is a great way to help children learn about animals. While interacting with realistic texts children increase their academic vocabulary. They learn to look at details by comparing and contrasting different animals and looking at their parts, a necessary skill to prepare children to become successful readers.

CONCEPTS

- animal body parts
- farm science
- opposites
- looking at details in realistic text



**STREAM OR
DOWNLOAD
THE SONG**

LEARNING ABOUT BODY PARTS

Look at a farm animal book and look at a cow. Ask your child to name all the body parts she knows. Then introduce the parts she does not know.

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Here is a list of suggested parts:

head *	cabeza *
horns *	cuernos *
ears *	orejas *
eyes *	ojos *
snout/ muzzle	hocico
neck *	cuello *
tail *	cola *
stomach *	estómago *
udder	ubre
teats	tetillas
leg *	pata *
fore leg/ rear leg	pata delantera/ pata trasera
knee	rodilla
heel	talón
hoofs	pezuñas

For younger children use only words with a star.

Encourage your child to use the following sentence frame when you talk about the body parts.

A _____ has _____ .
A cow has a head.
A cow has hoofs.

STRATEGY

You can use a **sentence frame** to help children start using complete sentences, internalize new vocabulary, and to learn to use more sophisticated language.

You can use the sentence frame provided here, and you can always create your own for this or other activities. Leave a blank part for children to finish. The blank part can come in the middle or the end of the sentence.

EXTEND

Show children how to draw a cow and ask children to label the parts of the cow they know and learned.

READ AND LEARN WITH ME

Create a pattern book with your child. Fold two or three sheets of paper and staple them in the middle. (For younger children use fewer pages; for older children use more pages.)

Use the same sentence frame and animal body parts from Learning About Body Parts to create your pattern book:

A _____ has _____.

A cow has a head.

A cow has hoofs.

ADAPT

Encourage older children to use more sophisticated academic vocabulary and more facts as they write. You can find books and realistic texts about cows and other farm animals to read together, and encourage children to build research skills. Then they can create a story by using the facts about the animal they learned about.

Example

My cow is black with white patches.

My cow has two horns and a snout.

My cow can eat hay and gives milk.

My cow can produce up to six gallons of milk each day.

EXTEND

You can repeat **Learn About Body Parts** and **Read and Learn with Me** using a different farm animal each week.

On each page, ask your child to draw or the corresponding animal body part. You could also have a picture of the cow that they can color and glue onto the page. Then, have your child write each sentence frame on the bottom of each page, or have him dictate the sentence while you write it.

When you are done, read the book with your child. While you are reading, remember to point to each word once.

MANY WAYS TO SAY...

Sing the song "The Two Cows" again. Draw or print out a picture of a big cow and a small cow and show them to your child. Describe the two cows using this sentence frame:

This cow is _____. That cow is _____.
This cow is small. That cow is big.

Explain to your child that there are many words they can use to describe something that is small - not just one. There are also several words they can use to describe something that is big. You may want to explain that words that mean the same thing are called **synonyms**.

Using the pictures of the big cow and the small cow, review with your child the "size" words from the song and ask your child to identify which cow they describe.

little
long / short *
big
huge
tiny

giant / gigantic
teeny
mini
enormous
small

As they point to the cow, help them say complete sentences using the size words.

This cow is teeny.
That cow is huge.

Note: Have a conversation with your child about the way we can use the words "long" and "short." We may not want to use those words to describe the cows themselves, but we can use them to describe some of the cows' body parts.

Repeat the same activity, now describing the different body parts learned in **Learn About Body Parts**. Use the following sentence frame:

This cow has _____. That cow has _____.
This cow has little eyes. That cow has enormous eyes.
This cow has a short neck. That cow has long neck.

EXTEND

Even after the activity is over, when describing animals and objects in conversations with your child, try to use the new size words you have learned, instead of just "big" and "small" and encourage her to use them, too.

BOOKS YOU MIGHT ENJOY

You Are (Not) Small

Anna Kang

Illustrations by Christopher Weyant

An amusing debate between two fuzzy creatures about whether one is small or the other is big.

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type/ Las vacas escritoras

Doreen Cronin

Ilustraciones de Betsy Lewin

A humorous tale of barnyard animals who use an old typewriter to formulate bold requests of their caretaker, Farmer Brown.

Actual Size/ Tamaño real

Steve Jenkins

Depicts various animals and parts of animals in their actual size so that children can marvel at the tininess and enormity of different species.

CREDITS

This Learning Guide was developed in collaboration with master teacher Heidimarie Freund-West and singer-songwriter and teaching artist 123 Andrés. To see all of the Learning Guides and for more information about the guides, their authors and how to use them, please visit www.123andres.com/learning. Special thanks to the following families for their help in developing the guides: Louis and Carlos' family, the Montoya Cabrera family, Maria Kammaraad and her family, Brooke Belville and her family, the Kopacko family, the Carollo family, the Eschelbach family, and the Diaz Evans family. Art and layout by Alcides Urrutia.