

NATURE PROBE

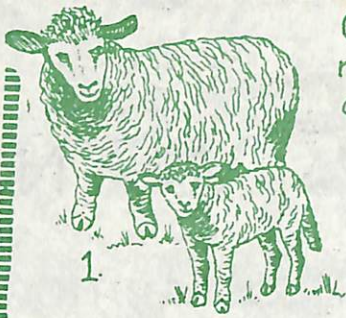
Vol.10 No.7

September

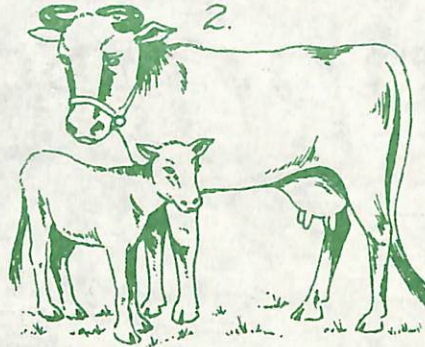
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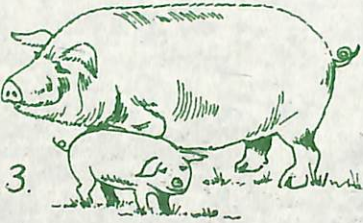
Can you name these animals and their babies?



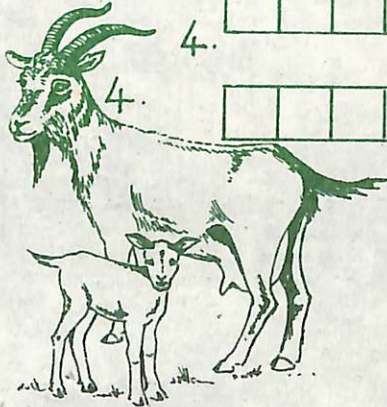
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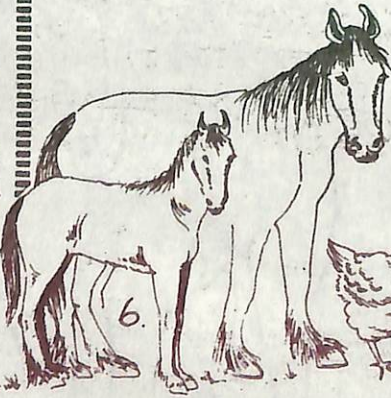
1.



3.



4.



5.

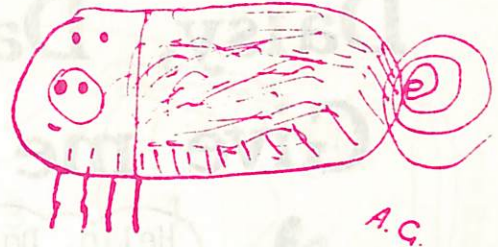


6.

- Answers
1. Sheep and lamb
 2. Cow and calf
 3. Pig and piglet
 4. Goat and kid
 5. Hen and chicken
 6. Horse and foal

By W. Prohasky.

Pigs



The male pig is a boar.

The female pig is a sow.

Baby pigs are called piglets.

A litter is the name for the group of piglets born at the same time.

A newborn piglet feels as smooth as velvet.

In a few days the hair on its body will begin to grow stiff and bristly. The piglets have curly tails and floppy ears. Their feet have four toes - toe little toes and two big front toes that are covered by hard "toenails" called hooves. Like all pigs the piglets have small eyes. They cannot see very well, but they have a very good sense of smell. They use their snouts (noses) to explore. At mealtimes the piglets push and squeeze to get to the warm milk. Each piglet feeds from the same nipple at each mealtime.

Pigs are clean animals.

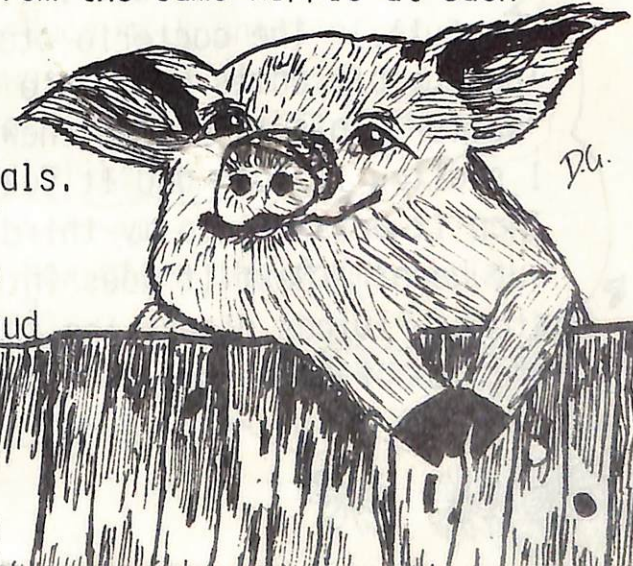
They do not sweat.

In hot weather they

like to wallow in mud

or water to cool

themselves down.



Daisy, Daisy, Give me the answers do.



Hello, Daisy.

Have your top teeth fallen out?

No, no, Bruce. Cows only have front teeth on the bottom jaw.

Our top jaw has a thick pad instead of teeth. Look at my large back teeth for grinding food.



Bruce, did you know that I spend about eight hours each day chewing and chewing?



Mmmm, they are large Daisy. Can you tell me about your special stomach?

Because foods like grass are hard to digest I have a stomach with four parts. I eat a large amount of grass and hardly chew at all. The grass goes into my first stomach and I lie down for a rest when I'm full. The bacteria starts to break down the grass. Then.... it comes back into my mouth and I chew it very well. This is called chewing the cud. I swallow it again and it goes into my second stomach. Then it passes into my third stomach. Water is squeezed out here. Next it goes into my fourth stomach where the stomach juices digest the food. This stomach is like the stomach of an animal that only has one stomach.



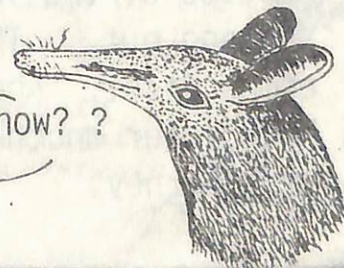
Gee, Daisy that's a long time, but tell me how you make milk.

The food I eat and the water I drink are used to make milk. The glands in my udder make the milk.

I didn't produce milk until after my first calf was born. I have a short rest before I have a calf and, after the calf is born the farmer milks me again.

Do you know how often the farmer milks me, Bruce?

Yes, Daisy but do the children know? ?



WINNERS!

Top
secret...
These
kids draw
better than
the editor!



Shaun Smith
David Stephen
Leigh Podger
Damien Chippendale
Louise Carolan
David Smyth
Auvita Stace
Emma Shaw
Louise Measures
Jacqui Routledge
Karen of Kew
Graeme of Ringwood
Marta of Maribyrong
..... Dodson of Boronia

A big
thank
you to
all the
children
who sent
drawings.



Journey of an EGG

It takes 25 hours for an egg to form inside a hen. The yolk is made first. Then it is covered by several layers of white. Next the two layers of thin skin called membranes are added. Finally the shell is secreted around the egg. Muscles of the vagina force the egg out. The larger end comes first. About half an hour later another egg may start its journey.



We need TREES

Trees were cleared for farmland by pioneers and, are still being cleared today. The countryside has been overcleared. That means that too many trees have been removed.

Farmers now understand that they NEED TREES.

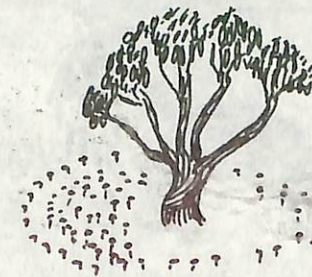
TREES shade and protect their animals.

TREES hold down the soil.

TREES attract native birds and animals.

In places where there are no trees left the farmer must plant trees. In places where there are still trees remaining these trees scatter their seeds, and seedlings grow, in the hundreds. If these seedlings are protected they will grow into big trees. This is called, NATURAL TREE REGENERATION.

Most
seedlings on
Leeward side
(sheltered
side.)



Prevailing
(normal)
wind
direction.

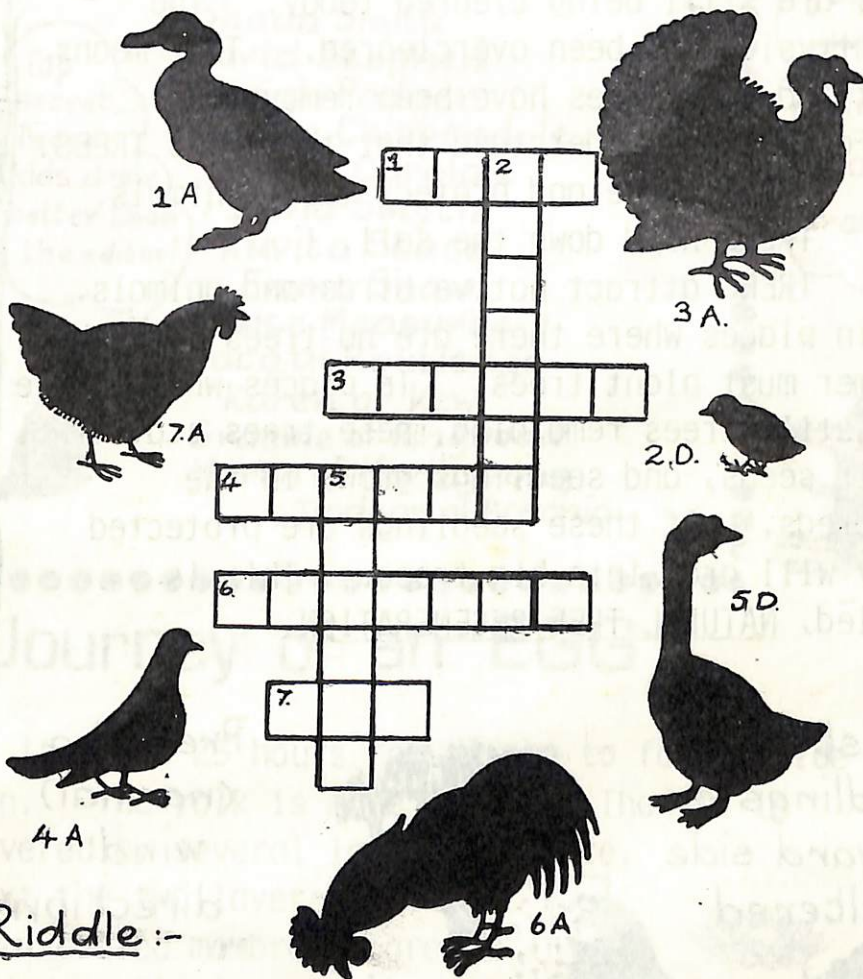
Look out for baby trees when you are in the country. You may see them on the side of the road or in a paddock. You will only see them under or near bigger trees.

Thank you to
Margaret Allan from Arthur Rylah Institute
for Environmental Research for this article.

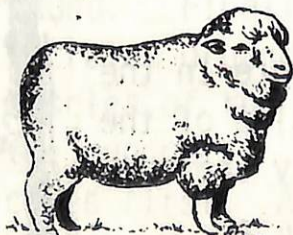


Feed the Birds

"Nature Probe" Maroondah Regional Publication.
Registered by Australia Post. Pub. No. VBH0881
P.O.Box 28, Ringwood East, Vic. 3135



Riddle:-



Q. Where do sheep go for a hair cut?

A. To the baa-baa shop.

ANSWERS.
Across 1. Duck 2. Chicken 3. Turkey 4. Pigeon 5. Goose 6. Rooster 7. Hen
Down 1. Duck 2. Chicken 3. Turkey 4. Pigeon 5. Goose 6. Rooster 7. Hen