

"Sheep Reporter" Newspaper

Order the *Sheep Reporter Newspaper* by calling the American Sheep Industry Association at (303) 771-3500 Ext. 32 or email vickie@sheepusa.org. Copies are free.

Grade level: 3-6

Recommended Uses: *Social Studies, science, language arts, math.*

Time needed: 30 - 45 minutes (additional time for more activities)

Supplies needed: "Sheep Reporter" newspaper for each student

Discussion Topics:

- *Historical aspect of sheep, lamb and wool.*
- *Number of sheep in US - locate states on map.*
- *By-products and their uses.*
- *Processing raw wool into finished fabric*
- *Nutritional qualities of lamb.*
- *Making cheese from sheep milk.*
- *Sheep are an environmentally friendly animal.*
- *How to read a recipe.*
- *Shepherds, herding dogs and guard animals.*

Activities:

- Language Arts - Have students learn about "Different Sheep Breeds" and other sheep information at www.sheep101.info. Answers for page one: 1) Rambouillet 2) Suffolk 3) Dorset 4) Columbia.
- Spelling - Test over spelling list. There is a misspelled word in Sheep Products (marshmallows), can students find it?
- Math - complete math problems with students. Answers to math problems: 1) 18.7#; 6.2#. 2) 204#. 3) No; 300 square feet. 4) 30.

Other Activities:

- *Shearing demonstration*
- *Spinner and/or weaver demonstration*
- *Tour a sheep farm*
- *Grill some lamb samples for class*
- *Make a bulletin board of sheep by-products*

Suggested Resources: www.sheepusa.org "For Kids" link
www.iowasheep.com "Kid's Page" & "Internet Links" -
"Education & Resources"
www.sheep101.info and www.sheep101.info/201

"Sheep Reporter" Spelling List

1. Breed
2. Carding
3. Coarse
4. Ewe
5. Dyeing
6. Fiber
7. Fleece
8. Flock
9. Grazing
10. Guarding
11. Hooves
12. Lamb
13. Knitting
14. Ram
15. Scouring
16. Shearing
17. Shepherd
18. Spinning
19. Weaving
20. Wool



Ewe and triplet lambs. Lambs are less than six hours old. The ewe knows the lambs are hers because of how they smell. She is also encouraging them to nurse by nudging them toward her udder.

"Sheep Reporter" Math Questions

1. A ewe gave birth to three lambs. The lambs weighed 5.5 pounds, 6.0 pounds and 7.2 pounds. What is the total weight of the lambs? What is the average weight of the lambs to the nearest tenth?
2. Shepherd Sam's sheep grew a fleece weighing 8 pounds. After the fleece was scoured (washed) to remove the dirt, the wool weighed 2 pounds less. If all of Shepherd Sam's sheep had the same amount of dirt in their fleece, how many pounds of wool would be left after the fleeces from 34 sheep were scoured?
3. When ewes are housed in a building each ewe needs 12 - 16 square foot of space. Would a building that is 15 feet long by 14 feet wide be big enough for 25 ewes? What is the minimum square footage that is needed for 25 ewes?
4. Ralph has 20 ewes. When they lambled, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the ewes had twins and the rest had triplets. How many lambs did Ralph's ewes have?