



# SKILLS

- Learn about the parts of a beef animal
- Complete a beef service project
- Improve technology skills
- Explore beef by-products
- Gain knowledge about beef origins
- Discover the most common beef animals in Tennessee
- Develop leadership skills

 **LIFE SKILLS:** Responsibility

# BEEF

Beef cattle are one of America's most popular agriculture commodities. As a matter of fact, one-quarter of the world's beef supply comes from the United States. Learning about the origins of different breeds of beef animals, by-products produced and parts of beef cattle are just a few of the skills that you can learn in the 4-H Beef project. Look at the skills to your left. Check your favorites. Then work with your 4-H leaders and parents to make a 4-H project plan of what you want to learn and do this year.

## BEEF BEGINNINGS

Use the Internet to research the following list of beef cattle. Can you figure out from which country each animal originated? Circle the ones that are most common to Tennessee. Again, use the Internet as your resource guide.

- ANGUS \_\_\_\_\_
- BEEFALO \_\_\_\_\_
- BELGIAN BLUE \_\_\_\_\_
- BRAHMAN \_\_\_\_\_
- CHAROLAIS \_\_\_\_\_
- CHIANINA \_\_\_\_\_
- GELBIEH \_\_\_\_\_
- HEREFORD \_\_\_\_\_
- LIMOUSIN \_\_\_\_\_
- MAINE-ANJOU \_\_\_\_\_
- MURRAY GREY \_\_\_\_\_
- NORMANDE \_\_\_\_\_
- PIEDMONTESE \_\_\_\_\_
- PINZGAUER \_\_\_\_\_
- POLLED HEREFORD \_\_\_\_\_
- SALERS \_\_\_\_\_
- SANTA GERTRUDIS \_\_\_\_\_
- SCOTCH HIGHLAND \_\_\_\_\_
- SENEPOL \_\_\_\_\_
- SHORTHORN \_\_\_\_\_
- SIMMENTAL \_\_\_\_\_
- ZUBU \_\_\_\_\_

## ACTIVITIES

- Beef shows
- Skill-a-thons
- Judging teams
- Visit a cattle farm to learn more about raising beef cattle
- Visit a slaughter house or butcher to learn more about meat processing
- Visit with a local veterinarian to learn more about animal health care and nutrition

## SERVICE IDEAS

- Conduct a beef project demonstration on one aspect of raising beef animals. Give your demonstration to younger students.
- Take your animal to a farm day to teach younger children about beef.
- Create a matching game using the information you gathered in the "Beef Beginnings" game to help project group members learn about beef cattle origins.

## RESOURCES

- School and public libraries
  - Beef cattle farmers, breed associations/magazines
  - [www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/cattle](http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/cattle)
  - [www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/virtualfarm/beef](http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/virtualfarm/beef)
  - 4-H project leader/group
- The following Websites were used to create this activity sheet. To learn more visit:
- [www.utextension.utk.edu/4H/projects/beef.htm](http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4H/projects/beef.htm)
  - [www.n4hccs.org](http://www.n4hccs.org)
- Don't forget! For more ideas and info, contact your 4-H office.

# BEEFY BY-PRODUCTS

Beef is not the only product that we get from cattle. Almost the entire animal can be used to benefit us in some way. For example, from a 1,000-pound steer, only 400 pounds (approximately) are used for beef that we eat. The other 600 pounds are not used as beef, but are used as by-products. Draw a line from the by-product listed on the left to the part of the animal from which we get the by-product. Need a hint? Visit [www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/virtualfarm/beef](http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/virtualfarm/beef) for solutions to some of the items listed below.

Band-Aids™  
Basketballs  
Candles  
Clothes  
Combs  
Cosmetics  
Crayons  
Deodorant  
Detergent  
Fine bone china  
Floor wax  
Gelatin candy (Gummy Bears™)  
Hydraulic brake fluid  
Jello™  
Industrial glue  
Insecticides  
Insulation  
Luggage  
Marshmallows  
Mayonnaise  
Medicine capsules/gel coatings  
Paints  
Paint brushes  
Pet food  
Perfumes  
Photographic film  
Plastics  
Saddles  
Shampoo  
Shaving cream  
Shoes  
Soap  
Steel ball bearings  
Synthetic rubber  
Volleyballs

HIDE AND HAIR

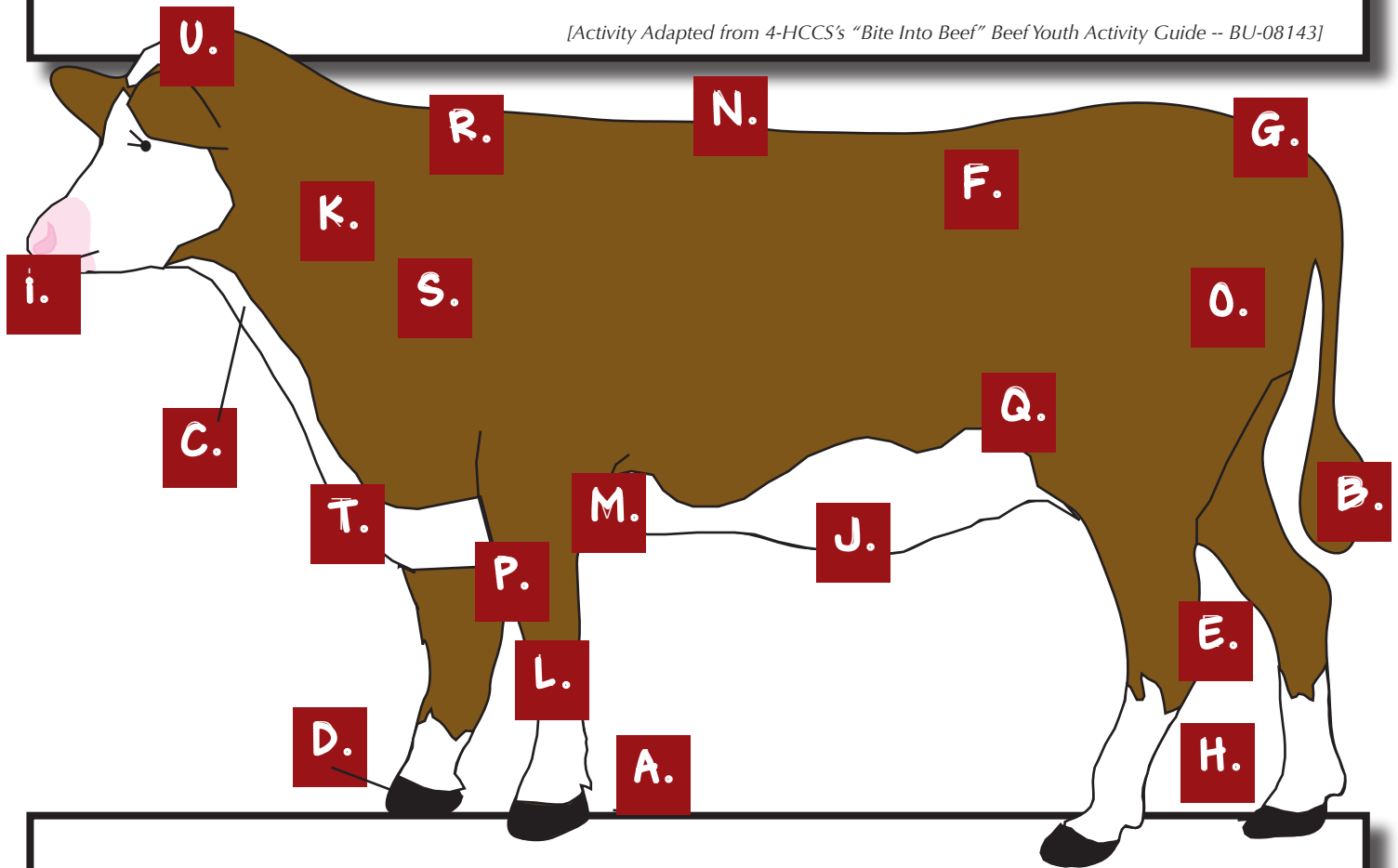
BONE, HORN  
AND HOOVES

FATS AND  
FATTY ACIDS

# WHAT DO BEEF CATTLE DO FOR ENTERTAINMENT?

Can you solve this riddle? First, read the clues in the box below to learn about the different parts of beef animals. Find the letter that corresponds to the clue and write the letter in space provided. After you have completed this portion of the activity, go back and read the clues again. Notice that there is a capitalized letter in each clue. Write the letters, in order, on the line provided at the bottom of this page.

[Activity Adapted from 4-HCCS's "Bite Into Beef" Beef Youth Activity Guide -- BU-08143]



- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| _____ Top of shoulder   | _____ ... and speaking of hoof, which letter corresponds to the hoof?  | _____ back or top   |
| _____ the switch is found at the end of the tail  | _____ known as the navel, just like in humans, it is the center of the belly                                       | _____ the cannon bone runs from the knee to the pastern in the front legs and from the hock to the pastern in the rear legs                         |
| _____ flap of skin found on the throat area is known as the dewlap                            | _____ the hock is the middle joint of the rear leg   | _____ claw-like in appearance, it is found on back of the hoof and is called a dewclaw  |
| _____ where the tail is attached to the body is called the tailhead                           | _____ muzzle is the name given to a beef animal's nose   | _____ the forearm is defined as the part of the front leg that runs via the knee to the elbow   |
| _____ shoulder  | _____ the lower foreleg, heart girth, or fore flank can be found behind the front legs along the line of the belly | _____ located directly behind the shoulder, this part of the beef animal is called the foreleg  |
| _____ the poll is the top of the head   | _____ hindquarter  | _____ now that you know where the foreleg is located, can you find the rear flank? it is opposite of the foreleg and found in front of the rear leg |
| _____ known as the hook or hip bone, this is where the line of the back leg ties into the hip | _____ another name for the chest is the brisket  |   |
| _____ the pastern is the joint located above the hoof   |  |   |

**ANSWER TO RIDDLE:** \_\_\_\_\_