



Farmer Jay's dilemma

Age: Upper KS2 (years 5 and 6)



Subjects:

KS2: English

Learning objectives

- Plan and complete a written account using information gathered from research.
- Appreciate that we all face dilemmas in life, but we can strive to make decisions or take action to resolve these difficult choices.

[Link to curriculum coverage](#)

Overview: After watching the *Meet the animals!* film, pupils discuss the final sequence featuring Jay Wilde, who talks about finding a new home for his cows after deciding he no longer wanted to continue as a cattle farmer (the subject of the award-winning film *73 Cows*). Pupils then write an account of the story after conducting online research using the links provided.

Resources

- ppt slide for new vocabulary: *Dilemma* (two versions)
- *Meet the animals!* film
- *Talk time* questions
- Note-taking sheet (optional)
- Access to the internet and online links to the story (optional)
- Writing frame

[Visit the website to download or order resources](#)

Starter

- Tell the pupils that they are going to watch a short film about farmed animals living in animal sanctuaries. They will hear the true story of Jay, a farmer who faced a difficult dilemma because he did not want to send his cows to slaughter, and how he did something remarkable to resolve his problem.
- Show one of the two ppt slides for new vocabulary and discuss what would be best thing to do in each situation. Explain that a dilemma is a difficult decision.



- Ask pupils if they have experienced any dilemmas, or difficult choices in life.
- Is there anything that they have to do, or are expected to do, that they don't agree with?
- Can they think of any other examples of dilemmas that people might face?

Main

- Pupils watch the *Meet the animals!* film and during the Talk time breaks discuss some of the suggested *Talk time* questions.
- If pupils are watching the *Meet the animals!* film for a second time, provide them with a Note-taking worksheet to help them record notes.
- After watching the film discuss Jay's dilemma:
 - What was the dilemma that Jay faced when he inherited his dad's farm?
(He inherited the family dairy farm when his father died, but as a vegetarian he didn't like sending the cows to be killed.)
 - How did Jay resolve the dilemma? What was the solution that he came up with? (He found an animal sanctuary who would offer this herd of cows a new home and he grew crops instead)
 - Why was Jay happy when he heard his cows would be going to Hillside animal sanctuary?
(Because his cows would not need to be killed and they would be cared for and could live out the rest of their lives in peace)
 - How did Jay's cows feel when they arrived at Hillside animal sanctuary?
(They were very happy)
 - How did they show this?
(They jumped with joy and frolicked in the field when they arrived at the sanctuary)
- Tell pupils that they have been asked to write a report of Jay and his cows for the local newspaper or school newsletter.

Provide each pupil with a copy of the writing frame to assist them in composing their account.

Pupils can research the story using the links to media report.

Alternatively, they could create a large information poster to present the story with their text and drawn illustrations plus photos printed from the internet.



Plenary

- Ask pupils in pairs to discuss:
 - one thing that made them feel something
 - one thing that surprised them
 - what they would like to ask Jay and Katja

Suggested follow-up activities

- Pupils create an illustrated comic strip to tell the story of Jay and his cows.
- Pupils research on the internet to discover other examples of farmers who decide to change from animal farming to growing crops and report to the class on their findings.

Some examples of cases:


- <https://freefromharm.org/humane-farmer/about>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OW6AgWPWRP4>
- <https://thetransformationproject.org/farmers/>




Resources appendix






- **ppt slides for new vocabulary: *Dilemma*** pp 4 & 5
- **Note-taking sheets** pp 6 & 7
- **Writing frame** pp 8 - 10








Dilemma vocab ppt slide (Version 1)


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Dilemma

 A difficult choice
 between
 options

?  Can you  use the word  dilemma  in a 

 sentence  about  each of these  pictures? ++





Visit the [website](#) to download this slide.

Dilemma vocab ppt slides (Version 2)

Dilemma:
a difficult choice
between
two or more options

**You see someone
being mean
to a smaller
child.**



**Do you step in,
tell a teacher
or walk
away?**



Note-taking sheet (Version 1)



Meet the animals! film - Note-taking sheet



What do all farmed animals need?

What did you learn about the pigs?

What did you learn about the sheep?

What did you learn about the chickens?

Why did farmer Jay give away his cows?

Visit the [website](#) to download this sheet.

Note-taking sheet (Version 2)



Meet the animals! film - Note-taking sheet



What do all the animals need? 1) _____

2) _____ 3) _____

4) _____ 5) _____



What did you learn about the pigs?



What did you learn about the sheep?



What did you learn about the chickens?



Why did Farmer Jay give away his cows?

Visit the [website](#) to download this sheet.



Writing frame (Version 1 blank)

Writing frame (Version 1 blank)



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Visit the [website](#) to download this sheet.



Writing frame (Version 1 with text)

Writing frame (Version 1 with text)



Vegetarian farmer gives cows new future!

This is a picture of:

Last week, _____

Farmer Jay said " _____

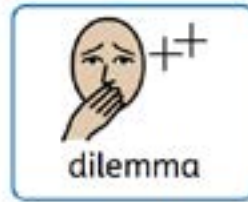
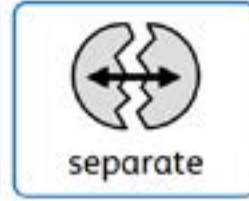
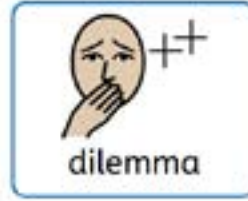
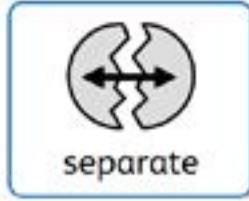
"

Visit the [website](#) to download this sheet.

Writing frame (Version 2)



Writing frame (Version 2)



Visit the [website](#) to download this sheet.