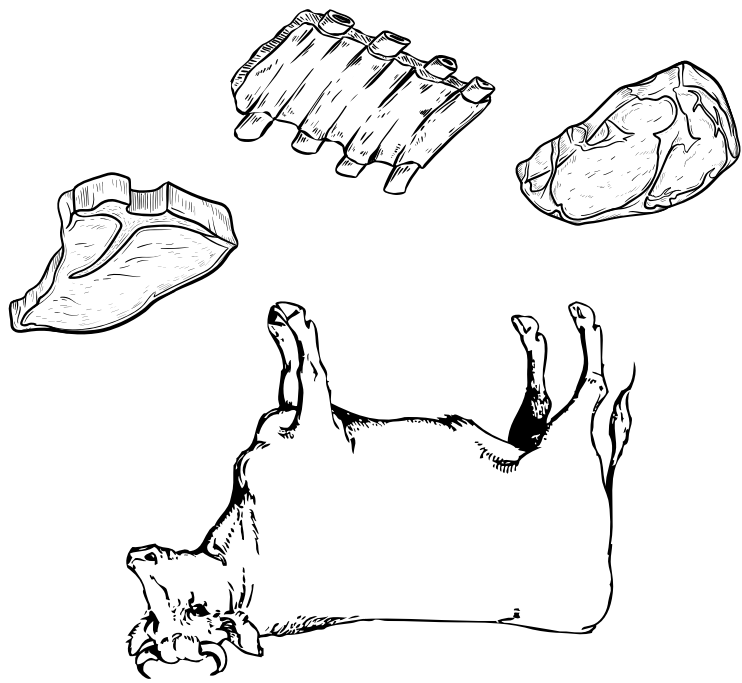




NAME: _____



BEEF CATTLE

BEEF BRIEF

Farmers raise beef cattle for their meat. Beef is a great source of many different vitamins and minerals including Zinc, Iron, and Protein (ZIP!) among many other essential nutrients.

Zinc
 helps maintain a healthy immune system.

Iron
 helps your body use oxygen.

Protein
 helps preserve & build muscle.

There are many breeds of cattle, but the most popular breed of beef cattle in the US is Angus. Angus cattle have high quality meat.

A baby cow is called a calf. They weigh 60-100 pounds when they are born.

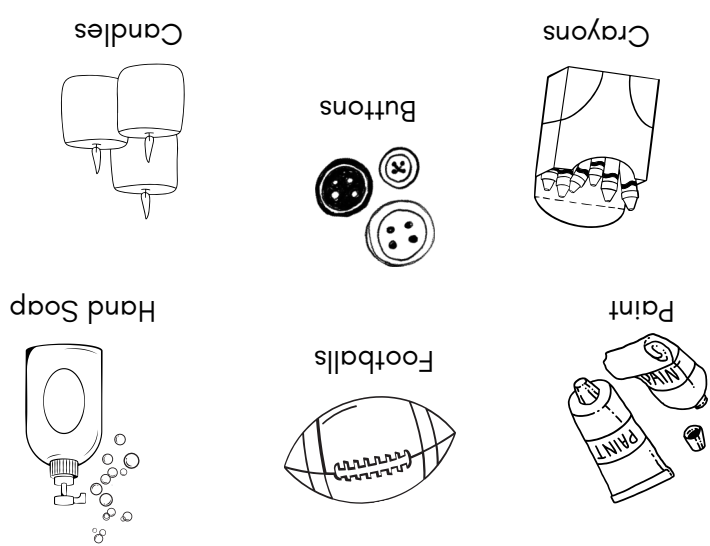
Calves grow very quickly and by the time they turn 10 months old, they weigh 450-700 pounds.

When cattle reach 1,200-1,400 pounds, they have reached market weight and are ready to leave the farm.

MORE THAN 'MEATS' THE EYE

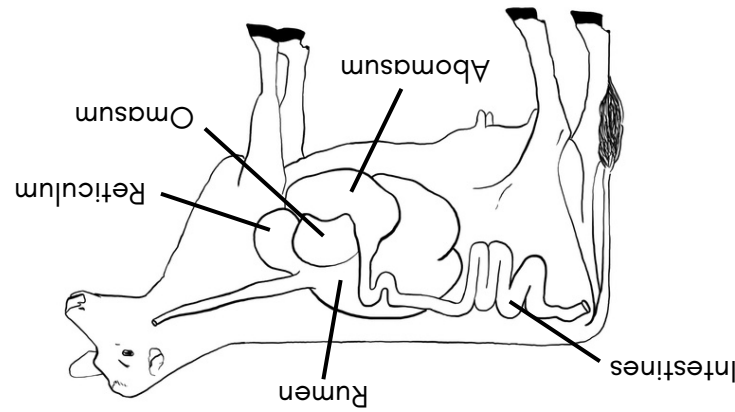
The main reason we raise beef cattle is for their meat. But there are many other products that we can make from different parts of cows! These are called by-products.

Circle all the beef by-products you have used.



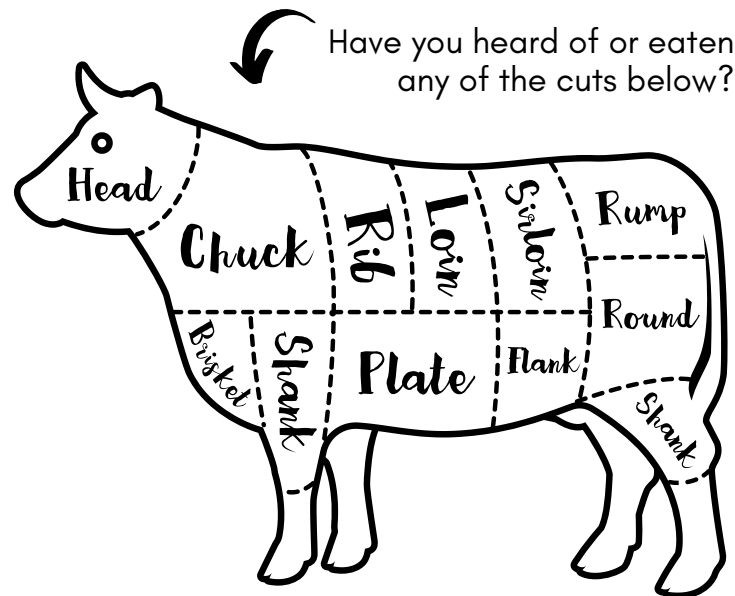
RUMINATION SCRAMBLE

Use the ruminant diagram to help you unscramble the vocabulary words below!



CUTS OF MEAT

Beef cattle provide many different cuts of meat depending on what part of the body the meat comes from.



Have you heard of or eaten any of the cuts below?

Fun Fact: The average American eats 62 pounds of beef each year!

C $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{3}{3}$ S A $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{E}{4}$ A $\frac{7}{7}$ $\frac{S}{2}$

CA $\frac{7}{7}$ $\frac{E}{5}$ B $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{6}{6}$ $\frac{I}{1}$ $\frac{ES}{1}$!

Complete these math problems to solve the message below. The answer corresponds with a letter.

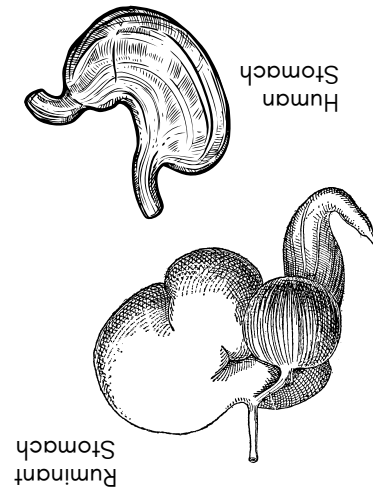
#1	$\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ + 157 \\ \hline \end{array}$	#2	$\begin{array}{r} 140 \\ + 255 \\ \hline \end{array}$	#3	$\begin{array}{r} 261 \\ + 191 \\ \hline \end{array}$
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#4	$\begin{array}{r} 133 \\ + 266 \\ \hline \end{array}$	#5	$\begin{array}{r} 124 \\ + 163 \\ \hline \end{array}$	#6	$\begin{array}{r} 342 \\ + 175 \\ \hline \end{array}$
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#7	$\begin{array}{r} 107 \\ + 239 \\ \hline \end{array}$	291 = N	399 = R	452 = W
		395 = O	517 = V	443 = A
		287 = D	273 = S	346 = L

DIGESTION DISCUSSION

Cattle are called ruminants. This means they have a special digestive system that allows them to digest tough food such as grass.



A cow's stomach has 4 different compartments called rumen, reticulum, omasum, and abomasum. Each of these compartments breaks down the food more and more and absorbs different minerals and nutrients on the way.

Cattle first chew their food to soften it, swallow it, and then return it to their mouth for more chewing. This is called 'chewing the cud.'

Fun Fact: Cows spend up to 8 hours a day chewing their cud!

BALANCED DIET

Beef cattle farmers work with veterinarians and livestock nutritionists to create a balanced diet. Cattle primarily eat a diet of corn, soybean meal, and grass or hay.

A cow's diet will change as it gets older. Young cattle require more protein than older cattle because they are actively growing.

SENTENCE FIX

Use correct capitalization and punctuation to fix each sentence.

1. a grouP of cattle is called a herd

2. hamburgers are Made from ground beef