

## **Title: In Ranching & in Life... Family Matters**

**Grades:** K-1

### **Common Core Standards:**

- RI.K.8 With prompting and support, identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.
- SL.K.4 Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.
- RI.1.7 Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.
- SL1.2 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

**Objectives:** In this lesson, students will:

- Describe the connection between ideas presented in the text by creating a poster.
- Develop an understanding of the importance of generations of farmers and ranchers working together and the effect that agriculture has in our world.

**Vocabulary:** **acre, agriculture, branding, calving season, calving sheds, generations, habitat, Hereford, hydro-arm, migration, pasture, ranch/rancher**

### **Materials:**

Ranching- It's All About Family by Twins Rianna and Sheridan Chaney

Family Members on a Ranch Activity Sheet

Jobs on a Ranch Sheet

Crayons or Colored Pencils

## **Introduction:**

1. Have students use the "Family Members on a Ranch" sheet to draw a picture of members of their family. Next, ask them to think about some jobs where families work together (some students may have experience with a family business, others may think about times when families work together at home). Preview the cover of the book, Ranching- It's All About Family and ask students to predict what they think the main idea of the text may be.
2. Ask, "How do you think families work together on a ranch?" and "Why do you think family is important in ranching?"
3. Explain that as they read the text, they will be learning about important jobs on a ranch and how it is important to have many people working together to take care of the many things that need to be done on a ranch.

## **Procedures:**

1. Read Ranching- It's All About Family to students and use the photographs to discuss how families work together on the ranch.
2. Create a list of all the jobs that must be done on a ranch and discuss how frequently jobs must be done. As students share a job for the chart, discuss the type of person needed to do that job safely.
3. Have students cut the pictures they drew of family members out and assign each family member a job on a farm or ranch. Students must be able to explain why they think that family member would be able to do that job.

## **Assessment/Closure:**

Invite students to share how their family would share the jobs on a farm or ranch with emphasis on why certain family members would complete jobs (ex: If something is heavy, an adult must lift it). Ask students why there are farms and ranches and the many ways they help us.

## **Extension Activities:**

- Read the other books written by The Chaney's: Little Star...Raising Our First Calf, Mini Milk Maids on the Mooove, Star Becomes a Mother, Cowgirl Up! Let's Go Ranching, Our Star Goes West, Farm Life, We Live It, We Love It,

and It's All About that Beef. Have students compare similar ideas and information found in the books using a group graphic organizer. Have students use the information collected to write an informative paragraph or design a video or poster about agriculture.

- Contact your local Cooperative Extension Service for names of generational farming or ranching operations in your area. Invite them to come in and share what they do each day. Have students prepare questions ahead of time that they can ask the farmers or ranchers.
- Math Connection- These farm and ranch story problems make math fun.
  - There were 7 calves born in one night at Cross Diamond. Some of the calves were in the large pasture and some of the calves were in the small pasture. How many calves could have been in each pasture?
  - There were 11 round bales of hay on a trailer. The hydro-arm lowered 3 of the round bales. How many are on the trailer?
  - The "Fort" is used to keep cattle and calves safe during blizzards and snowstorms. One day, there was 11 inches of snow on the ground and it snowed 5 more inches in an hour. How many inches of snow were on the ground then?
  - Solar panels help power cattle water tanks. There were some solar panels in the pasture and 5 more were added. Now there are 9 solar panels in the pasture. How many were added?
  - There were 17 calves in the pasture. Some of them got out. Now there are 14 calves. How many calves need to be found?

# Jobs on the Ranch

Choose a family member or a few family members to complete these jobs on the ranch by placing the picture in the square with that job.

<p data-bbox="131 537 431 590">Bottle feed calves</p>	<p data-bbox="477 520 774 611">Cut the netwrap off round bales of hay</p>	<p data-bbox="818 520 1110 611">Push calves back through the fence</p>	<p data-bbox="1159 520 1458 611">Rope calves for branding</p>
<p data-bbox="131 1633 431 1757">Use a livestock sorting sick to keep calves back</p>	<p data-bbox="477 1633 774 1724">Sort bulls to be videotaped</p>	<p data-bbox="818 1633 1110 1724">Gather cattle using a four-wheeler</p>	<p data-bbox="1159 1633 1458 1686">Fix a broken fence.</p>

# Family Members on the Ranch

**Before Reading:** Use the boxes to draw a picture of each member of your family.  
If needed, draw more than one family member in a box.

