



Buffalo Groves, Inc.

Buffalo Project Unit One

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As a commitment to bison education, we offer it at no charge via our website www.buffalogroves.com.

The material may be used by teachers, schools, 4-H and other youth organizations as an aide for helping children learn about buffalo.

Websites are a good source for obtaining the necessary information for completing the program can be found in various places on our website (history page, educational page, meat page, nutritional page, etc.), as well as on other buffalo websites.

Libraries, buffalo books, and museums are also great resources for learning about buffalo.

Our Bison Reader is very helpful and available as a free PDF download on our website.

Local buffalo ranchers might be another opportunity to help learn about buffalo.

There are three (3) units to the Buffalo Project

Unit one (1): Focuses on buffalo history, science, evolution; as well as heritage, culture and the environment; with an intro to buffalo (bison) the animal.

Unit two (2): Focuses more on buffalo (bison) the animal; buffalo handling and healthcare; and the buffalo industry.

Unit three (3): Focuses on buffalo meat. It covers regulations, comparisons to other meats, taste, cooking and nutritional information; as well as buffalo by-products. With an optional monthly diary describing buffalo ranching and ranch activities.

***Enjoy learning about buffalo!
David & Marlene Groves***

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1 ~ History/Science/Evolution

Learn where buffalo came from, how they evolved, where they lived and how they adapted

1.1. ~ Learn how and when the buffalo arrived in North America.

ACTIVITY: Draw or insert a map, use arrows to show how buffalo came to North America.



1.2. ~ Understand the evolution of the American Buffalo (from Bison-priscus, Bison-antiquus/latifrons, & Bison-bison) and describe some differences between them.

ACTIVITY: Draw or insert pictures showing the evolution (change) of the buffalo and list at least one thing about the change in appearance.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Draw or Insert Picture</i>	<i>Describe Differences</i>
<i>Bison Priscus</i>		
<i>Bison Antiquus/Latifrons</i>		
<i>Bison Bison</i>		



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1.3. ~ Learn where the buffalo lived and what the population was during the early 1800's, late 1800's and today.

ACTIVITY: Illustrate the buffalo range & buffalo population during the time periods below.		
<i>Time Line</i>	<i>Draw or Insert Map</i>	<i>Note what was happening</i>
<i>Early 1800's</i>		
<i>Late 1800's</i>		
<i>Today</i>		



2 ~ Heritage/Culture/Environment

Learn why buffalo were important to Native Americans; how the buffalo were impacted by people coming to the West; and learn of other endangered species.

2.1. ~ Learn, then describe why the buffalo were important to the Native American Indian's.

ACTIVITY: List some of the Native American Indian uses of the buffalo.		
<i>Buffalo Area</i>	<i>What was it used for</i>	<i>Insert or Draw a Picture</i>
<i>Buffalo Muscles</i>		
<i>Buffalo Hide</i>		
<i>Buffalo Hair</i>		
<i>Buffalo Horns</i>		
<i>Buffalo Organs</i>		
<i>Buffalo Bones</i>		
<i>Buffalo Chips/Dung</i>		



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2.2. ~ Research the way the buffalo were impacted by the early American Settlers, the Railroad, and the United States Government during the 1800's.

ACTIVITY: Write in the space below what you learned about one or all of these situations impacting the fate of the buffalo (use more paper if you need).



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2.3. ~ Identify at least three (3) animal/species today that are endangered and/or near being extinct.

ACTIVITY: Pick one (1) animal/species today that is endangered and/or near being extinct and tell us about the situation using words, pictures or other. Maybe include steps being taken to prevent the animal becoming extinct.

Below Please List 3 Endangered Animals

1.

2.

3.

Below write about 1 Endangered Animal.



3 ~ Animal/Species

Learn & describe how animals in a buffalo family relate to each other in the herd.

3.1. ~ Learn the three common names for three types of animals in a buffalo family unit.

3.2. ~ Understand physical characteristics of each animal type in a buffalo family unit.

ACTIVITY: Fill in the information below.

<i>Buffalo Names</i>	<i>Physical Buffalo Description</i>

4 ~ Your Buffalo Research

4.1. ~ Learn more about buffalo by researching buffalo books at the libraries, buffalo videos, buffalo information on the internet or other buffalo information available.

ACTIVITY: How did you research?	What one interesting buffalo fact did you find & learn?

4.2. ~ Try to view buffalo, at a nearby ranch, a local zoo, or perhaps a museum display.

ACTIVITY: Where did you see buffalo?	What one interesting thing did you see & learn?



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5 ~ 4 H Option

Visit with your local County Extension Office and see if this buffalo project would be allowed as a 4-H project. If so, you may choose to participate with 4-H and possibly display your project at your local fair. *Follow all 4-H Rules required for your county & state programs.*

Congratulations!
That completes Buffalo Project Unit One.
We hope you enjoyed learning about buffalo.

Unit Two of the Buffalo Project will cover

Buffalo – More about the Animal(s)

Buffalo Handling & Healthcare

Buffalo Industry (sale prices and costs)

Unit Three of the Buffalo Project will cover

Buffalo Meat Industry (along with other meat industry information)

Buffalo Meat Nutrition Information

Buffalo By Products