



Buffalo Groves, Inc.

Buffalo Project Unit Two

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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 ~ Animal / Species Review

Review & refresh what you have learned about buffalo in Unit One.

1.1. ~ Use what you learned in unit one and are learning in unit two to describe some similarities and differences between buffalo and cattle.

ACTIVITY: Below list both similarities and differences between buffalo and beef cattle.

<i>Buffalo vs Beef</i>	<i>Similarities</i>	<i>Differences</i>
<i>Overall</i>		
<i>Bulls</i>		
<i>Cows</i>		
<i>Calves</i>		



1.2. ~ Where would you find buffalo today (in which types of environments)? *Hint: not all buffalo are on buffalo ranches.*

1.3. ~ What do these types of places do with the buffalo (why are buffalo there)?

ACTIVITY: Below list where buffalo live and why they live there?

<i>Places where buffalo Live</i>	<i>Why do the buffalo live there?</i>

2 ~ Buffalo Handling & Healthcare

Learn about equipment, fencing, vaccinations, and buffalo record keeping.

2.1. ~ Learn what type of equipment is needed for handling buffalo and about buffalo fencing (type of fencing, height of fencing, etc.)

ACTIVITY: Describe buffalo fencing, corrals, and handling equipment. (Photos may be added too)

<i>Describe Buffalo Fencing</i>	
<i>Describe Buffalo Pens or Corrals</i>	
<i>Describe Buffalo Handling Equipment</i>	



2.2. ~ Learn about buffalo healthcare by talking to a buffalo rancher and if you can talk to a buffalo vet.

ACTIVITY: List what diseases buffalo could get; and what vaccinations buffalo might get.

<p><i>List diseases buffalo could get.</i></p>	
<p><i>List vaccinations buffalo might get.</i></p>	

2.3. ~ Learn about buffalo record keeping by talking to a buffalo rancher.

ACTIVITY: List what herd information & records are might be kept by buffalo ranchers.

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3 ~ Buffalo Industry Information

Learn the basics and a bit more about the buffalo/bison industry.

3.1. ~ Learn about today's buffalo (bison) industry.

ACTIVITY: What bison organizations do you know of and what do they do?

<i>Organizations</i>	<i>What they do</i>

3.2 ~ Can you find buffalo meat, buffalo restaurants, buffalo farms/ranches, or anything else buffalo related (like a museum or something else) in your area?

ACTIVITY: List where you can buy buffalo meat and live buffalo (animals) in your area.

<i>Name where you could buy buffalo meat in your area</i>	
<i>Name some restaurants that serve buffalo meat</i>	
<i>Name any buffalo farms/ranches</i>	
<i>Name any other buffalo places</i>	

3.3 ~ Try to locate a buffalo farmer or rancher & ask a few general questions.

ACTIVITY: Ask a buffalo farmer/rancher these questions (phone/email or in person).

<i>How many buffalo do they raise?</i>	
<i>How much land do they have?</i>	
<i>How long have they raised buffalo?</i>	
<i>Do they have another job, (what it is)?</i>	
<i>Why do they raise buffalo? (Do they sell meat, animals, other)?</i>	

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3.4. ~ Learn today's average prices for live buffalo; which may be per head or per pound.

ACTIVITY: Fill in the average prices for various live buffalo.		
	<i>Bull</i>	<i>Heifer</i>
<i>Calf</i>		
<i>Yearling</i>		
<i>2 Year Old (for Meat)</i>		
<i>2 Yr Breeding Heifer</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>	
<i>2 Yr Breeding Bull</i>		<i>Not applicable</i>

3.5 ~ Learn what it costs to raise a buffalo.

ACTIVITY: Fill in some average costs to raise a buffalo (some might be blank).						
	<i>Vet & Vaccinations</i>	<i>Grass/Hay or Pasture</i>	<i>Minerals</i>	<i>Grain</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Other Note</i>
<i>Birth to Weaned Calf</i>						
<i>Weaned Calf to 1 Yr</i>						
<i>1 Year to 2 Years</i>						
<i>TOTAL</i>						

3.6 ~ See where you might be able to make money in the buffalo industry by using the information you have on buffalo sale prices, less buffalo costs.

ACTIVITY: Do some buffalo math by picking a buffalo sale price (for any type of animal) and deducting the costs to raise the buffalo.		
<i>What type of buffalo are you selling? (example – buy a bull calf, raise it and sell a 2 yr old meat bull) – do any buffalo type</i>		
<i>What the average sale price? (use your numbers from 3.4)</i>	+	
<i>What's the cost to raise it to that age? (use your numbers from 3.5)</i>	-	
<i>What is your Profit or Loss?</i>	=	



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4 ~ 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.*

More Kudos to You!

**That completes the Buffalo Project Unit Two.
*By now you know quite a bit about buffalo.***

The Final Unit is next

Unit Three of the Buffalo Project will cover

Buffalo Meat Industry (along with other meat industry information)

Buffalo Meat Nutrition Information

Buffalo By Products

& More