



# Cows

Level C / 37 words / informational text

High frequency words:

*and, are, can, fast, her, is, run, this*

## Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Have you ever seen a cow? What do you know about cows?"

## Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss what is happening in each picture. Help students find the word *this*.
- Find the known words *fast* and *baby*.
- Find the new word *calf* on page 10. Explain that a calf is a baby cow.

## Reading the text

- Have the children read the text independently. Encourage them to read it again if they finish before the others in the group.
- While they're reading, listen to each student individually and prompt them to use meaning, structure, and letter cues at difficulty. Praise the successful use of reading cues.
- Make sure the children can match (with their finger) or track (with their eyes) each word of the text.

### FUN FACT

**Cows spend most of their day eating up to 80 pounds of hay or grass. They also like occasional treats, like a cut up apple or a slice of brown bread.**

## After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you noticed students using correctly at difficulty.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "What does a cow eat? What sound does a cow make? What is a baby cow called?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What else do you think cows eat? Where do you think cows live?"

## Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Look for words ending in *-ing*: *eating, resting, and running*. Notice that these words are made up of the base word and the *-ing* ending.

## Rereading for fluency

- Have the children read the story again, either independently or with a partner.
- Use this opportunity to listen to each child and again prompt for strategy use at difficulty.

## Writing activity

- Have the children write a sentence and draw a picture about what a cow likes to eat.
- Encourage independent attempts to spell words correctly and the use of proper punctuation.

**Teaching Points:** Introducing new words; Cross-checking difficult words with pictures and story meaning; Rereading; Introducing base words and the *-ing* ending.