

Rise and Shine, It's Breakfast Time

The morning sun is peaking into the barn. This is *Please's* favourite time of day. She hears the familiar noises as the farmer comes into the barn. **THUMP** goes a mucky boot. **BANG** goes the barn door as it closes. **CLANG** goes the milk bucket as the farmer places it on the hook.

Please leans her head out of the pen, reaches for the nipple bucket and drinks her morning milk. The farmer reaches over to pat *Please's* nose and takes the bucket away. What's this new smell? *Please* sniffs the hand and reaches her long tongue out as dry kernels are gently pushed into her mouth. They feel rough, but they have a sweet taste.

The farmer is giving *Please* her first taste of 'calf starter', a mix of cracked corn, rolled oats and soybean meal (with some added molasses for sweetness). The grain has nutrients and protein to help her grow strong. It also helps her special stomach, called a 'rumen', to develop. *Please* is a quick learner and soon she won't need any milk at all.



What do cows do all day?

14 hours
(most of
the day)

Lying
down,
chewing
cud &
resting.

Graze, Chew, Drink,
Rest...Repeat

4
hours

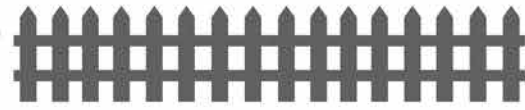
Milking &
hanging out
with the
other cows.

6
hours

Eating &
drinking
water.



Can a dairy farmer have only 1 cow?



Cows are social animals. That means that they are happier when together with other cows in a herd. Farmers know that happy cows make more milk. A dairy farm is a business, and farmers choose the size of herd that they can best take care of on their farm. A small dairy farm might have a herd of fifteen cows. Cowsville Dairy Farm is a larger farm with a herd of about 120 milking cows and their calves.

They have a lot of calves to name. Cows can have their babies at any time of the year. To help keep track of their age, the farmer gave all the calves born in September names that start with the letter P... *Please, Pansy, Pebbles, Pearl, Peaches, and Parsnip*. Can you think of some other names starting with the letter P?

**Can you count 10 cows in this herd?
Where's Please?**



Hello My Name is...



- **dairy** - a farm that produces milk
- **herd** - a group of cows

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