

 **Activity 3.1.1 Animal Value****Purpose**

Think about your most prized possessions, such as your iPod®, fishing rod, a family photo, or a “Most Improved” certificate from playing sports. You value these items for different reasons, maybe due to monetary investment or fond memories. Why are these objects important to you? Do items having importance to you have the same importance to others?

People are different, that includes their feelings about animals. One person may feel life would not exist without a dog, whereas another individual sees no point in owning a dog. As you explore your feelings about the importance of animals remember to respect the fact your classmates may not feel the same. During discussion, please remember that animal welfare is a matter of personal values. While you may disagree with others, individuals are entitled to their viewpoints and you should not put those opinions down. Sharing ideas, philosophies, and opinions is important in understanding differing viewpoints.

Materials**Per student:**

Pencil

*Agriscience Notebook***Procedure**

In this activity, you will determine the value of different animals based on your opinion. As you go through this activity, keep in mind there are no right or wrong answers. At the conclusion of the activity, you will share some of your thoughts when your teacher asks for discussion.

Part One – Assessing Value

In Table 1 of *Activity 3.1.1 Student Worksheet*, assign a value of importance to each animal by placing an “x” in the column representing the importance of the given animal. 0 represents the least importance to you and 5 represents the most importance.

Part Two – Supporting Your Assessment

Select two of your highest ranking and two of your lowest ranking animals and record the name of the animals in the space provided:

High	Low
Lab Mouse	Ant
Cow	Mosquito

Answer the following questions.

What qualities of the animals listed above in the left column, caused you to give your highest ranking?

-A lab mouse is used to find medical cures and different reactions, and a cow is used for meat and dairy which is also good for people who don not eat pork because a cow is beef.

What qualities of the animals listed above in the right column caused you to give your lowest ranking?

-The ants and mosquitoes do not do much because they are on the ground and get killed too easily.

Enter the four animals you ranked above in the proper columns in Table 2 of *Activity 3.1.1 Student Worksheet*.

Look at the similarities and differences of the animals. How might others agree or disagree with your ranking of the importance of each animal? Make notes below to use later in discussion.

Conclusion

1. What qualities did you use to assign a “value” to each animal in Part One of this activity?

I placed them determined by their importance to resources and importance in the agricultural industry.

How might other people’s opinions differ from yours? Why do you think their opinions may differ?

They may think some animals should be placed higher or lower than what I placed my animals. I think they may differ because everyone has a different opinion and sees things from different views.

How would the way a person feels about an animal affect the way he or she treats an animal?

If someone cares more about a certain animal, he may treat it better than an animal he doesn't care for because he believes that they deserve better treatment and care.

Name: _____

Activity 3.1.1 Student Worksheet

Directions: Place an “x” in the column representing the importance of the given animal, 0 represents the least importance to you and 5 represents the most importance.

Table 1. Animal Values

Animal	0	1	2	3	4	5
Ant	x					
Barn cat			x			
Border Collie puppy			x			
Cow					x	
Chicken				x		
Goat				x		
Guinea pig	x					
Horse				x		
Lab mouse						x
Ladybug		x				
Lamb			x			
Llama		x				
Monarch butterfly		x				
Mosquito	x					
Pig					x	
Rabbit		x				
Rat	x					
Turkey					x	

Directions: Based on your opinions, answer the questions below for each animal by placing a yes (Y) or no (N) in each corresponding column.

Table 2. Exploring Animal Value

Question	High Ranking Animal	High Ranking Animal	Low Ranking Animal	Low Ranking Animal
	Lab Mouse	Cow	Ant	Mosquito
Can this animal feel pain?	Y	Y	Y	Y
Does this animal eat and drink?	Y	Y	Y	Y
Does this animal have a nurturing mother?	N	Y	N	N
Do humans use this animal to produce food or clothing or to provide companionship?	N	Y	N	N
Is this animal considered a pest by humans or other animals?	N	N	Y	Y