

 **Project 3.1.3 Animal Issues****Purpose**

When using animals in agriculture, issues sometimes arise. Key issues in animal agriculture include animal research, antibiotics and growth hormones, genetic modifications, confinement operations, manure and odor, meat consumption, and slaughter practices. All of these issues have positive effects or producers would not use them. What are negative views on key issues?

Often when an issue involves emotions, misconceptions are common. A misconception is an opinion or a view on an issue that is incorrect due to a misunderstanding. For instance, many consumers believe brown eggs are more nutritious than white eggs. A producer changes the nutritive value of an egg by feeding the hen differently. The breed of chicken does not affect the nutrition of the egg. Due to misconceptions in agriculture, producers need to provide correct information to the public in order for people to make educated decisions on animal issues. What could you do to help decrease misconceptions in animal agriculture?

Materials**Per pair of students:**

- Computer with Internet access and printing capabilities
- Piece of tape

Per student:

- Pencil
- *Agriscience Notebook*

Procedure

You will work with a partner to develop an informative flyer about a key issue in animal agriculture. Once all flyers are completed, your teacher will lead you in a gallery walk and you will use the information in the flyers to complete *Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet*.

1. Your teacher will assign you and your partner a key issue in animal agriculture.
2. Use the Internet and research your assigned issue. Answer the following questions with your research.
 - What are two positive and negative effects of your issue on animal agriculture?
 - What common misconceptions are there about the use of this practice?
 - Have you found any reports of abuse or cruelty related to this issue?
 - What might happen if this practice is stopped?
3. Using the computer, develop a one page flyer containing the information you and your partner found in your research. Include graphics to grab attention of others. Use *Project 3.1.3 Evaluation Rubric* as a reference.
4. Print your flyer and using the piece of tape, display the flyer in an area designated by your teacher.
5. Use the flyers to complete Table 1 of *Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet*.

Conclusion

1. Do the benefits of the issue you researched outweigh the concerns? Explain.

Pretty much 50/50

6. How might misconceptions affect practices in the animal industry? Cause it could be a good or bad thing.

Name: _____



Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet

Table 1. Animal Issues

Animal Issue	Positive Effect	Negative Effect	Misconception
Animal Research	Medications being discovered	Using animals in research is costly	Sometimes they test wrong things on the wrong animal
Antibiotics and Growth Hormones			
Genetic Modifications	Insect resistant	Gene transfer	GMO's are a new thing
Confinement Operations	They're protected from hurting or hurting others	Animal loses natural instincts	The animal is in a cage 24/7
Manure and Odor	Used as fertilizer	Harmful gasses	Is not thought to be bad but can become bad cause of the gasses
Meat Consumption and Animal By-Products			
Slaughter Practices	It provides income	It can become a major industry	Its not really bloody
Fish Farming and Fishing	Fishing creates many jobs for people in need	Can lead to endangered species	Farmed fish are not safe to eat
Hunting and Trapping	Provides food	poaching	Hunters are cruel to animals
Spaying and Neutering	Makes for a healthier dog	Can cause weight change	People think their animal will miss out on parent-hood