

 **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.
2. How might misconceptions affect practices in the animal industry?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet

**Table 1. *Animal Issues***

<b>Animal Issue</b>	<b>Positive Effect</b>	<b>Negative Effect</b>	<b>Misconception</b>
<b>Animal Research</b>			
<b>Antibiotics and Growth Hormones</b>			
<b>Genetic Modifications</b>			
<b>Confinement Operations</b>			
<b>Manure and Odor</b>			
<b>Meat Consumption and Animal By-Products</b>			
<b>Slaughter Practices</b>			
<b>Fish Farming and Fishing</b>			
<b>Hunting and Trapping</b>			
<b>Spaying and Neutering</b>			