

Handling and Space Activity

Objective:

Youth will learn about flight zones, blind spots and sight of animals.

Youth will learn about housing and providing adequate space.

- Discuss flight zones, blind spots and other visual limitations of animals.
- Discuss animal welfare issues related to space requirements necessary for performance.
- Split the class into groups and provide each group with an animal project (see page 2).
- Have groups demonstrate when they can and cannot see an individual beside or behind them. (Change placement of eyes by placing paper or tape to demonstrate eyes being further apart or on the side).
- Have groups mark off the size of pen needed for their animal and feeder space. Use masking tape to mark on the floor (if room is big enough).

Reflect:

Handling

How did changing eye placement or using blinders affect your vision?

What is the best way to approach an animal? Why?

Space

How accurate were your space estimates?

Why are the space needs different for different size animals?

Which specie of animal needs the most space?

What might happen if an animal is not given enough housing and feeder space?

What changes might you make to your animal facilities to provide adequate housing or feeder space?

Scenario Examples:

2 – 500 lb feeder calves

2 – 1300 lb steers

4 – 280 lb market barrows

10 – 50 lb feeder pigs

1 – market broiler

1 – laying hen

2 – meat goats

1 – rabbit

2 – ewes with lambs

6 – 100 lb market lambs

3 – 1500 lb dairy heifers

Animal Space Requirements

Beef	Feeder (400-800 lb)	Paved lot	40 to 50 sq. ft.
	Finishing (800-1200 lb)		50 to 60 sq. ft.
	Bred Heifer		50 to 60 sq. ft.
	Cows		60 to 75 sq. ft.
Dairy	Calves	Hutch	25 to 30 sq. ft.
	Heifers	Paved lot	35 to 50 sq. ft.
Sheep	Feeder (30-110 lb)		8 to 10 sq. ft.
	Ewes with lambs		15 to 20 sq. ft.
	Dry ewes		12 to 16 sq. ft.
Swine	Nursery (up to 60 lb)		2 to 4 sq. ft.
	Growing (60-120 lb)		6 sq. ft.
	Finishing (120-market wt)		8 sq. ft.
	Gestating sow		8 sq. ft.
Goat	Meat		8 to 10 sq. ft.
Poultry			16 sq. ft.
	Layer hens		
	Broilers		1 to 2 sq. ft.
	Turkey		
Rabbit	Rabbit		1.5 to 5 sq. ft.