

# Finding Alberta Beef



Places, Spaces and Stories  
about Beef Cattle Farming  
and Ranching in Alberta for  
Elementary Classrooms

Kindergarten/Grade 1

LEARNING PAGES

Finding Places and Stories



---

The **Finding Alberta Beef** learning pages encourage students to explore cattle farming and ranching in Alberta. From family farms and ranches, passed down through generations, to new, state-of-the-art feeding and breeding operations, Alberta’s farmers and ranchers are proud of their industry.

The many authentic photos and stories used in these learning pages share the land, resources, experiences and stewardship that are part of Alberta cattle farming and ranching families.

It is our hope that students develop understandings of the ways of life involved in raising cattle and contributing to Alberta’s and Canada’s food system while respecting the different choices that people make about their food. Alberta Beef Producers is proud to support education and provide the **Finding Alberta Beef** resources for teachers and students in Kindergarten to Grade 5 Social Studies, Science and Health/Wellness programs.

Alberta Beef thanks the cattle farmers and ranchers who have shared stories and photos that are used in these resources.

©Alberta Beef Producers 2020

Permission is granted to make copies of any or all parts of this resource for educational, not-for-profit use only.

Readers should be aware that Internet websites offered as citations and/or sources for further information may have changed or disappeared between the time this was written and when it is read. Teachers are cautioned that all websites listed in this resource should be checked for appropriateness and suitability before being provided to, or used with, students.

Every effort has been made to acknowledge sources used in the **Finding Alberta Beef** resources. In the event of questions arising as to the use of any material, we will be pleased to make the necessary corrections in future versions.



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

---

# contents

---

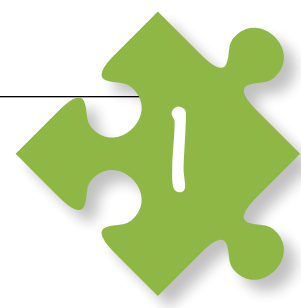
- 1 Communities are alike and different..... 5
- 2 Communities are found on different types of land..... 6
- 3 Communities have different features..... 9
- 4 Farms and ranches are part of communities in Alberta..... 17
- 5 Shapes can be seen on farms and ranches..... 21
- 6 Farmers and ranchers care for plants and animals..... 22
- 7 Indigenous people were Canada’s first farmers..... 30
- 8 Stories from cattle farming and ranching communities show concern for the land..... 32
- 9 Cattle are part of Alberta’s environment..... 39
- 10 Food comes from farms and ranches..... 42
- 11 Beef gives the body nutrients..... 45



These **Finding Alberta Beef** learning pages are part of a mini-unit that encourages students to explore Canada’s agricultural communities and the importance of the beef production industry to Alberta’s vitality.

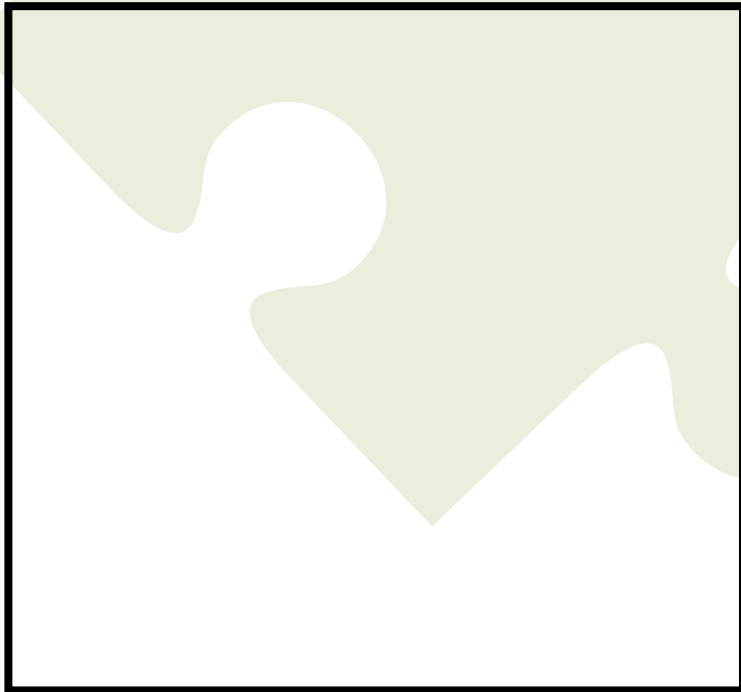
Student learning pages in this resource include photos and stories from current Alberta cattle farms and ranches and some feature fillable fields that allow students to respond and save their work as evidence of their learning.



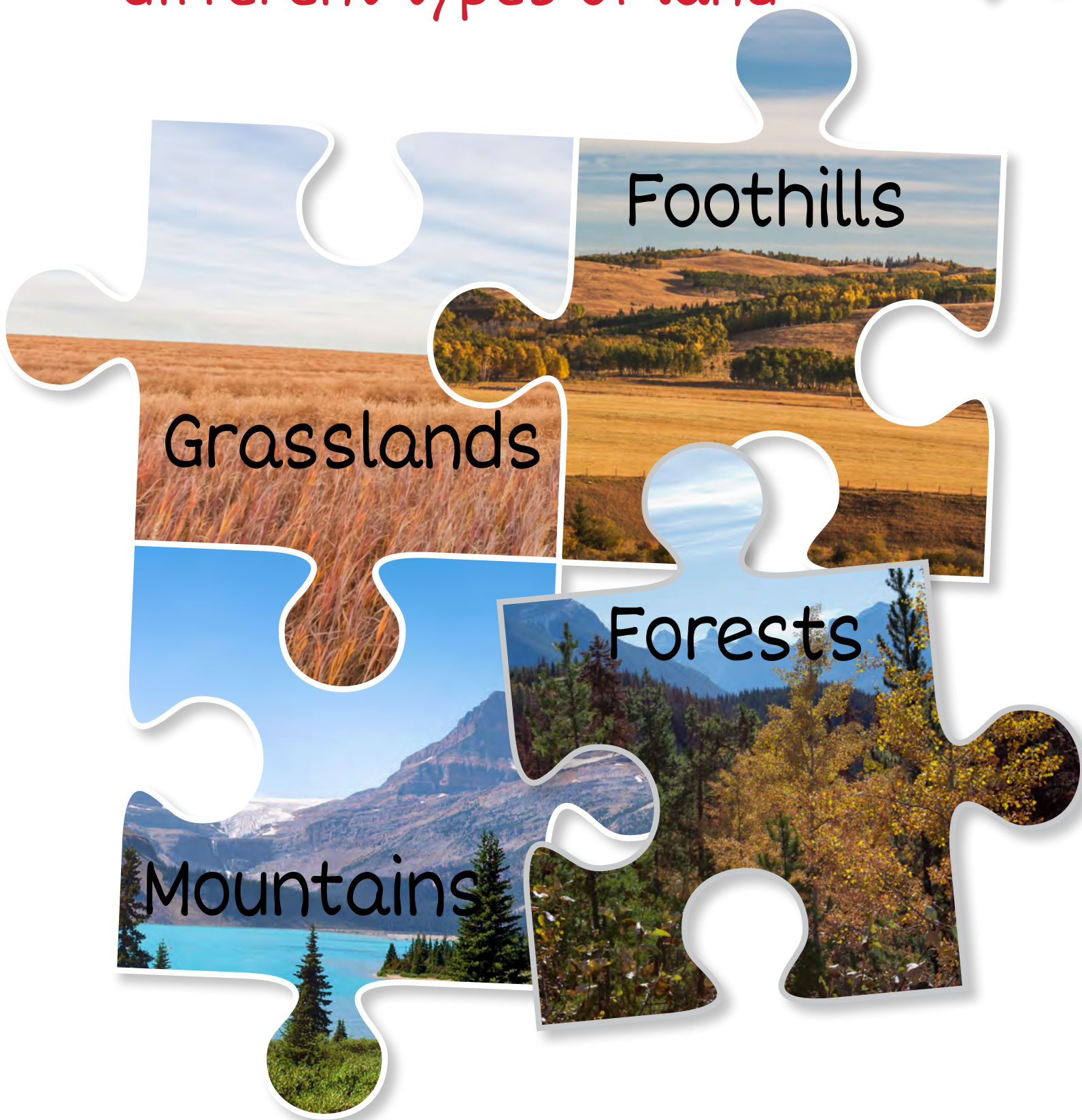


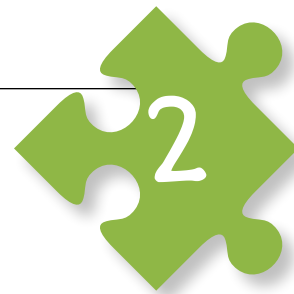
# Communities are alike and different

What land and places can you find in your community? Draw four examples.



# Communities are found on different types of land



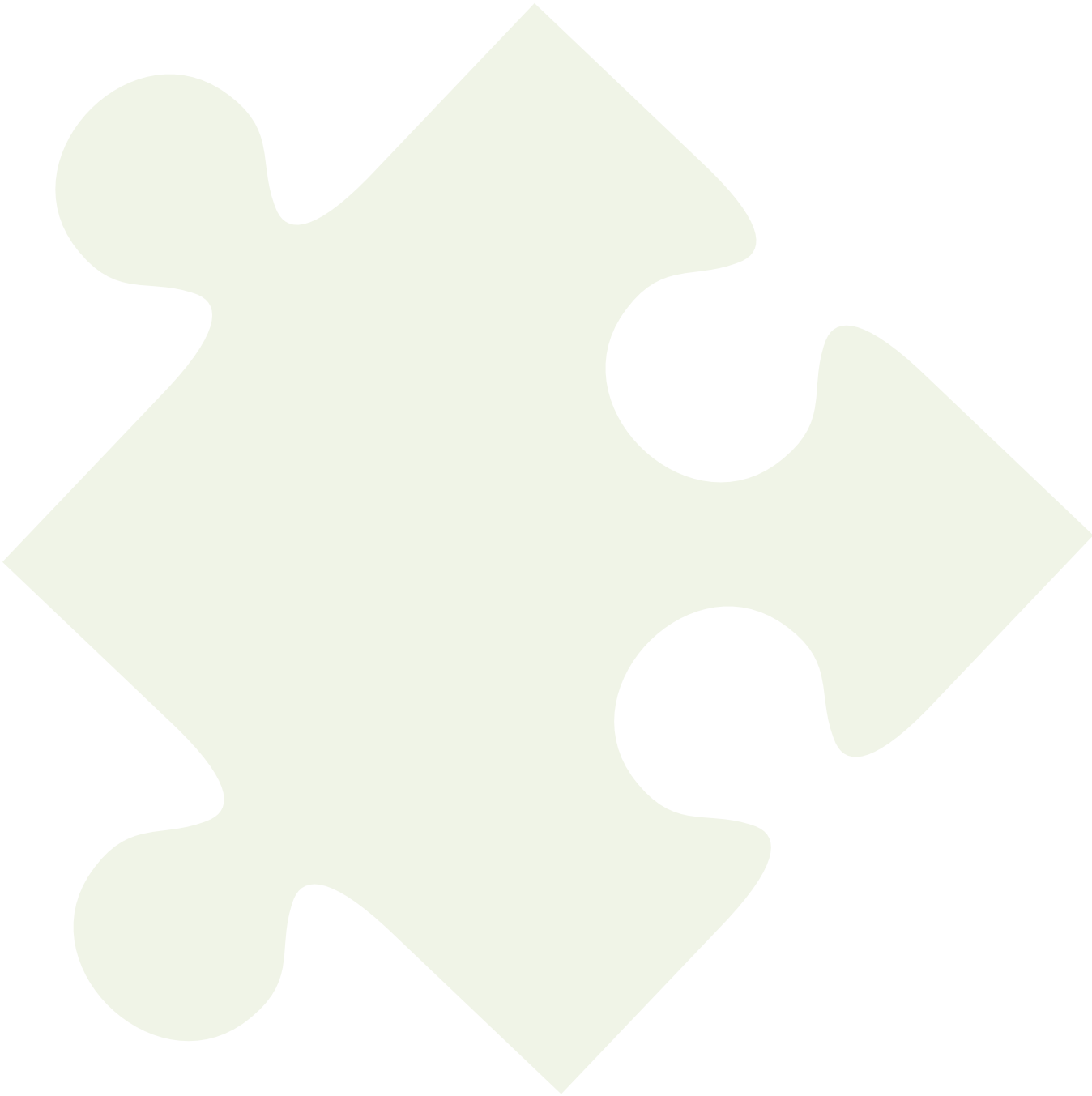


What do you see in each place?  
Find and circle the words.

Grasslands	Foothills
Trees Hills Grass Mountains Water	Trees Hills Grass Mountains Water
Mountains	Forests
Trees Hills Grass Mountains Water	Trees Hills Grass Mountains Water

---

How is the land the same or different from where you live?





# Communities have different features



Animal



Animal



Barn



Buildings



Buildings



Cattle



Dogs



Fence



Field



Food



Food



Food



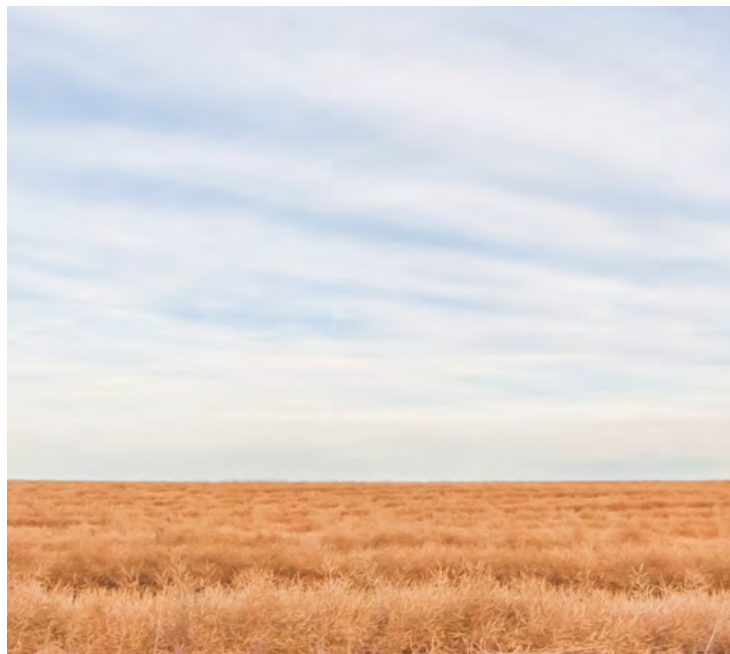
Food



Foothills



Grass



Grassland



Houses



Lake



Land



Landmark



Park



Plant



Plant



River



Rocks



Sidewalk



Store



Stream



Tractor



Street



Truck

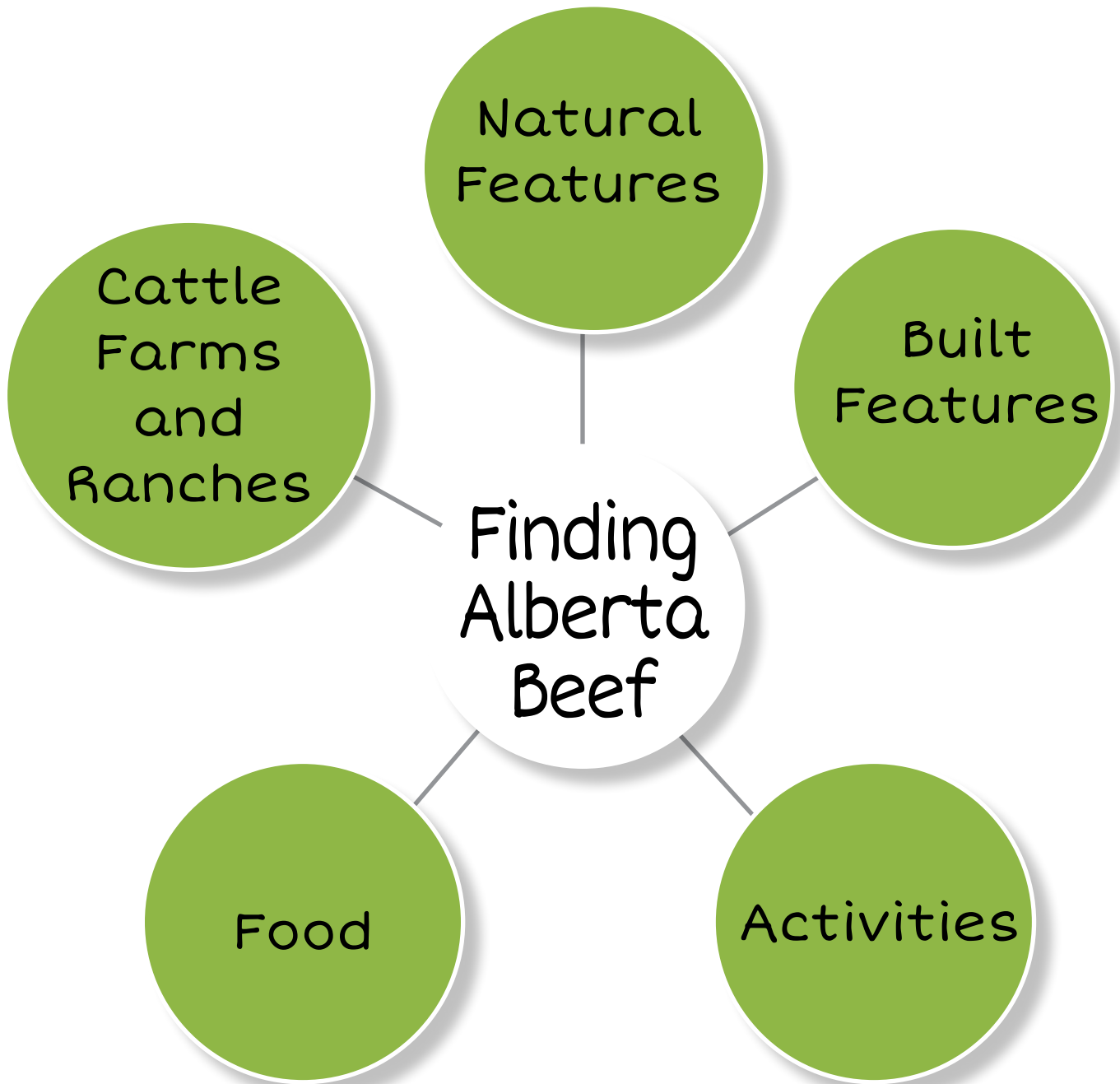


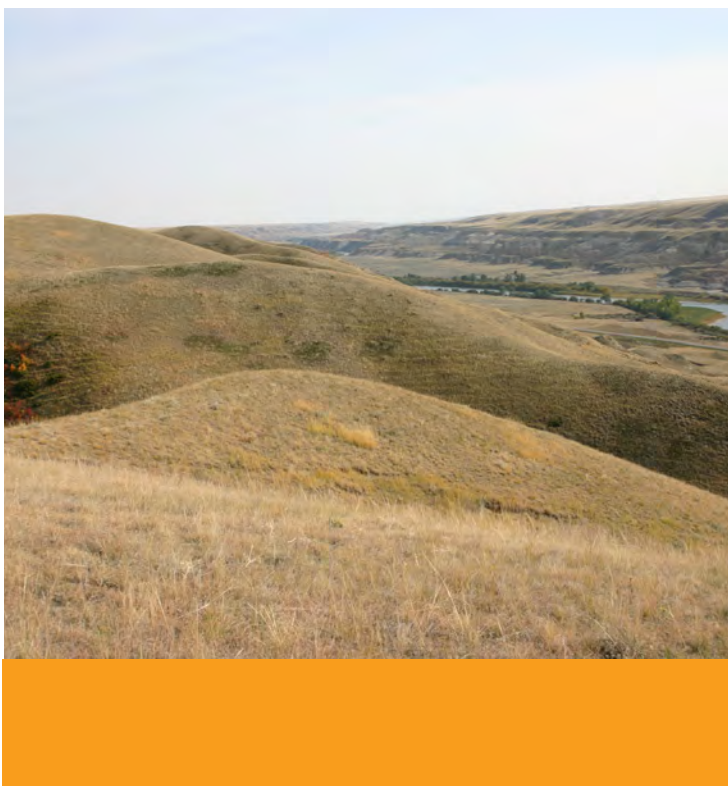
Water



---

# Farms and ranches are part of communities in Alberta





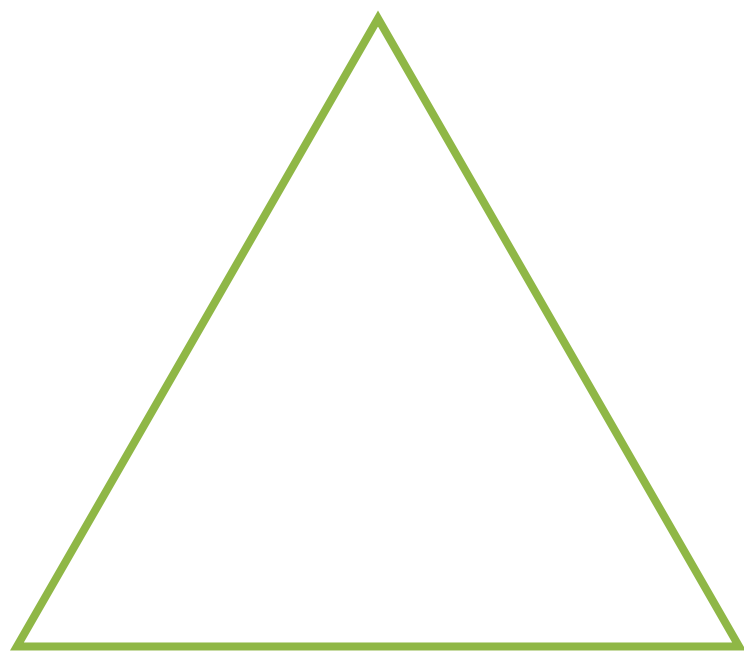
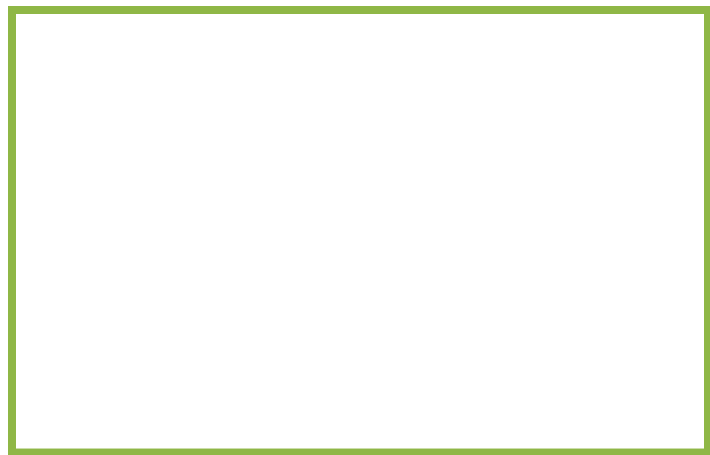
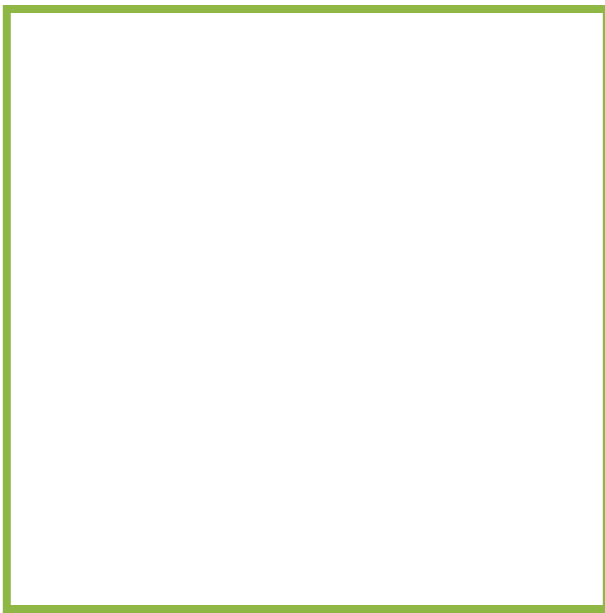






---

# Shapes can be seen on farms and ranches



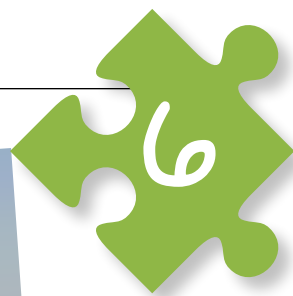
# Farmers and ranchers care for plants and animals



If there were no farmers,  
what would there be to eat?



A farm is a place where people  
live and work.



Farmers grow plants or raise animals for food.



Soil, sun and water are needed to grow crop plants.



Farmers look after their crops.



Farmers keep the soil healthy so plants can grow.





Water is very important for crops.



Nothing can grow without water.



Some farmers grow crops to feed the animals they raise.



Animals are raised on different types of farms.



Milk and cheese come from dairy farms. Dairy cows live in barns.



Chicken and eggs come from chicken farms.



These animals eat grains that come from crops.



Beef comes from cattle farms and ranches. Cattle live on fields called pastures.



Cattle eat grass. They may also eat hay and some grains.



All animals also need water, fresh air and light.

---

## Indigenous people were Canada's first farmers



An ancient Indigenous farming community was found on the bank of a river. This community is close to Winnipeg.

The river provided water for crops. The fish in the river were also used for food.

Every spring, the river flooded. This helped bring new soil to the land.

Stone knives and axes were found in this community. These tools were used to clear the land of tall prairie grasses, trees and brush.

Digging sticks made of wood were used to break up the soil.

---

Hoes were made of wood and the shoulder blade of the bison. These hoes were used to prepare the soil.

Corn was planted in small hills. Beans, squash and flowers may also have been grown.



# Stories from cattle farming and ranching communities show concern for the land



Randy and Sandra ranch at Coulee Crest Farms. They have a Hereford cattle herd.



They also grow grain and hay on their fields.





The cattle graze, or eat, these fields after the grain has been harvested.



Manure from the cattle helps soil health.



The environment is very important to Randy and Sandra.



Randy says they take care of the environment so it takes care of them.



The cattle are moved from field to field. This protects the land.



Randy and Sandra have made springs to provide fresh water for their cattle.



They protect a wetland area on their farm.



They use solar power to move the water so it does not get polluted.



Deer, elk, moose, birds, cougars and a grizzly bear make Coulee Crest their home.



Randy and Sandra put fences around areas with trees. The trees give the cattle a windbreak.



Meet the needs of cattle

Take care of the environment

What farmers and ranchers do

Depend on the environment

Grow plants and raise animals

---

# Cattle are part of Alberta's environment



Match the sentences to the photos on the wheel chart.

1 Cattle are raised on rocky lands and in dry areas. This land cannot be used to grow crops.

2 Birds live in the grasslands that cattle graze on. Their grazing helps protect the bird's homes.

3 Cattle help keep grasslands healthy. Their manure adds nutrients to the soil.

4 Cattle feed can be made from grains that are not used for human food.

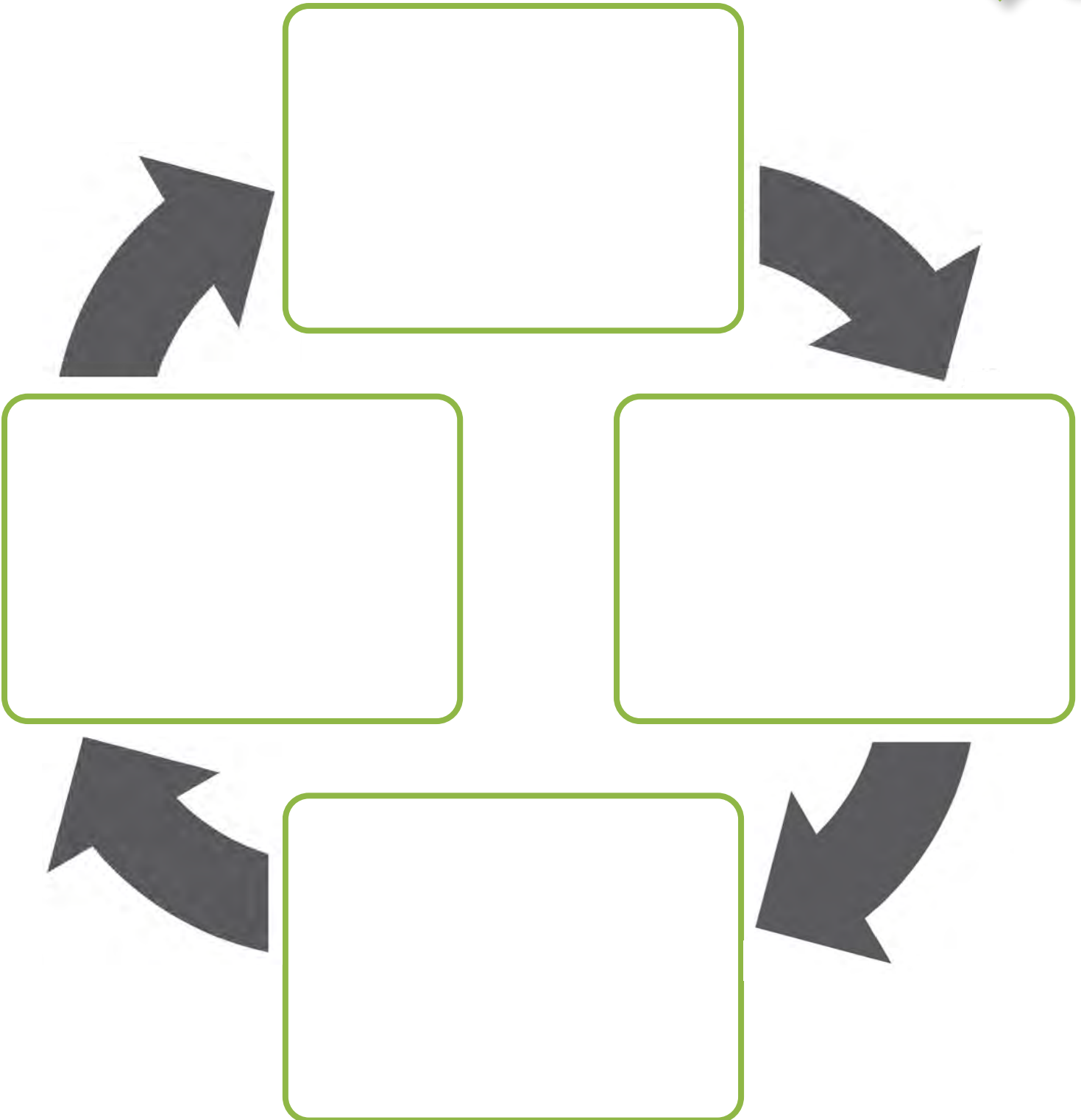
Write the number of the matching sentence in each box.





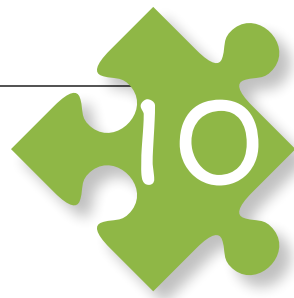


Show how cattle are recyclers.  
Use the sentences to help you.



Cattle eat grass. Cattle make manure.  
Manure fertilizes grass. Grass grows.

# Food comes from farms and ranches



Where does food come from?  
Match the foods and meals with  
the crops or animals they come  
from.

1



2



3

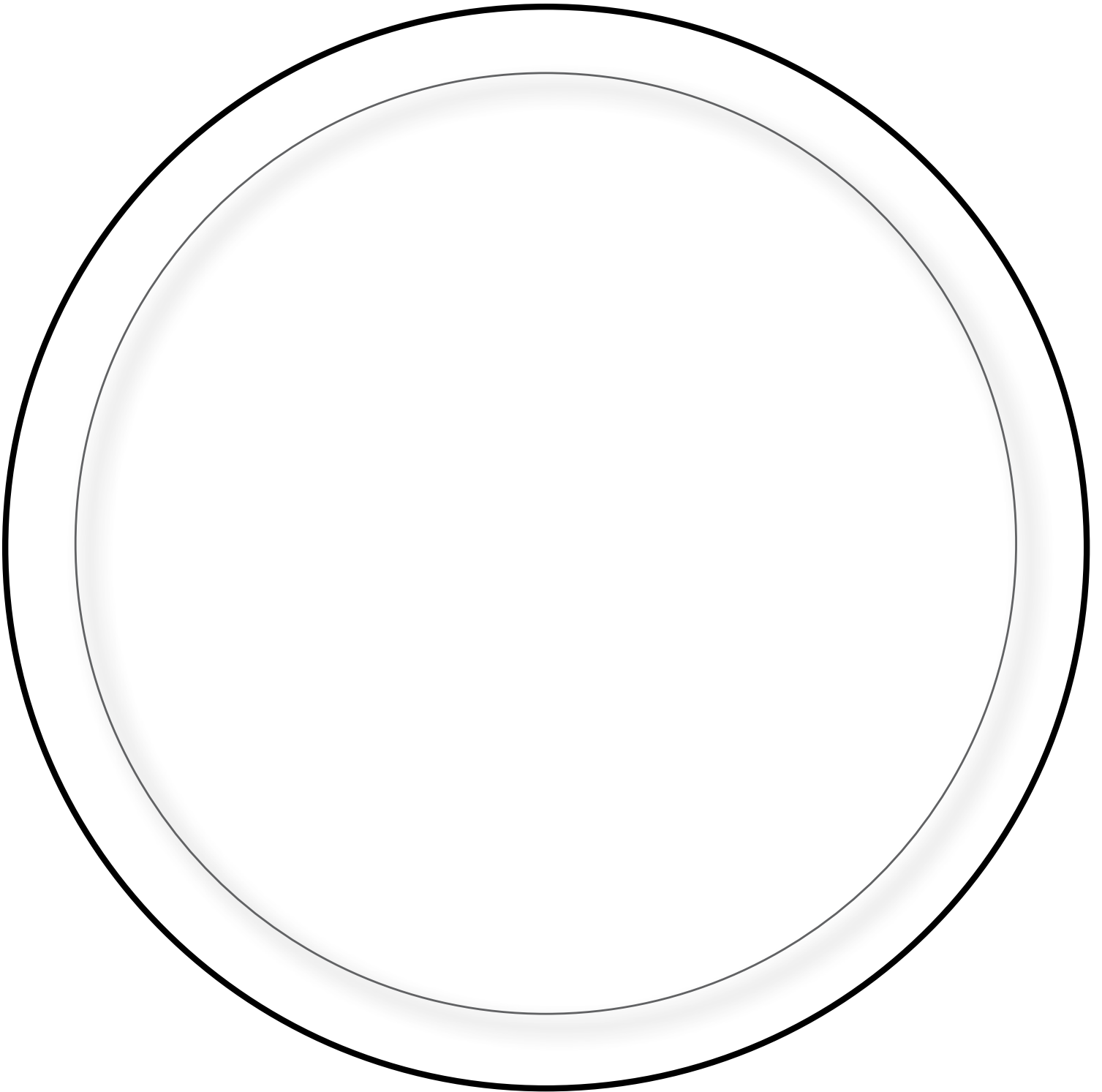


4



5





---

# Beef gives the body nutrients



Beef comes from cattle that are over one year old.

Canadian beef is lean. This means that it has very little fat.

Beef is a protein food. Protein helps build a healthy body.

People get iron and other vitamins and minerals from beef. Iron is important for your blood.

Plant foods like whole grains and animal foods like beef can be healthy to eat together.



---

Vegetables and fruits give  
the body nutrients.



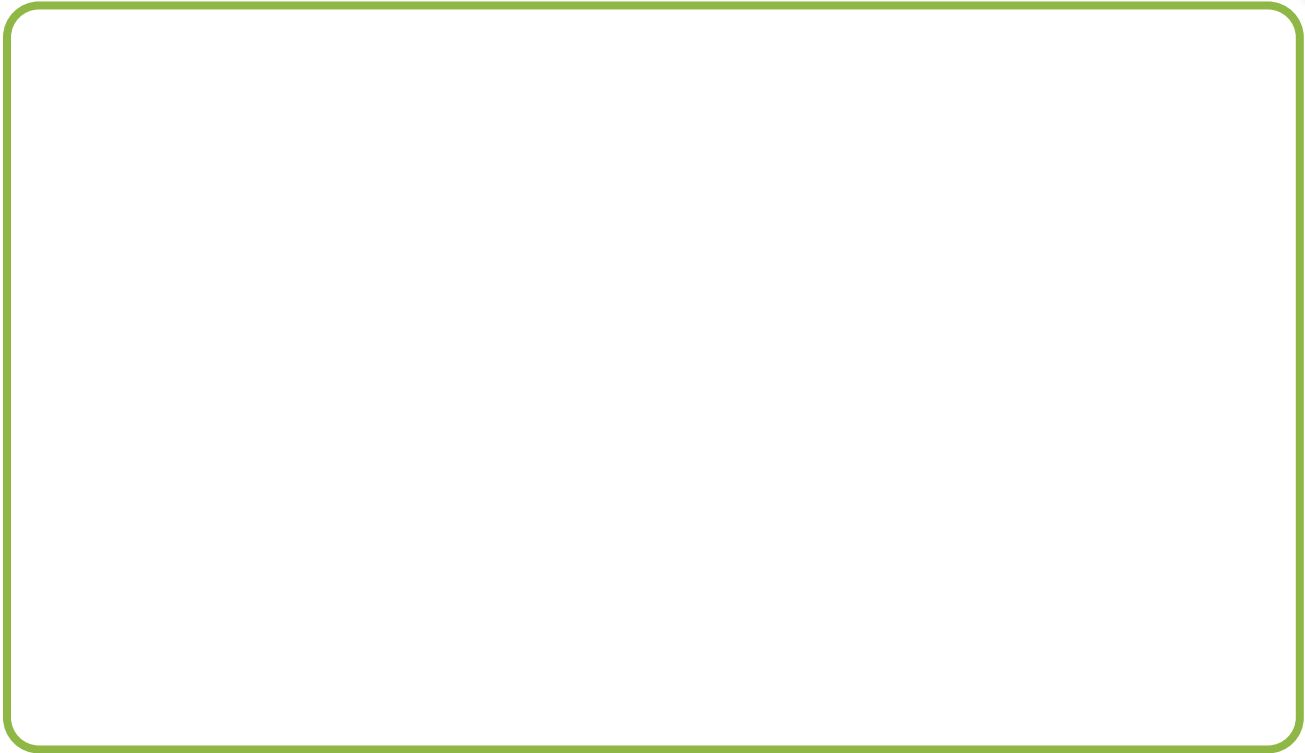
A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a green border, intended for drawing or writing about vegetables and fruits.

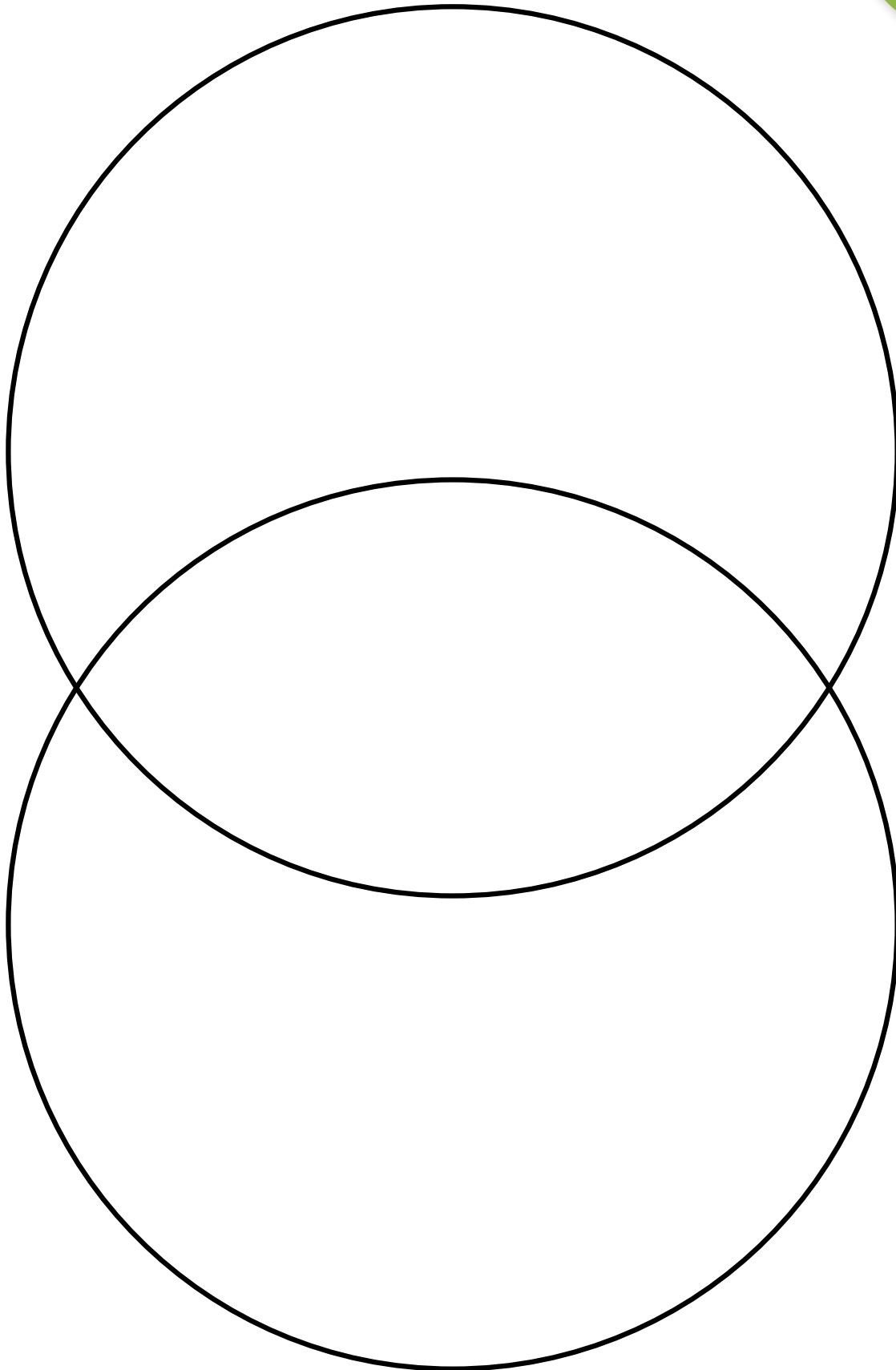
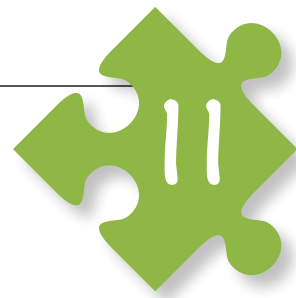
Whole grains give the body  
nutrients.

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a green border, intended for drawing or writing about whole grains.

---

Other protein foods give the body nutrients.











[www.albertabeef.org/consumers/resources](http://www.albertabeef.org/consumers/resources)