

4th Grade Teacher Key

Informational Reading Passage: The Cow's Digestive System

Complements Mobile Dairy Classroom assembly

Common Core: RI.4.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

Title of Passage: The Cow's Digestive System	Lexile Level: 940L	Grade: 4	
Text Type: Informational		MDC Topics: ruminant digestive system; similarities and differences; parts of the digestive system; feeding and eating	
Questions		Skill	Common Core Standards – Grade 4
1. The organizational structure of this passage is set up to support the purpose of the passage. What is the purpose of the passage? (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> identify cause and effect <input type="checkbox"/> identify similarities and differences <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> explain chronology <input type="checkbox"/> make comparisons <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> explain problem and solution <input type="checkbox"/> provide information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	comparison	RI.4.5 Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.	
2. Explain the purpose of the digestive system. <i>It is the digestive system that breaks down food so it can be used by the body.</i> What role does chewing and swallowing play in the digestive system? <i>Chewing helps break up the food into small pieces. Swallowing sends the food to the stomach where more digestion occurs.</i>	reasons and evidence	RI.4.8 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.	
3. Identify and explain the significant difference between the digestive system of a cow and the digestive system of a human. <i>A cow has a stomach with 4 compartments. A human stomach has no compartments. Cows chew and swallow their food twice. Humans swallow and chew their food once</i>	health concepts	RI.4.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.	

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4. What explanation is given for why a cow chews and swallows its food twice? When they eat, cows do not chew up the food very well before swallowing it. Later they will cough it up in small amounts called cud to chew better and swallow a second time. Cows don't have top teeth to help them bite and tear food so they can't break it up very well when they eat it. The extra chewing and swallowing helps them break up the food so it is more easily digested.	explain why	RI.4.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.	
5. Refer to the diagrams of the cow's digestive system and the human's digestive system when answering. What similarities are shown in the diagrams? Both systems have the same order of parts: mouth → esophagus → stomach → small intestines → large intestines What differences are shown in the diagrams? The structure of some parts is different. There are differences in the way they look.	information in diagram	RI.4.7 Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.	