

# Farmer Time Case Study

## Beef and Arable Case Study

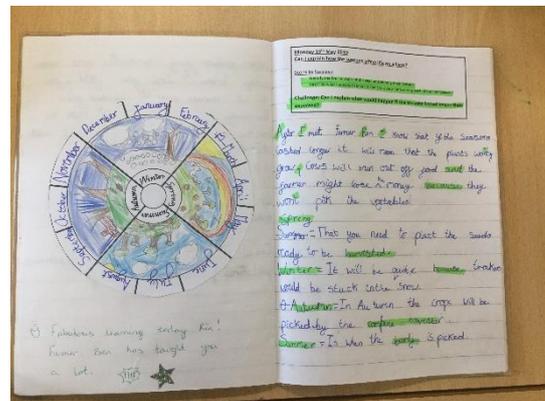


### The Farmer

Ben Andrews is a mixed tenant farmer based in Herefordshire where he farms approximately 600 acres of organic land. He is passionate about teaching people of all ages where food comes from.

### The School

Valley Invicta Primary School at Holborough Lakes is in Maidstone, Kent. Loni Stevens was inspired to sign up for Farmer Time after seeing a post on social media. Loni is very keen to use this unique initiative to really bring the curriculum alive in her classroom. Ben has also embraced this, Loni commented, 'Ben is so accommodating, nothing is too much trouble and the children are so enthusiastic.'

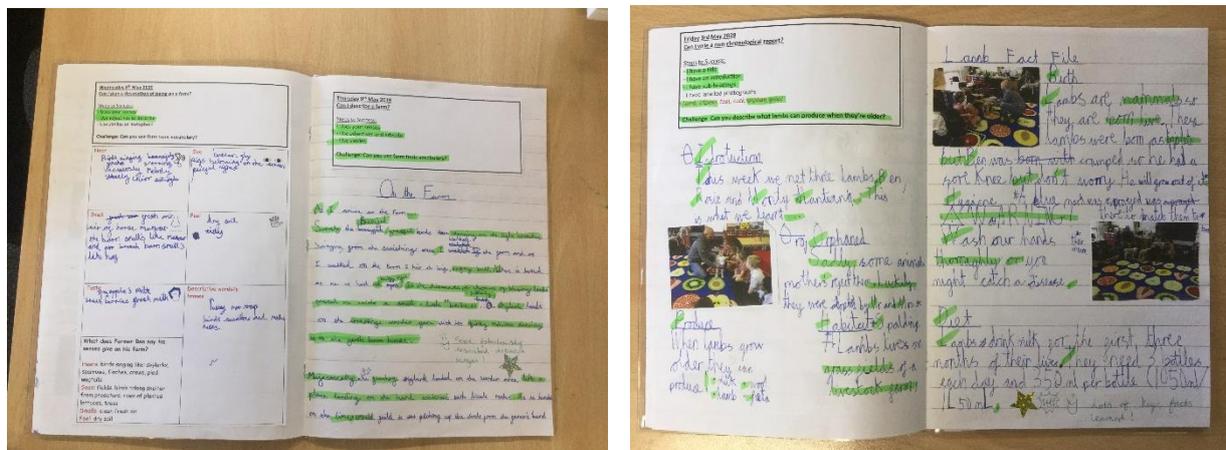


### The Sessions

Before each call with Ben, Loni looks at the curriculum knowledge and skills that the children are currently learning and plans engaging activities that can be supported by their call to Ben. The children are encouraged to think of and ask questions during the call that can then be used to support their follow up work. During the calls so far Loni and her class have enjoyed learning about:-

- Arable, dairy and livestock farms
- How farms compare to cities
- How the land is prepared for growing
- How to navigate around a farm using a compass
- The different seasons and how they affect the crops/animals
- What happens to the produce from the farm once harvested
- The different machinery used on a farm

Once the call is finished, the learning does not stop there - the children then use their new knowledge from the call with Ben to complete follow up work in the classroom, with the added incentive of sharing their books with Ben in the next call!



### Impact

Loni states that the positive impact so far from the initiative is, ‘having the subject knowledge and insight direct from a farmer’ that she as a teacher could not provide. She believes Farmer Time has given the children’s learning, ‘meaning and purpose.’ The pupils in her class are equally positive, one stating, ‘Farmer Ben is brilliant, he knows everything about the farm and teaches us awesome things.’

Finally, the ultimate accolade, ‘Its’s cool having our own class farmer.’ Ben is equally enthusiastic, ‘Interacting with the kids was really energising - their enthusiasm was amazing!’

Further information about this initiative and how your school or farm can become involved can be found at [www.farmertime.org](http://www.farmertime.org)  
 Contact: [Julie.Neale@leafuk.org](mailto:Julie.Neale@leafuk.org)  
 Thank you to Ben Andrews and Valley Invicta Primary School at Holborough Lakes

