

Animal Spotlight: Cattle

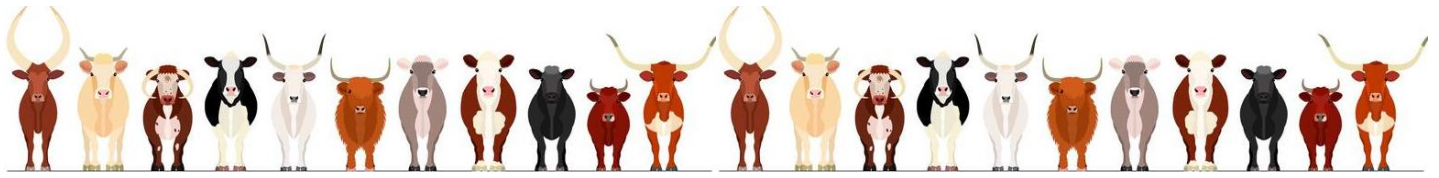
Cattle, including cows and bulls, are part of the Bovinae family. These cloven-foot herbivores have been a domesticated species for over 10,000 years. Some breeds have horns – such as long horn steers – while other breeds are hornless. Cattle are ruminants, meaning their digestive system is highly specialized to process poorly digestible plants as food. Cattle have one stomach with four compartments – the rumen, reticulum, omasum and abomasum, with the rumen being the largest section.

Cattle are known for regurgitating and re-chewing their food, known as cud chewing. While the animal is feeding, the food is swallowed without being chewed and goes into the rumen for storage until the animal can find a quiet place to continue the digestion process. The food is regurgitated, a mouthful at a time, back up to the mouth, where the food, now called the cud, is chewed by the molars which grind down the coarse vegetation into small particles. The cud is then swallowed again and further digested by specialized microorganisms in the rumen.

**Would you want to have a four-section stomach like a cow?
Why or why not?**

Cattle were raised as livestock for meat, milk and hides. They provided the farm family with milk that could be made into cheese and butter, and beef to eat. The hides were tanned to make leather which was made into belts, shoes, and equipment for the horses including saddles and bridles. Their manure was used to fertilize the farmer's crops and add nutrients back into the soil. Cattle provided many things for the farmer's family and they were easy to care for, only requiring a field to graze in and a barn for shelter





Tissue Box Cow Craft



Supplies

1 empty Tissue Box

4 empty Toilet Paper Tubes (or cut 2 empty paper towel rolls in half)

Templates on page 3 of this document

1 sheet of Black Paper

White Paint

Paintbrush

Scissors

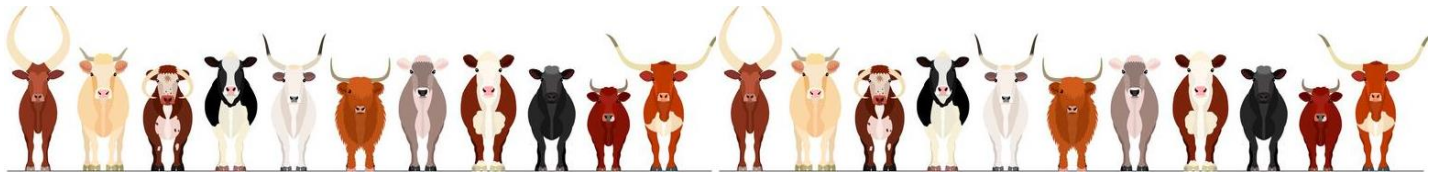
Glue

Black Marker

Instructions

1. Print out the templates on page 3 of this document. Cut out the template pieces. Set the head piece aside.
2. Trace the spot and tail templates onto the black paper. Cut them out.
3. Paint the entire tissue box and toilet paper tubes using the paintbrush and white paint. You may need to do several coats for the white paint to cover. Allow to dry completely.
4. Glue the toilet paper tube legs to the bottom of your tissue box (see picture above). Glue the face onto the front and the tail onto the back of your tissue box using the picture above as a guide. Glue the spots onto your cow anywhere you like.
5. Use the black marker to add hooves to the bottom of your cow's legs.
6. Use your cow as decoration in your room.





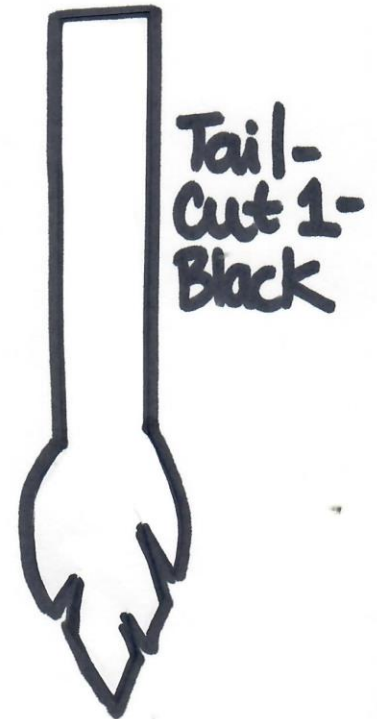
Tissue Box Cow Craft Templates



Use the templates below for the tissue box cow craft.



Head



Tail-Cut 1-Black



Spots-Cut 5 each-Black