



“Video Lesson: Farming”

Lesson 6: Farming

Vintage Classroom

Farming would have been an important part of life for most year-round families living on Mount Desert Island in 1895. Some farmers would have produced enough food to sell to other people, but many residents would have had small family farms to produce basic food supplies to help last through the long winters, save money, and supplement what they could buy at the local grocery store.

Chickens would have kept bugs out of the gardens and provided eggs and meat. Pigs were an important source of meat as well. Goats and cows could produce milk which could then be made into butter, cheese, and soap, and provide meat. Large animals like horses and cows were expensive to buy and to take care of, but were also helpful for work such as clearing and plowing land, and transporting timber, stone, produce, and other heavy items.

Watch this short video about farm life and answer the following questions:

Video link: <https://youtu.be/OzH18vrMSuY>

- 1) Name 5 chores that would need to be done every day to take care of farm animals.
- 2) List some chores children could do to help with the farm animals.
- 3) Not very many people today have small farms at their homes. What do you think has changed since 1895 to make a family farm unnecessary?
- 4) If you had a farm what animals would you want? What would you need to take care of them?