

Read4Nature – Picture Books about farms

Book name

A Year on our Farm

Author

Penny Matthews

Illustrator

Andrew McLean

Thumbs up!

Lovely water colour painting illustrations

Main theme

Changes to the weather and living things on a farm over a year.

Living things in this book

Farm animals: sheep, Cattle, hens, geese, dogs, cats, people, parrot, mice, rabbits, yabbies, horse

things to talk about in the illustrations

Farm produce: apricots, hay, tomatoes, cabbages, carrots, mushrooms

⊗ Notice the changes in the tree in the season and month picture

⊗ Characteristics of living things

⊗ Colour

⊗ shape

⊗ food

⊗ young animals

⊗ protecting young

⊗ links into the environment

⊗ changes in the weather

⊗ problem of cats and native birds

⊗ keeping animals fed through the year

⊗ trees providing shade

⊗ other aspects in the environment

⊗ swings in trees

⊗ different shapes of trees – native and introduced

⊗ available water on the farm

⊗ need for sheep troughs on the farm

things to notice in the text

⊗ Sources of food for humans

⊗ apricots

⊗ milk

⊗ eggs

⊗ yabbies

⊗ mushrooms

⊗ animal behaviours

⊗ protecting their young

⊗ teaching young

⊗ where animals are found in the farm

⊗ special events

⊗ fruit picking

⊗ planting

⊗ orphan lambs

⊗ crutching

⊗ shearing

⊗ hay baling

⊗ pests

⊗ cats are a pest to native birds like parrots

⊗ cats used to reduce mice (introduced pest)

⊗ fences needed to protect vegetables from rabbits

Now to observe

⊗ experience a swing repeatedly over a year to notice changes around

⊗ follow a tree for a year and see how it changes

And record

⊗ visit a farm over a year to notice changes

⊗ fold a page into 4, one for each season, choose an animal from the book and draw what it is doing in each season .

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- ⊗ Make drawings for a matching game with seasons and key farm activities
- ⊗ Use photos to make a matching game for seasonal activities in your family (it might be like beach in summer, Easter eggs in autumn, soups in winter, vegetable gardening in spring)

More about this book:

Science notes

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Publisher's suggested
age

Juvenile literature