

A FILM TO AWAKEN THE SENSES

The COW

SYNOPSIS:

A beauty-filled look at cows, on a peaceful day in the pasture. Natural sounds, without narration.

A little girl lolls in the meadow, watching cows sniff the grass, jaws grinding, tails swishing. Colors and shapes of bodies, textures of noses and hides. A new-born calf, licked clean by its mother, tries to stand on collapsible legs, and searches out its first meal.

CHURCHILL FILMS
662 N. Robertson Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90069

A DIMENSION FILM

*"And blown by all the winds that pass
And wet with all the showers,
She walks among the meadow grass
And eats the meadow flowers."*

from "The Cow" by Robert Louis Stevenson

PRIMARY — ELEMENTARY / 10 minutes / Color /

The COW

A DIMENSION FILM by Michael Murphy

BEFORE SHOWING THE FILM

Imagine that you are out in the countryside, running through beautiful green fields. Now you lie down in the grass to watch some cows. What things can you see . . . hear . . . smell?

Each person sees in his own special way. What do you see in this film? Does it remind you of things you have seen, or heard, or felt?

AFTER SHOWING THE FILM**Oral Language**

How do you feel . . .

When you see a mother cow caring for her calf?

When the calf tries to stand up, but falls?

On a summer day in the country?

When you roll over in the grass?

What would it be like to . . .

Pet a cow and scratch between her ears?

Listen to sounds inside a cow's body?

Run through wide open fields?

Describe a cow for someone who has never seen one.

Written Language

Write about the little girl and her family. How does she feel? Would you like to live where she does?

Write a class poem using words and phrases that have come from discussion.

Read poems about cows, such as THE PASTURE by Robert Frost or MILK WHITE MOON, PUT THE COWS TO SLEEP by Carl Sandburg.

Science

What things does a new-born calf need?

What is the special way in which cows eat?

What animals are like cows in some ways?

Art

What are the shapes (colors, textures) of cows? Listen to parts of the film with the picture turned off. How do the sounds make you feel? How would you express these moods with color? Line?

Rhythms

Express some rhythms of cows (walking, chewing, scratching, calf's first steps).

Social Studies

Could this film have been photographed near our community? What kind of land do you need for a dairy farm? What else, that the film does not show?