

ACTIVITY SHEET 1

THINGS WE CAN LEARN FROM A COW AND A WORM

NAME _____

RUMINANTS RECYCLE AND CONSERVE

Cattle and other ruminants are nature's models for food energy conservation. Ruminants have unique stomachs with four cavities that allow them to eat products that other animals find inedible.

Directions

Read the information in the next column and then follow the path of food as it moves through the ruminant stomach by writing the step numbers in the boxes on the diagram below. Some of the numbers will be used more than once.

Ruminant Stomach

1. Teeth tear and chew food in mouth
2. Food travels down esophagus (ē sāf' ə gəs)
3. Cud (swallowed food) mixes and softens in stomachs 1 and 2
4. Cud returns to mouth for more chewing by rear molars
5. Cud passes through stomachs 1, 2, 3 and 4 as it is digested and nutrients absorbed
6. Waste materials pass through intestines and exit body as manure

Find Out

1. What other animals are ruminants?

