



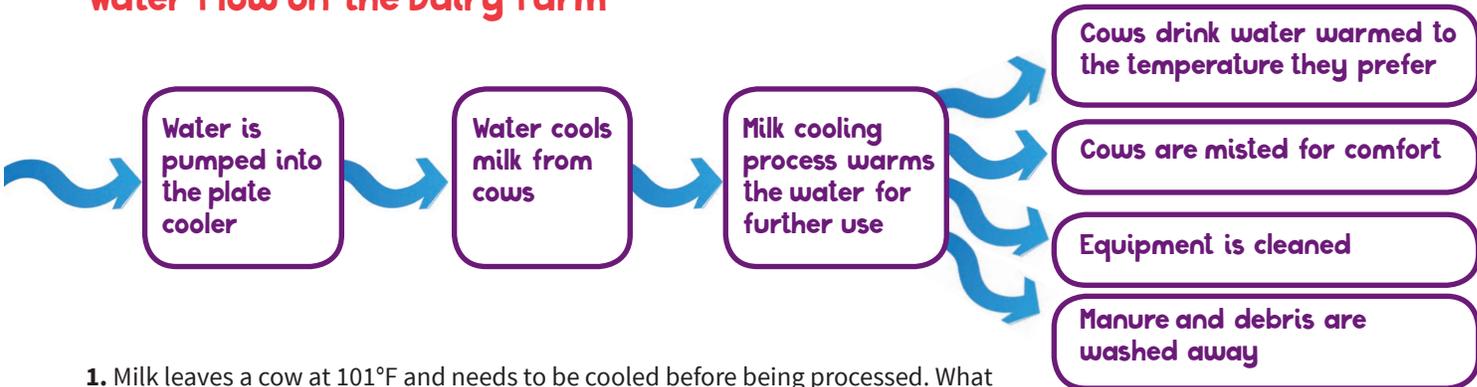
Activity 1

# Water: Going With the Flow

America's dairy farmers work hard to reduce the amount of water needed to produce a glass of milk. They have many ways to conserve the water used on a dairy farm.

**Part 1:** Look at this water flow diagram and read the poster. Then put on your dairy farmer's thinking cap to answer the questions below.

## Water Flow on the Dairy Farm



1. Milk leaves a cow at 101°F and needs to be cooled before being processed. What piece of equipment cools the milk? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Cows prefer warm water! What piece of equipment warms their drinking water to the 75°F temperature they prefer? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Warmed water coming from the plate cooler is also used in other ways on the dairy farm. Name two: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
4. Water that contains manure goes to a \_\_\_\_\_
5. The separator allows solids to be \_\_\_\_\_ and liquids to be \_\_\_\_\_



Dairy farmers use self-refilling bowl and trough systems so their cows always have fresh water whenever they want, minimizing waste!



**Part 2:** A watershed is the area where fresh water flows from higher elevations into a common body of water, such as a river, stream, or lake. When water and soil are contaminated, pollutants travel throughout the entire watershed. Unscramble these words to learn how dairy farmers help protect the watershed for all of us.

1. cover procs    \_ \_ \_ o \_ \_ \_

A type of crop grown not for food but to protect the soil from erosion. The root structures of these crops add nutrients to the soil and help the soil hold water longer, meaning less watering is needed to raise food crops.

2. riparian fsfrbue    \_ \_ \_ f \_ \_ \_ \_ s

Created by planting trees, shrubs, and other plants in areas next to water sources, these protect the water from pollution run-off while providing habitat for wildlife. The word *riparian* means "relating to river banks."

3. owl/on-litl farming    \_ \_ \_ w/ \_ o- \_ \_ \_ l \_ \_

A method of planting crops that does not require digging deeply into the soil, if at all. Crops are planted in between remains of past plantings. This practice helps increase the amount of water that enters the soil.



Local milk is available 365 days a year.



AMERICAN DAIRY ASSOCIATION NORTH EAST



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