

BENNETT'S WALLABIES

There are over 50 varieties of small kangaroos called wallabies. The Bennett's wallaby is native to Tasmania, an island off the coast of Australia.

When fully grown, an adult Bennett's will stand about 2 1/2 feet tall and weigh about 30 or 40 pounds. Baby wallabies, joeys, grow inside the mother wallaby's pouch. Not until about the 4th month do they have enough hair to poke their little heads out. At about 6 months they are totally "furred up" and ready to jump in and out of the pouch. The joey will live in the pouch up until 9 or 10 months when it grows too large or its mother is ready to have another joey. Our gentle and friendly wallabies are raised in their mother's pouches and love the attention they get from the public.



ROUGH COLLIES

Occasionally, we bring one of our Great America Lone Star Ranch Rough Collies on the road with us to look after the animals in our Petting Farm. Rough Collies are both herding dogs and guard dogs and they love their farm animals. They are incredibly smart and loyal, love children, and they also make incredible service dogs. In the 1950s and 60s Rough Collies became very popular in America thanks to the TV show "Lassie". At Great American we breed and raise our Rough Collies and we absolutely love them!



CARE OF ANIMALS

The Great American Petting Farm and its staff want to help others to be responsible pet owners. There are already too many unwanted animals in the world. The most important step one must take when owning any kind of animal is to know how to properly care for it. A lot of times kids fall in love with a puppy or a kitten and they don't think of the care that goes into owning an animal. You should read up on what they eat and the kind of shelter they should have, whether they require a license or a permit, their breeding habits, etc. It is a good idea to get to know your animal well so that you can tell when it becomes ill. Since animals can't communicate, it's not always easy to detect sickness. Having a trained eye, or just knowing your pet well, could save its life.



Great American Crew

For more information about contracting the Great American Petting Farm for schools, educational talks, fairs, festivals, promotional television shows and commercials, please contact:

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GREAT AMERICAN PETTING FARM



ANIMAL EDUCATION SHEET



In 1983 David and Dianne Linderman had to find a way to support a five-acre wildlife park with over 200 animals and 20 troubled teenagers. The wildlife park, located in Oregon, was given to them by a woman with terminal cancer who heard about the good work that David and Dianne were doing at a dude ranch for troubled teens. She knocked on their door and asked if they had it in their hearts to take over her life's work, a wildlife park with lions, tigers and bears, and also cougars, monkeys and hundreds of other animals. David and Dianne both thought, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained." What they did not know was how rundown and badly managed this park was.

They moved there with all of their troubled teenagers and began a new path in life. What they learned there was so amazing; the animals had a miraculous effect on the teens. The needs of the animals out-weighed their own troubles and they not only thrived, but found true love! They learned to be self-less! They came to understand what hard work was and developed a real work ethic! Between middle of the night bottle feedings, the medical needs of the animals, and cleaning cages and pens, these kids turned into amazing, responsible, thoughtful, entrepreneurial people.



Forty years later, many of these same troubled teenagers are partners in the Great American Entertainment Company and are raising their own families as part of this company. Someday their kids will take over and continue our quest of sharing the greatest experience in life, working with agriculture in its truest form. The Great American Entertainment Company has grown into the #1 Ag-related, award-winning entertainment company in the country.

With the Great American Petting Farm, Great American Pony Ride, Great American Trail Ride, Ag-Ventureland, Cowboy Boot Camp, Everything That Matters in the Kitchen Cooking Show, Porky's Express Pig Train, GASCAR Crazy Animal Races, Pig Races, Farmyard Follies, Innovative Kids of America, Vintage America, and Kids Can Cook—Great American is unstoppable!!

Our dream has always been to have a ranch in Texas where families from everywhere in the country could join us for a real-life ranch adventure, something that should be on everyone's bucket list of things to do in life. Now our dream has become reality at our ranch in Stephenville, Texas! For more information visit GreatAmericanLoneStarRanch.com.

Our quest is to always bring the highest quality, educational, clean, beautifully presented, professional attractions to your event. Life is a story and ours will continue for as long as America allows us to share the love of animals, the need to keep agriculture alive, and the inspiration to learn about farming and entrepreneurship. We are proud to partner with the greatest industry on earth—The Great American Fair, Event, and Rodeo industry. See you soon!



GREAT AMERICAN PETTING FARM • ANIMAL EDUCATION SHEET



ALPACAS

The smaller cousins of the llama, alpacas are part of the camel family. They have short, straight ears, short faces and small bodies. Like the llama, the alpaca also originated from the Andes Mountains in Peru, but was imported to the United States in the 1980s. They are excellent climbers with pads on their feet and two claws on each foot. Their eyes are wide set on their heads so that they can see all four feet at once. Alpacas are used for their fiber and manure. Since their fiber has no lanolin like sheep's wool, it is hypoallergenic and cleaner to work with and it comes in about 22 natural shades. They are not an aggressive animal and generally won't spit unless they are agitated by other alpacas.

LLAMAS



Llamas are members of the camel family. They are native to South America. Since the wool of the llama is rather coarse compared to its cousin,

the alpaca, they are mainly used as pack animals. They are agile, sure footed, and can carry 60 to 80 pounds 8 to 10 miles per day. They make great hiking partners. Llamas are also used to protect grazing livestock from predators. Although they do spit at each other, they seldom spit at people. Llamas hum to their babies and also have a high-pitched scream which is an alarm call.

MINIATURE ZEBU CATTLE

The miniature zebu is a unique breed of cattle that originated in India. They are the only breed of cattle considered to be truly miniature because they are the only breed that has not been bred to be small by man. The zebus are easy to identify by their hump and small stature. The average lifespan of a zebu is 15-20 years. Zebus are very hardy as they can handle extreme heat (in fact, they love it!). Because they are from India,



where cattle are sacred, zebus are used for milk and helping out around the farm instead of for meat or leather. Their meat is very lean while their milk is very high in butterfat yielding a gallon to a gallon and a half of milk a day. They are a favorite breed amongst cattle breeders for their even temperament and easy handling due to their small size.

FALLOW DEER

A domesticated European breed of deer, the fallow deer is white, black, brown or light brown with white spots. The spotted deer will retain its spots into adulthood. Deer love to browse on bushes and trees, so don't be surprised to find them nibbling on your clothes in our Petting Farm. Our deer are tame and friendly because we spend many hours each day bottle feeding them, playing with them, and loving them.



MINIATURE MEDITERRANEAN DONKEYS

Originally imported from Sicily and Sardinia, mini donkeys are under 36 inches tall. They are usually gray with a black stripe down the back and another one across the back near the neck, although the spotted donkeys have become very popular. The Spanish word "Burro" is a western US term for Donkey. Miniature Donkeys are extremely affectionate and social.

DUCKS

Male ducks, called drakes, typically have brightly colored feathers. Females, called hens, are plainly colored so that they can easily hide when nesting. We have an assortment of ducks in our Petting Farm including **Pekin, Crested, Indian Runner, Call, and Black Swedish.**



GOATS

In a recent survey, goats were named among people's favorite animals because of their friendly and playful natures. Goats are primarily raised as milk producers with good milkers giving up to 2 1/2 gallons of milk a day. Many people prefer goat milk to cow milk because it is easier to digest. In the West where cow milk is virtually the only milk consumed, it



might surprise you to learn that more people in the world drink goat milk than any other kind. Quite a few United States presidents kept goats at the White House, including Abraham Lincoln, Rutherford B. Hayes, Benjamin Harrison, and Harry Truman.

There are over 300 different breeds of goats worldwide. In the Great American Petting Farm you will find a variety of breeds. **Nubian** goats were developed in England from Egyptian stock. They have long, drooping ears and a Roman nose and are generally more vocal than other breeds. Nubians have some of the richest milk. **Alpine, Saanen and Oberhasli** goats are dairy goats with straight erect ears and a level or dished nose. **LaMancha** goats are high milk producers and have such small ears that they appear almost "earless." But no, their ears are not docked or trimmed! **Angora** goats are one of our favorites. They are known for their beautiful fiber and sweet temperaments. **Boer** goats were developed in South Africa in the early 1900s for meat production. Their name is derived from the Afrikaans word "Boer," meaning farmer. **Nigerian Dwarf** goats are a beautiful miniature breed that was recently recognized as a dairy goat by the American Dairy Goat Association. **African Pygmy** goats are an all time favorite. They are short but incredibly stocky, very playful and adorable.

CHICKENS

Chickens are domestic or farm birds. There are more chickens in the world than any other species of bird. The life span of a chicken is about 5 to 10 years. The male is larger and more brightly colored than the female which is a common feature in birds. The males show off their colorful feathers to attract the females. A hen usually hatches from 8 to 10 chicks at a time and covers them with her feathers when resting. Hens used for egg production lay more than 240 eggs a year. Some of the types of chickens we have in our Petting Farm are: **Chinese Silkie, Cochin, Orpington, Plymouth Rock, Samon Faverolle and Polish.** We also have **Bantam** chickens, which simply means miniature chickens.



POTBELLIED PIGS



A miniature breed of pigs from Southeast Asia, they are popular as house pets because they are easily house-broken and when full grown, weigh only 40 to 100 pounds. Usually black, they have a sway back and a straight tail that you'll see them wagging contentedly.

SHEEP

Sheep are used as milk, meat, and wool producers in many countries. We have a variety of domesticated breeds in our Petting Farms. Some breeds are "hair sheep" which means, they shed their fiber when the temperature starts warming in the spring and they do not require shearing. Those breeds include **Dorper, St. Croix, Barbados, Katahdin, and Royal White** sheep. Some breeds of sheep are used for their fiber. We shear our sheep twice per year to keep them comfortable in warmer climates. These wool bearers include, **Suffolk, Cormo, Merino, Shetland and Southdown.**

