



Country Trust

Where children learn and grow

The Country Trust strongly recommends that all pupils and adults helpers on Farm Discovery Visits to livestock farms should wear wellies.

This flyer explains why wellies are the best footwear for farms where there are animals.

We know that not all children (or adults) will have wellies and so we have some tips on our website to help you build a welly bank in school, so all your pupils and helpers can wear wellies when they need to.



Why Wear Wellies?

Farms can be dirty places - especially if it is a livestock farm. This is why we are so keen on handwashing on farms. But lots of the dirt is on the ground - because that's where animals poo! When visitors to farms wear wellies dirt can be easily cleaned off. That's why we are recommending that everyone wears wellies on a farm visit - pupils and teachers and adult helpers. Shoes and boots other than wellies are impossible to clean properly on the farm so while anyone without wellies will still be able to take part in the visit, they may be offered an overshoe if it seems appropriate.

What will happen on the farm?

Children and teachers and helpers will get off the bus wearing wellies and have a farm visit as normal. Wherever possible we will clean (and sometimes disinfect) wellies on a farm visit where there is livestock. At the end of the visit, before everyone gets on the bus to go home, everyone can change into clean shoes and put their wellies in a bag to take home. We recommend that everyone washes their hands after touching their wellies when they get home.

Building a Welly Bank

We are aware that not all children will have a pair of wellies. We are encouraging schools to have a welly bank (lots of schools already do) so that those without their own wellies can still come on a farm visit with a pair of wellies that fit. We have a flyer on our website you can use to encourage parents and staff to donate wellies - have a look at <http://www.countrytrust.org.uk/resources/information/information-for-schools>. When you have your welly bank, you need to ensure they are clean when you get back from the farm and keep them paired up in a dry cupboard. You might want to buy some antibacterial shoe sanitiser to keep all your wellies fresh!