

# Various Types of Barns and Their Importance

## Learning Objectives:

1. The students will discover barns of many shapes and sizes and be able to name 3-5 types of barns.
2. Students will explore the history of barns; be able to explain the basics of why barns are used.
3. Students will take a virtual tour of a barn; and be able to tell what type of barn was toured.

# What are barns?

- Barns are used as storage buildings for agricultural purposes. They can store anything from hay, livestock feed, tools, equipment and livestock itself. Some barns are simple sheds while others are full of equipment that is used to keep livestock at their healthiest.
- Traditionally most people think of big red barns when they hear the word barn but barns come in various sizes, shapes and colors.

# Historic Barns

- Ohio's Historic Barns
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SyLlrrfRi6U>
- Older barns are not always utilized because of the new types of modern farming. These barns are sometimes remade into venues or agritourism centers.
- Two Historic Barns in Richmond
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RdP0E7DI\\_30](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RdP0E7DI_30)
- Some barns are seen as a historical memorial to the old ways of farming.



# Hay Barns

- A hay barn is a specialized building for storing hay, usually sited well away from the central farmstead.
- Hay barns were usually smaller than the main barn and rectangular in footprint.
- While some other barns have storage for hay a hay barn is only used for hay.



# Dairy barns

- Dairy barns are used to house dairy cows. They also contain milking stations called parlors. Milking stations can have numerous stalls or just a single robotic milker.
- Dairy barns tend to have rounded large tops to be able to store hay for the cattle throughout the year.
- Most round barns were built on dairy farms between 1890-1920." "Often less material was required for a round barn as opposed to rectangular. People also thought that wind would go around the barn, sparing it from a storm's destructive forces.



# Dairy barns

- Modern dairy barns are built to be more comfortable for the cattle than old-style dairy barns. They have many systems set up to keep the cattle happy and healthy.
- Dairy barns once had stalls where cattle were tied to a stall at night, most modern dairy barns have a freestall system.
- Dairy cows in modern dairy barns are allowed to choose where they want to sleep or lay down at in the freestall system.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1u1VeKXLCio>



# Ag Complex & Multi-function Barns

- There are many examples of small stone or log buildings that may have begun as houses but later became springhouses, sheds or small barns. Other outbuildings were constructed to serve only one purpose, depending upon the type of crops raised and food processing needs on the farm.
- Usually, barns and other farm buildings are designed to accomplish one or more functions: Animal shelter and production like milking. Crop storage and feeding. Vehicle and implement shelter and repair. Any combination of these functions



The barn on the Wessels Living History Farm site was built in the 1920s, has animal stalls on either side, a granary in the north central section, an open area in the middle, and a haymow on the second floor.

# Machine storage sheds and Insulated workshops

- Machine storage barns usually are large buildings with garage doors or sliding doors to move various types of equipment in and out.
- Insulated workshops are used by farmers to store tools and equipment. These workshops also give them space to work on machinery, repair broken parts or replace filters/change oil/ect.



# Machine storage sheds and Insulated workshops

- This is an example of a machine shed that was built onto an existing barn. Specifically this barn was used as a corn crib where corn would be stored after harvest.
- Machine Sheds are used to store farm machinery and equipment. These sheds can be added onto barns or built separately.



# Types of Livestock Barns

- Livestock barns are used to keep livestock sheltered in the winter or concerning weather. Some livestock barns are used as feeding areas for animals.
- Poultry barns are used to house chickens. They are made with key elements that help to raise chickens or collect eggs, depending on the type of farming done there.



# Grain silos

- A silo is a structure used for storing bulk feed materials. Silos are used in agriculture to store grain or fermented feed known as silage. Silos are more commonly used for bulk storage of grain, food products.
- There are different types of grain barns. To name a few tower silos, bunker silos, bag silos, and silage piles.



# Tobacco Barns

- One of the symbols of the Kentucky Bluegrass is the tall, black frame tobacco barn, long narrow windows on the side open and the distinctive golden brown tint of tobacco leaves hanging from the tier rails.”
- Tobacco was a prominent crop in the United States for hundreds of years. As you travel across the country a distinct barn can be seen in most rural areas. As tobacco farming has become less popular tobacco barns have been turned into livestock barns or machine sheds.



# Activity

- For our activity today you will have barn coloring sheets and crayons.
- For each coloring sheet write an explanation on the back for the following questions
  1. What type of barn is this?
  2. What is this barn used for?

<http://www.getcoloringpages.com/search?q=barns> <https://www.99worksheets.com/preschool/coloring/barn-coloring-page/>

<https://www.coloringpages101.com/Barn-coloring-pages/75125-Silver-Mountain-Hay-Barn-coloring-page>

<https://www.coloringpages101.com/Barn-coloring-pages/75116-Pole-Barn-coloring-page>

<http://www.supercoloring.com/coloring-pages/barn-and-lean-to>

<https://dairybarn.org/dairy-barn-coloring-pages/>

# Vocabulary & Closure of Activity

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/various-types-of-barns-and-their-importance/f060c559-9059-431c-8b9d-7ac1cda82ace>

- Hay barn: A barn used to store hay from barn weather.
  - Tobacco barns: Barns used to store, dry, and smoke tobacco.
  - Dairy barns: A type of barn used for housing and milking dairy cattle.
  - Livestock barns: Barn used as shelter (or as a feeding location) for livestock.
  - Livestock: Animals commonly found on farms that are used for meat, wool, eggs, reproduction, and power (horses).
  - Hay: A forage crop used to feed livestock. May consist of grass and legume crops.
1. What types of barns did we learn about?
  2. Why are barns important to agriculture?
  3. Who in your group helped you learn something new about barns?
  4. Does anyone in your group have a barn/live on a farm?
  5. Do you think you will ever have a barn?
  6. How do barns impact me?

# Resources

- <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/styles/barns-outbuildings.html>
- <http://plainshumanities.unl.edu/encyclopedia/doc/egp.arc.004>
- <https://mortonbuildings.com/projects/farm>
- [https://livinghistoryfarm.org/farminginthe40s/crops\\_07.html](https://livinghistoryfarm.org/farminginthe40s/crops_07.html)
- <https://forages.oregonstate.edu/oregon/topics/storage/silos>
- <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/agriculture/field-guide/machine-shed.html#:~:text=Machine%20sheds%20were%20most%20commonly,rising%20importance%20of%20mechanized%20agriculture>
- <https://www.dairymoos.com/inside-a-modern-dairy-cow-barn/>
- <https://anthropology.as.uky.edu/pkasp/agricultural-outbuildings-tobacco-barns>
- <http://loc.gov/pictures/resource/highsm.14075/>
- <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/agriculture/field-guide/hay-barn.html>
- <https://www.agriculture.com/family/living-the-country-life/history-of-round-barns>