



## MILK - FARM-TO-TABLE

**Fill the gaps with the words in the block**

*tanks shiny cartoned cereal chuckled pasteurization pouring giant thermos spots*

### **How does milk get from the cow to my kitchen?**

Sheila loved \_\_\_\_\_ for breakfast, but she never really thought about where the milk came from. One morning, while \_\_\_\_\_ her milk, she decided to ask her mom. "Mom," Sheila said, "where does milk come from?" Her mom smiled. "Milk comes from a special kind of farm, a dairy farm! They have happy cows there who give us delicious milk."

That night, Sheila couldn't stop thinking about the cows. She dreamed of black and white \_\_\_\_\_ and mooing sounds. The next day, she asked her mom more. "How does the milk get from the cows to our kitchen?" "It's a long journey!" her mom explained. "At the farm, the cows are milked a few times a day by a special machine. The milk is then collected in big, cool \_\_\_\_\_ to keep it fresh."

A \_\_\_\_\_, cool tank? Sheila imagined a swimming pool filled with milk! Her mom \_\_\_\_\_ and showed her pictures on her phone. The tanks were big and \_\_\_\_\_, not for swimming in, but perfect for keeping the milk safe.

"Then," her mom continued, "a special truck with a cold inside, like a giant \_\_\_\_\_, comes to pick up the milk. It drives to a factory where they make sure the milk is clean and safe to drink."

A factory for milk? This was getting even more interesting!

"They heat the milk for a little while to kill any tiny germs that might be hiding," her mom said. "This process is called \_\_\_\_\_."

"Pasteuriza-what?" Sheila said, trying the new word. Her mom laughed. "Don't worry about the long word. It just means they make the milk extra safe for us."

Finally, the milk is bottled or \_\_\_\_\_ and loaded onto another truck. This truck takes the milk to the grocery store, where Sheila and her mom pick it up on their shopping trips.

The next morning, Sheila looked at her cereal with new appreciation. Each sip of milk was a reminder of the happy cows, the cool tanks, and the long journey it took to get to her breakfast table.

## Comprehension Questions

1. Where did Sheila learn about dairy farms?
2. How many times a day are the cows milked?
3. What is used to milk the cows?
4. According to the story, what is stored inside the big, cool tanks on the farm?
5. What kind of truck picks up the milk from the farm?
6. What happens to the milk at the factory?
7. What is the process of heating the milk to kill germs called?
8. What are two containers milk can come in according to the story?
9. Where do Sheila and her mom buy milk?
10. How did Sheila feel about her milk after she learned about its journey?

## Vocabulary - Match the Columns

cereal	a. a small, round mark
pour	b. a person or thing that is very large
spot	c. a container used to keep liquids hot or cold
tank	d. to make a liquid flow from a container into or onto something else
giant	e. the process where harmful bacteria are killed in liquids
chuckle	f. a popular breakfast food served in a bowl with milk
shiny	g. to laugh softly or in a quiet manner
thermos	h. a cardboard box
pasteurization	i. a large container for liquids
carton	j. reflecting light and bright

### Answer the questions:

1. Have you ever seen a [big] **tank**? Where? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you have anything with **spots**? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What do you often **pour**? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What does your family buy that is in a **carton**? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What do you have in your house that is **shiny**? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is your favorite cereal? What do you add to your cereal?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Teacher's Key

### How does milk get from the cow to my kitchen?

Sheila loved **cereal** for breakfast, but she never really thought about where the milk came from. One morning, while **pouring** her milk, she decided to ask her mom. "Mom," Sheila said, "where does milk come from?" Her mom smiled. "Milk comes from a special kind of farm, a dairy farm! They have happy cows there who give us delicious milk."

That night, Sheila couldn't stop thinking about the cows. She dreamed of black and white **spots** and mooing sounds. The next day, she asked her mom more. "How does the milk get from the cows to our kitchen?"

"It's a long journey!" her mom explained. "At the farm, the cows are milked a few times a day by a special machine. The milk is then collected in big, cool **tanks** to keep it fresh."

A **giant**, cool tank? Sheila imagined a swimming pool filled with milk! Her mom **chuckled** and showed her pictures on her phone. The tanks were big and **shiny**, not for swimming in, but perfect for keeping the milk safe.

"Then," her mom continued, "a special truck with a cold inside, like a giant **thermos**, comes to pick up the milk. It drives to a factory where they make sure the milk is clean and safe to drink."

A factory for milk? This was getting even more interesting!

"They heat the milk for a little while to kill any tiny germs that might be hiding," her mom said. "This process is called **pasteurization**."

"Pasteuriza-what?" Sheila said, trying the new word.

Her mom laughed. "Don't worry about the long word. It just means they make the milk extra safe for us."

Finally, the milk is bottled or **cartoned** and loaded onto another truck. This truck takes the milk to the grocery store, where Sheila and her mom pick it up on their shopping trips.

The next morning, Sheila looked at her cereal with new appreciation. Each sip of milk was a reminder of the happy cows, the cool tanks, and the long journey it took to get to her breakfast table.

## Comprehension Questions

1. Sheila learned about dairy farms from her mom.
2. The story doesn't mention exactly how many times, but it says the cows are milked "a few times a day."
3. The story mentions a "special machine" is used to milk the cows.
4. The big, cool tanks store milk.
5. A special truck with a cold inside, like a giant thermos, picks up the milk.
6. The milk is heated at the factory to kill germs.
7. The process of heating the milk to kill germs is called pasteurization.
8. The story says milk can come in bottles or cartons.
9. Sheila and her mom buy milk at the grocery store.
10. Sheila felt a new appreciation for her milk after learning about its journey.

## Vocabulary - Match the Columns

cereal	f. a popular breakfast food served in a bowl with milk
pour	d. to make a liquid flow from a container into or onto something else
spot	a. a small, round mark
tank	i. a large container for liquids
giant	b. a person or thing that is very large
chuckle	g. to laugh softly or in a quiet manner
shiny	j. reflecting light and bright
thermos	c. a container used to keep liquids hot or cold
pasteurization	e. the process where harmful bacteria are killed in liquids
carton	h. a cardboard box