

## TOPIC: Barns

### What is a barn?

A barn is a building on a farm that can be used for several purposes. It can store crops, such as grain, hay, or straw. It can house livestock, such as cows and horses. It can store farming equipment, such as tractors. It can even be used as a place where people gather, and they might dance! It's called barn dancing!

### What work can be done in a barn?

- Milking cows
- Threshing grain
- Grooming horses

### What are the parts of a barn?

- Barns have a foundation, walls, a roof, and an opening, just like houses do. Most barns are larger than houses, and their openings are larger than a door in your house.
- Some barns are used for storing hay. The storage area is often on the second level and is called a hayloft.
- Barns that house large animals usually have stalls. A stall is a space within the barn that has side walls to separate one stall from another.
- Barns might have a feed room where food for the animals is stored.
- Barns that house horses might have a tack room. This is where the bridles, saddles, and other gear are stored.



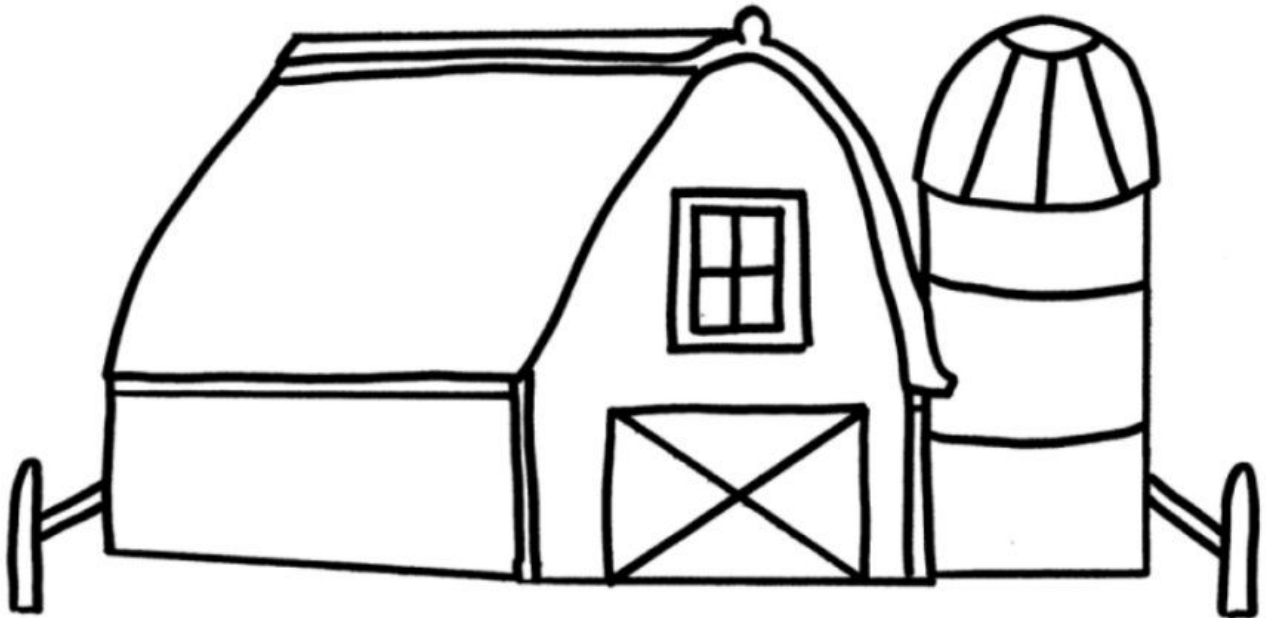
Barn and silo at Orchard Crest Farm in Purcellville, Virginia.

### What is a silo?

- Some farms have a tall structure called a silo near the barn.
- It is tall and round and used for storing grain and corn for animal feed.

**What Color Is Your Barn?**

Most barns are red, brown, or white but yours can be any color!



What color is your barn door?

What color is your silo?

What color is your fence?

You can find more barn coloring pages at:

<https://coloringhome.com/barn-coloring-page>

<http://www.getcoloringpages.com/barn-coloring-pages>



## **Silo Activity**

### **Materials:**

- Paper towel roll (or toilet paper roll)
- Construction paper and glue OR markers or paint
- Tape
- Barn Coloring Page

Barns have a tall silo that is often used for storing grain. After you color your barn, get a paper towel roll and cover it with construction paper or color it with markers/paint. After your silo has been decorated, stabilize it with tape next to the barn that you have colored. You do not want it to move or let out any small pieces of “grain” outside of your silo.

Now that you have a silo, think about what you want to put in it to see if it can hold your items! Examples include outside dirt, rice, bird seeds, or even coins!

Advanced Question (for older participants or parents): Why are silos cylinders? Can farms have rectangular prisms as silos? Try building a Rectangular Prism Silo and see if it works as well as the cylinder.

## **Barn Reads**

This is a book you can download from the Loudoun County Public Library.

- Farmyard Beat by Lindsey Craig:  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=560479373&currentIndex=1&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>

These are books you can borrow from a Loudoun County Public Library after they re-open.

- Barn Dance! by Bill Martin  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=3175396&currentIndex=4&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>
- Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=3371663&currentIndex=10&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>



- Down by the Barn by Will Hillenbrand  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=6395439&currentIndex=6&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>
- The Hundred-Year Barn by Patricia MacLachlan  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=547341164&currentIndex=9&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>
- Barn Owl by Kathryn Camisa  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=30689655&currentIndex=5&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>
- Berkeley's Barn Owl Dance by Tera Johnson  
<https://catalog.library.loudoun.gov/?section=resource&resourceid=9714254&currentIndex=8&view=fullDetailsDetailsTab>