



Week 61

'Reissources'

Why not check out our Resource Page on our website for more activities: [Click here](#)

Interview with Jocelyn about sheep shearing

Our lovely sheep shearer goes by the name of Jocelyn. She has a love for shearing and has had times where she has sheared up to 50 sheep in one day!

What started this hobby?

Well I first had 5 sheep of my own and I would wait forever for a shearer to come around and shear my sheep. I decided to give it a go myself and enrolled on a course that taught me to shear sheep myself! My flock of sheep eventually turned into 86 and I love taking care of them.

How long have you been helping Stonebridge city farm out with our sheep?

I have been assisting the farm with sheep shearing for over 8 years and I thoroughly enjoy it!

Why do we shear the sheep?

Two main reasons that both relate to the sheep's health. Firstly, the blow fly is an insect that borrow lays its eggs in the sheep wool. The hatched flies can badly impact the health of the sheep!

Secondly, the heat! Their fleece is like wearing a massive jacket in the summer its simply too hot. Something to keep in mind is that you must remove the fleece in May or early June so they stay cool during the summer but also have time to grow it back in the Autumn and winter months!

What uses do we have for the wool once sheared?

There are quite a few things to do with wool. You can spin it into the wool yarn as we know. People use it in animal bedding as straw can be expensive and as insulation for homes! Wool is quite soft but very thick so its an amazing insulator. It can be used in gardening to stop the produce from touching the ground and getting dirty. It is also very hard to burn!

How long does it take you to shear a sheep?

Typically, if the sheep is calm and comfortable its five minutes. The sheep must be calm and not constantly moving as the constant movement can cause me to accidentally cut the sheep without meaning to! This is the most difficult part of shearing.

How do the sheep act after being sheared?

They get more productive. They stop hiding under the shade to keep cool and begin to graze way more! The loss of their heavy fleece makes them cooler and happier to move around, particularly when it is a hot summers day.

How do you shear a sheep?

Typically, you have to hold the sheep, start from the stomach area, make your way to the legs, around the back and up to the neck and ears. However, you must be very careful around the ears and neck as they are both very sensitive spots. Any mistakes here can be fatal!

Resources

Have you ever wondered what is involved in sheep shearing or what the process is to get a sheep fleece to fabric?

Well you need not look any further. This week we have managed to find an excellent resource for you to take a look at by the **National Wool Museum**.



Here you can find everything you need to know about wool, sheep shearing and all the steps involved with making fabrics from sheep.

[The Process — from fleece to fabric | National Museum Wales](#)

Fancy making your own yarn pom pom?

Considering this weeks theme has been around wool and creating fabrics, we have found a great resource that covers many different methods and techniques to make your very own pom pom accessories. You could use these on key rings, lanyards or even to decorate your bedroom! You could even use them for decoration.



Check these out by clicking the link below. There are also videos for each step so that you cannot go wrong.

Enjoy

[3 Ways to Make a Yarn Pompom - wikiHow](#)



Woolly Sheep Cookies

Links here : [Recipe](#)



Here is a simple recipe to make your own Woolly Sheep Cookies. Enjoy and share on the volunteer Facebook page.
If you click on the link you will see pictures to help you through the steps.

Ingredients :

Ingredients (makes 16):

- 200g butter
- 100g sugar
- 300g plain flour
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

For the buttercream:

- 100g butter
- 225g icing sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla

To decorate:

- 100g desiccated coconut
- 16 chocolate buttons
- 16 giant chocolate buttons
- candy eyes
- tube of writing icing

Method :

Line 2 baking trays with greaseproof or baking paper. Place the butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl, then whisk together until pale and fluffy.

Sieve in the flour, then add the vanilla extract. Whisk again until the mixture comes together in a dough. Roll the dough out on a lightly floured surface to around 1cm thick.

Cut circles from the dough (I used the fluted side of my cookie cutter), then carefully transfer them to the baking trays.

Place the trays in the fridge to chill for around 20 minutes.

Meanwhile preheat oven to 160°C (Gas mark 2/325°F).

Remove the trays from the fridge and bake for around 15 minutes until golden

Once cooked, leave the shortbread to cool on the baking trays for 15 minutes then transfer to a cooling rack to finish cooling.

Make the buttercream icing. Whisk the butter with an electric whisk until light and fluffy, then sift in the icing sugar, a little at a time, until completely combined. Add the vanilla extract and whisk again. Add the milk in small splashes until the icing is at the correct consistency for spreading.

Once the shortbread cookies are completely cool, spread a generous layer of buttercream icing over the top of each one.

Pour the desiccated coconut onto a plate, then dip each cookie, icing side down, into the coconut to coat.

Make the sheep faces - 'glue' 2 candy eyes to each giant chocolate button using the writing icing.

Cut each smaller chocolate button in half for the ears.

These will be assembled with the ear pieces behind the giant chocolate button face.

Fun Sheep Facts Activity



Sheep Jokes and Funny Quotes

Sheep facts! Connect answers the question and see how many you get right!

The first one has been done for you...

A sheep’s coat is called a...	October 27 th
The world record for the fast-est sheep sheared	300,000 pounds
Boiling sheep’s wool gives you	flock or mob.
The worlds most expensive sheep was sold for	30 seconds
Adult female sheep are known as	Fleece
Adult male sheep are known as	1 billion
A group of sheep is known as	Vitamin D3
Sheep eat	Rams
The number of sheep in the world is	Grass
Hug a sheep day is on	Ewes

ANSWERS:

- 1) Why did the sheep go out?
- 2) What do you call a mix between a sheep and a kangaroo?
- 3) What is a sheep’s favourite musician?
- 4) Why did the flock of sheep not listen to what their shepherd was saying to them?
- 5) What do business sheep read?
- 6) What farm animal is the quietest?



ANSWERS:

1- BAAH-rbeque (barbeque) 2. A woolly Jumper 3. Ed SHEAR-an 4. They have HERD it all before 5.The wool street Journal 6. A SHHHHH-EEP