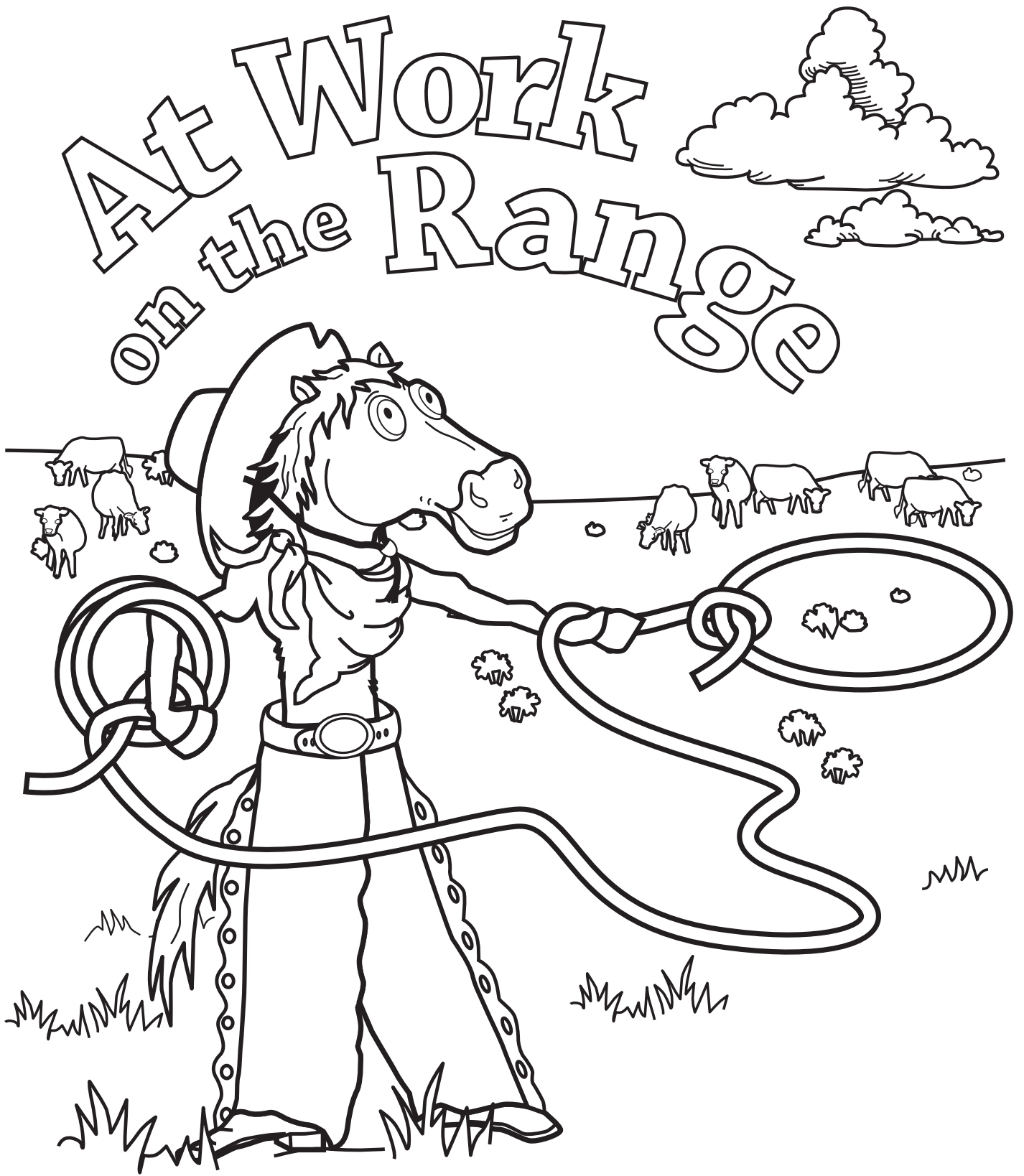
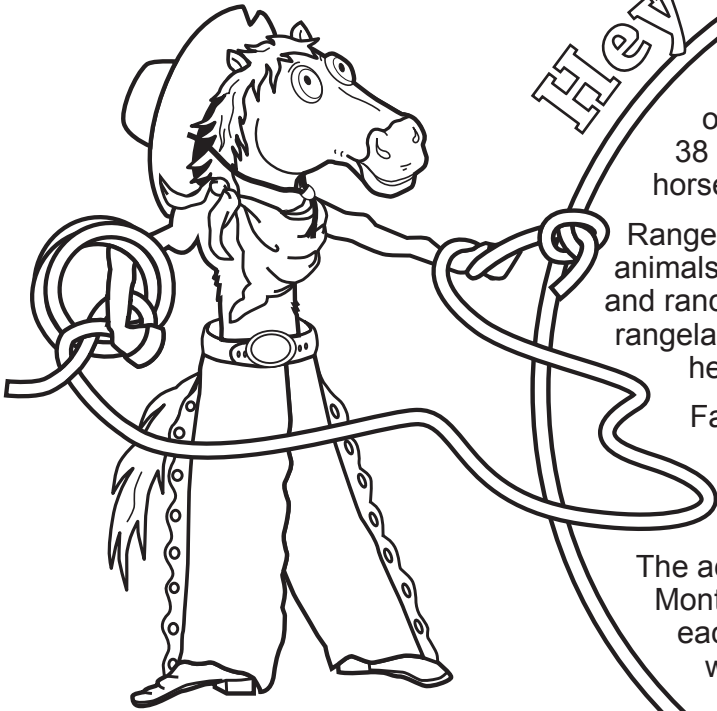


At Work On the Range



Hey Kids



Did you know Montana is home to more farm animals than people? Lots of these animals live on our state's abundant rangeland (more than 38 million acres), which supports cattle, sheep, horses, deer, birds, and other animals.

Rangeland plants provide many of the things that both animals and people need, like food and shelter. Farmers and ranchers work hard to take good care of our rangelands so that the land and animals are happy and healthy.

Farm animals raised on Montana's rangeland provide each of us with food to eat, clothes to wear, and many other items we use every day such as toothpaste.

The activities in this book will introduce you to some of Montana's agriculture products and how they help each of us. You are going to have a great time with these activities! Help us spread the word about how important rangeland is to the people here in Montana.

Have Fun!!

Reading Brands

Brands are read from left to right, top to bottom, outside to inside.



R N Bar



Flying U



Chair



T Lazy H

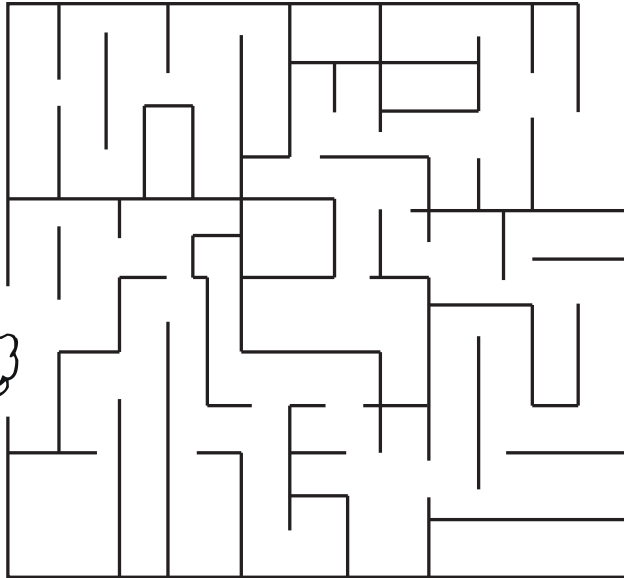
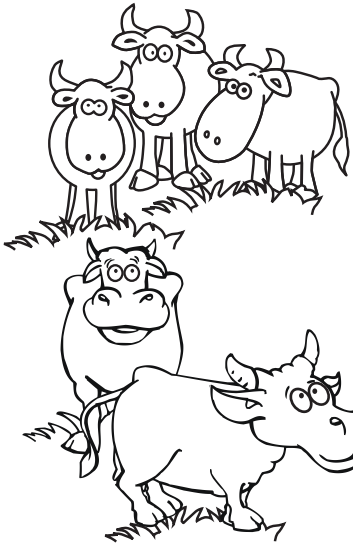
Can you read these brands?



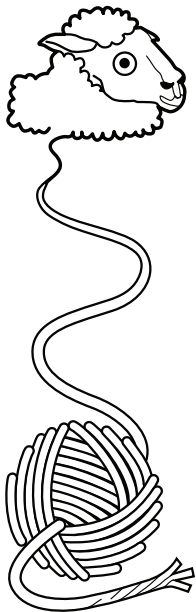
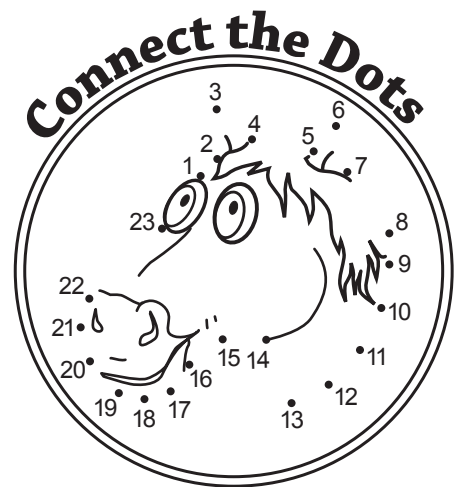
Before calves or lambs are moved to the pasture they are marked with the owner's brand and vaccinated against disease. Brands are the animal's ID (identification), like a driver's license is to a human and a license plate is to a car. Brands act like a return address. If an animal gets out and goes over to a neighbor's place, the neighbor can read the brand and know where to return the animal. Sheep brands are placed on the animal with a special paint. Branding day is a big event on the ranch; family, neighbors, and friends gather to help brand the critters.

Answers (left to right): Diamond Bar, Lazy K over R, M Bar 9, lazy J M.

Help this rancher move the cattle from pasture to the barn.



Sheep can grow fine wool, medium wool, or coarse wool.



Lambs drink their mother's milk and grow strong. A lamb will be almost grown when it is only six months old. It will weigh between 100 and 110 pounds. Spring is shearing time for sheep. Shearing is like getting a haircut. Their hair is a natural fiber called wool. The wool is removed as one piece and is called fleece. The oil in sheep's wool is called lanolin. It is used to make lotion.

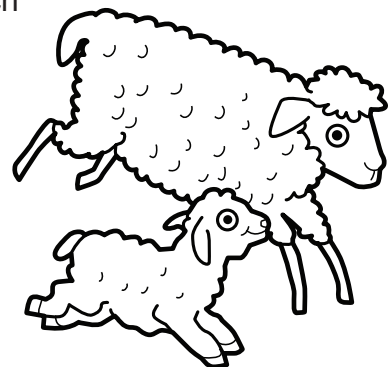
Solve these math problems:

1) One of Woolgrower Wilma's sheep grows a fleece that weighs ten pounds. After the fleece is scoured (washed) to remove the dirt and lanolin (oil), the wool weighs six pounds. How much dirt and lanolin was in the fleece?

_____ pounds

2) How many pounds of wool would be left after the fleece from two sheep is washed and the oil removed?

_____ pounds



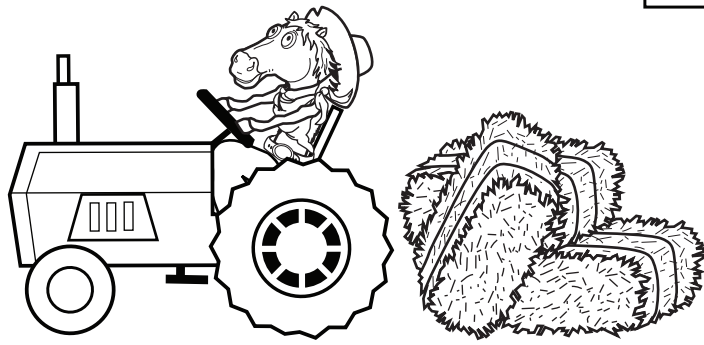
Answers: 1) 4 pounds, 2) 12 pounds.

Ranch Word Roundup

Ranching is a job. Montana ranchers work hard, but it can be fun too. They work from sunup to sundown caring for their land, their livestock, and their families. Find these ranch words hidden in the box.

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| HAYBALE | COWS |
| BARN | SHEEP |
| TRACTOR | RANCHER |
| FENCE | GRASS |
| HORSE | LAMB |
| FIELD | BRAND |

H	A	Y	B	A	L	E	F	R
O	W	C	L	B	A	R	N	T
R	A	O	A	F	I	E	L	D
S	G	W	M	T	E	V	I	S
E	R	S	B	R	A	N	D	P
R	A	N	C	H	E	R	C	R
T	S	R	S	H	E	E	P	E
S	S	T	R	A	C	T	O	R



Unscramble the Types of Food and Fiber

Farmers and ranchers provide the rest of the world with food and fiber. Unscramble these words and learn what they produce to make their livings.

WOLO

URGHAMREB

KILM

TKEAS

MTUTON

ECHES

LRTHEAE

LONIOT

Answers: wool, milk, mutton, leather, hamburger, steaks, cheese, lotion.