

BORN TO BE BEEF

BREEDS OF BEEF CATTLE LESSON

Learning Target: Identify common and distinctive beef breeds and their advantages.

Engagement Strategy:

Cut the Beef Breed Puzzles into pieces and mix them up. For younger grades, have them put together one breed at a time. For older grades, mix the different breeds together for them to sort out.

Once the puzzles are complete, discuss the different breeds. Ask students to describe what they observe. What characteristics are different? What are the same? Can you tell what kind of cattle it is simply by color? What else do you notice?

Learning Activity:

Give students the pages for "My Beef Breeds Book" along with scissors and coloring supplies. Show each breed information page or set up stations for students to rotate through. Discuss the history and characteristics of each breed.

Students will add information to their book pages and color the picture to be like the breed shown. When finished, students should staple their books together down the left side.

- **Angus:** known for high quality of meat; originated from Scotland; polled breed so they naturally do not have horns; good natured and mature quickly; solid black but there is also a Red Angus breed
- **Brahman:** known for extreme heat tolerance; developed in the U.S. using cattle from India; very hardy and adaptable; hump over their shoulders is very distinctive, extra skin on their dewlap, large drooping ears and curving horns; range in color from light to dark gray and from various shades of red to black
- **Hereford:** known for ability to thrive on grazing natural grasses and maximum beef production; originally came from England, popular settling the southwest; easy to handle and make good mothers; white faces and underlines, pass down the characteristic white markings; range in color from dark red to red-yellow
- **Longhorn:** known for its unique horns, an iconic breed of the Old West; usually called the "Texas Longhorn", handle the hot dry climate and open range of Texas very well; horns are 4 to 5 feet long on average; colors include different shades and markings from brown, black, and red, to white, yellow and orange, so many combinations of colors and patterns that no two are exactly alike

Culminating Activity:

Talk to the class about cattle they have seen as they drive or in videos or movies.

What colors and characteristics have they noticed? These are just a few of the breeds of beef cattle.

Ask students if they know the names of any other breeds. Why would a producer choose to raise one breed over another?

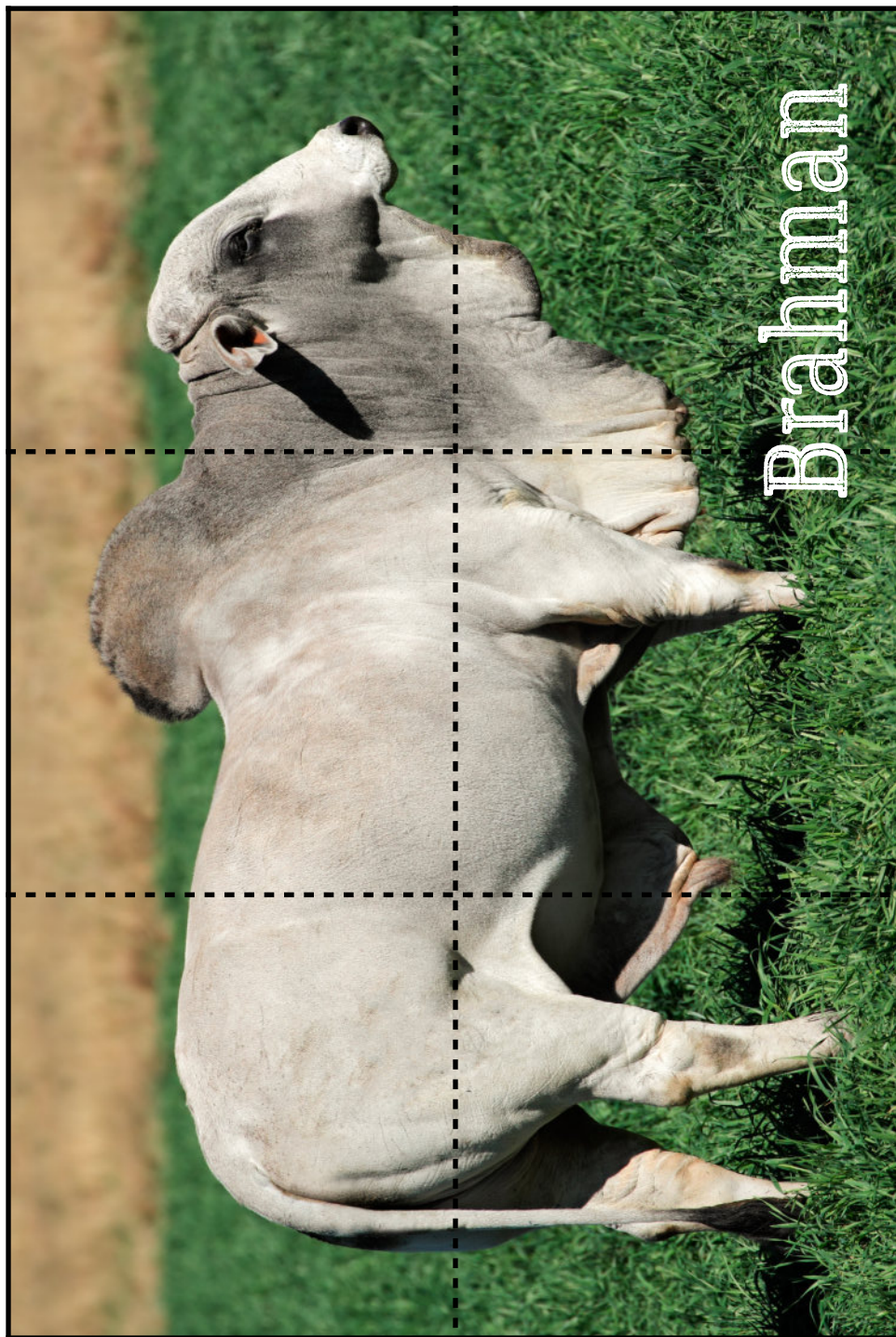
BORN TO BE BEEF

BREEDS OF BEEF CATTLE PUZZLE



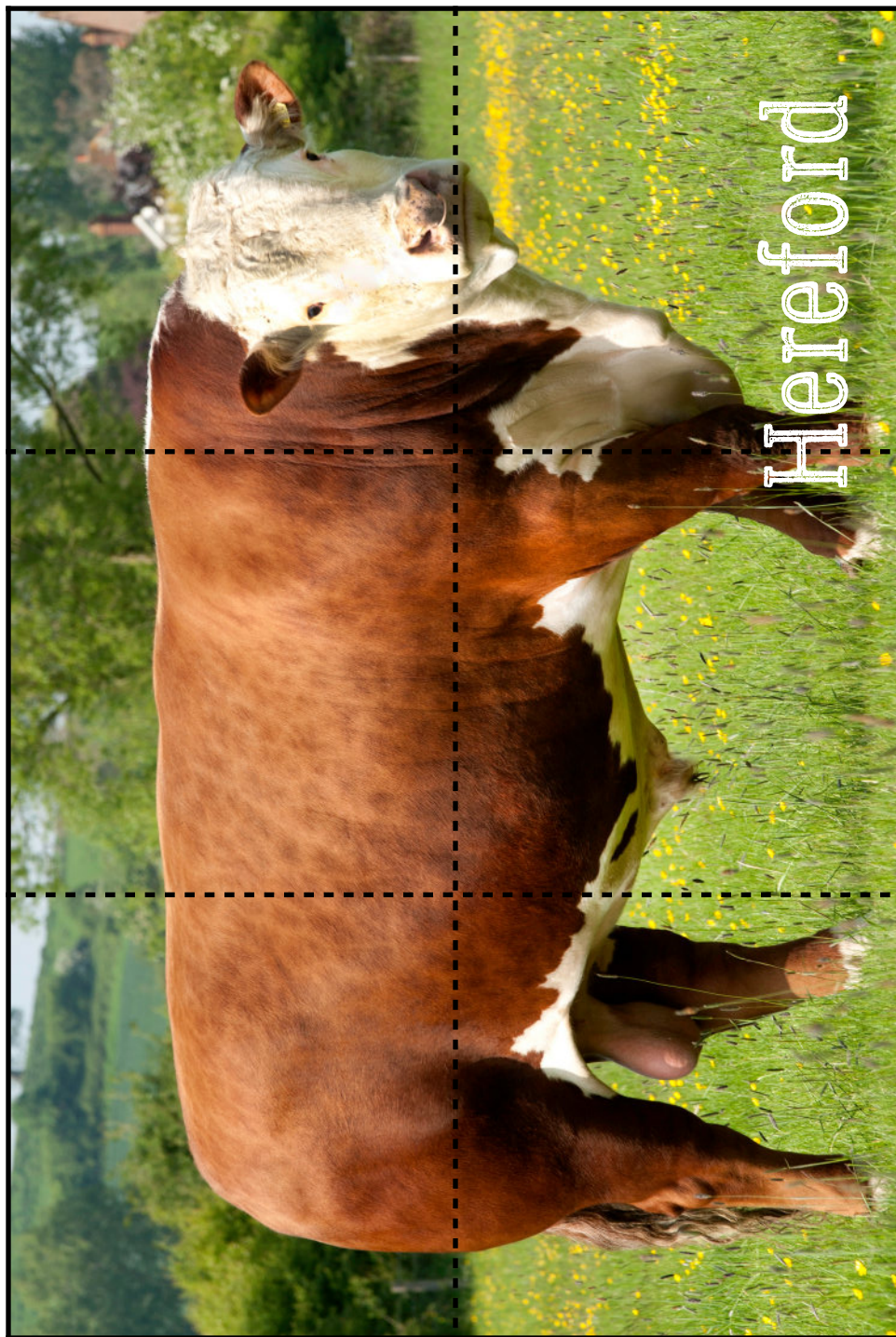
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BREEDS OF BEEF CATTLE PUZZLE



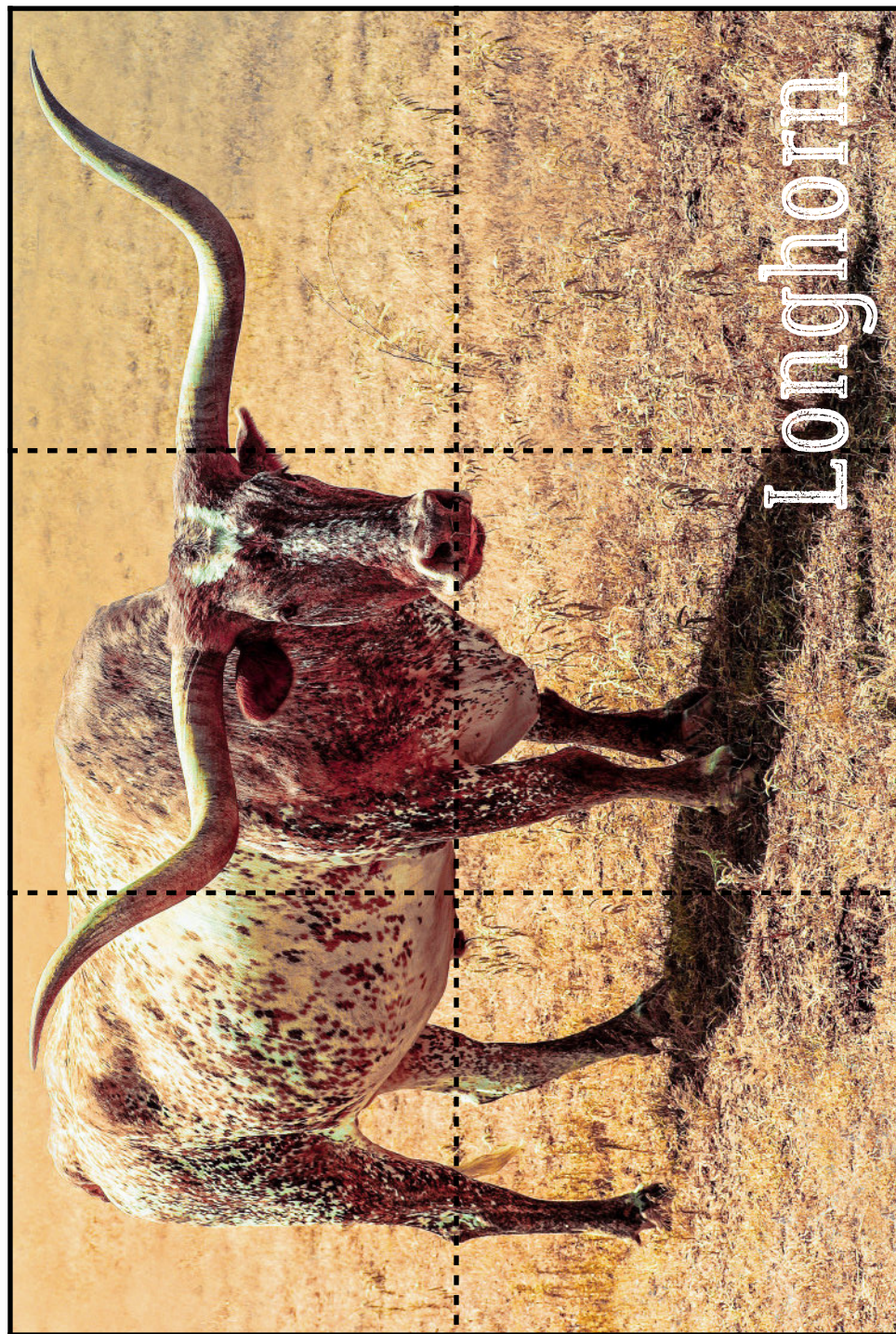
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BREEDS OF BEEF CATTLE PUZZLE



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ANGUS



This breed of beef cattle is known for its **high quality of meat**. It has been used to improve many breeds in their meat quality. The Angus breed originated from Scotland.

They are a **polled breed** so they naturally do not have horns and pass that down to their offspring. Angus cattle are **good natured** and **mature quickly**. They are **solid black** in color so they are often called "Black Angus" but there is also a Red Angus breed.

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BRAHMAN



This breed of beef cattle is known for its **extreme heat tolerance**. It has been used to create many breeds to handle the hot summers in the southern and western United States. The Brahman breed was developed in the U.S. using cattle from India and are **very hardy and adaptable**.

The **hump over their shoulders** is very distinctive and plays a part in their heat tolerance. So does all the **extra skin on their dewlap**. Brahman cattle also have **large drooping ears** and **curving horns**. They range in color from **light to dark gray** and from **various shades of red to black**.

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HEREFORD



This breed of beef cattle is known for its ability to thrive on grazing natural grasses and maximum beef production. The Hereford breed originally came from England but were very popular when expanding into and settling the southwest.

They are easy to handle and make good mothers. Hereford cattle are easy to recognize with their white faces and underlines. They range in color from dark red to red-yellow. They pass down the characteristic white markings. When bred with black angus they produce calves called "black baldies" because of their white faces.

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LONGHORN



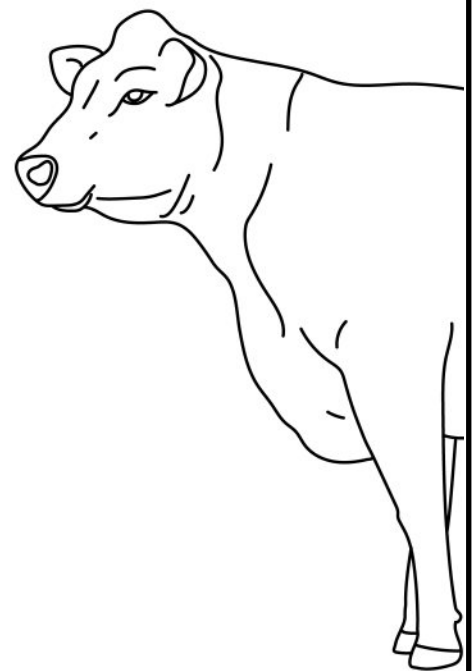
Best known for its **unique horns**, the Longhorn is an iconic breed of the Old West. They are direct descendants of cattle brought over by Christopher Columbus. Usually called the “**Texas Longhorn**”, they can **handle the hot dry climate and open range** of Texas very well.

Their horns are 4 to 5 feet long on average and are their most obvious feature. But this breed is also unique when it comes to their color. Colors include different shades and markings from brown, black, and red, to white, yellow and orange. In fact, there are **so many combinations of colors and patterns** that no two are exactly alike!

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BEEF BREEDS COLORING BOOK

MY BEEF BREEDS BOOK

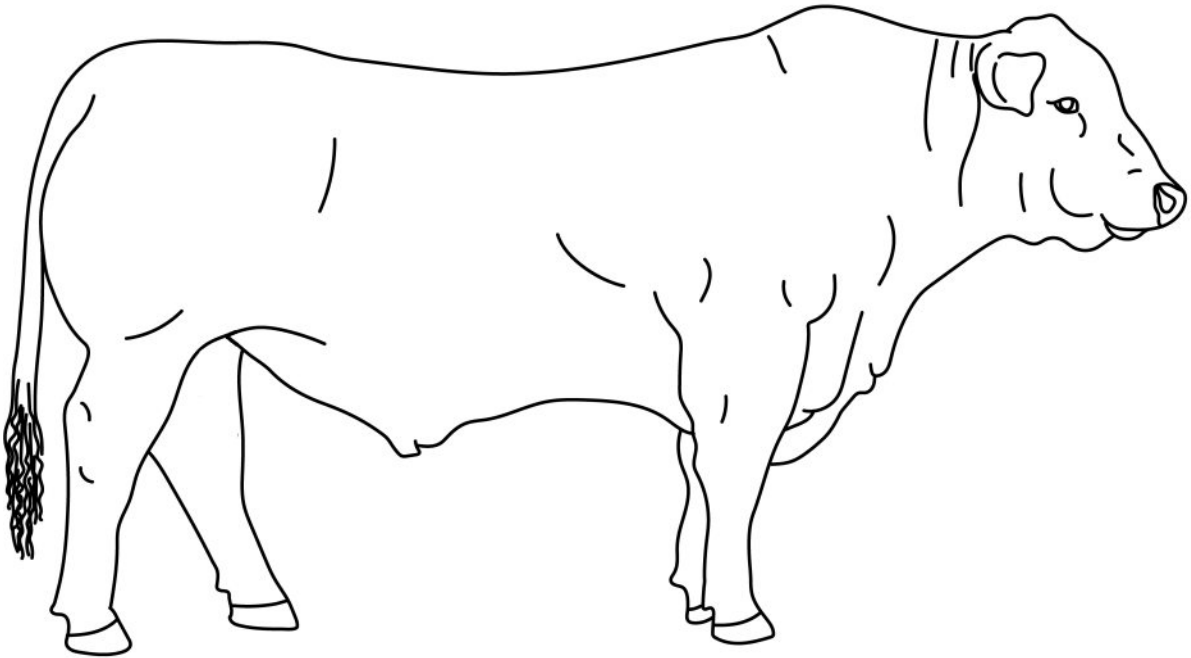


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BORN TO BE BEEF

BEEF BREEDS COLORING BOOK



ANGUS

Best Known For:

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Physical Characteristics:

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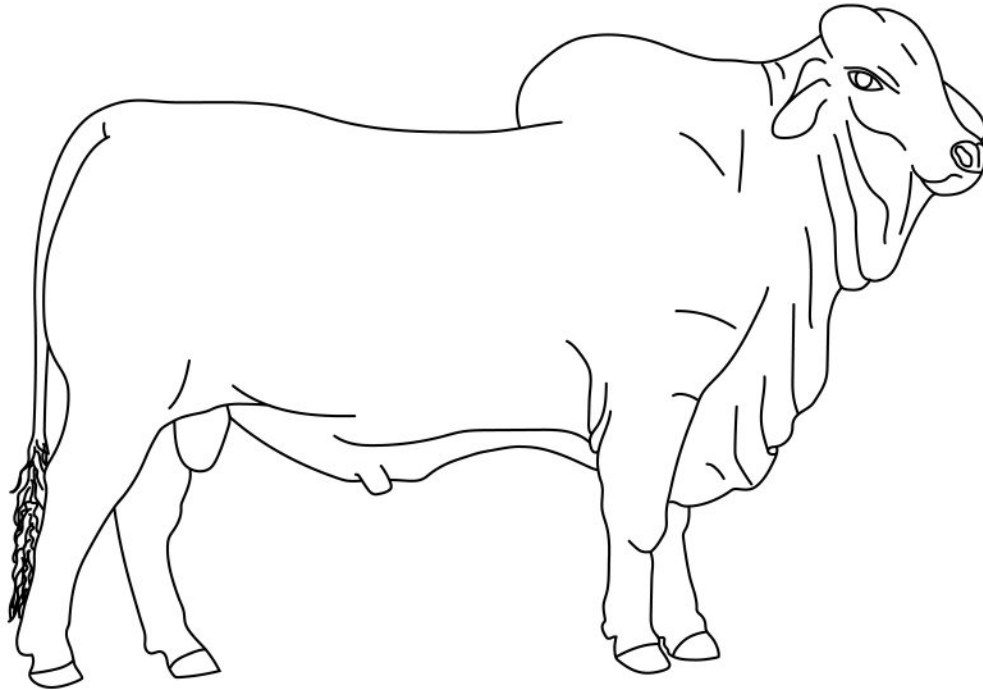
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Color:

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BEEF BREEDS COLORING BOOK



BRAHMAN

Best Known For:

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Physical Characteristics:

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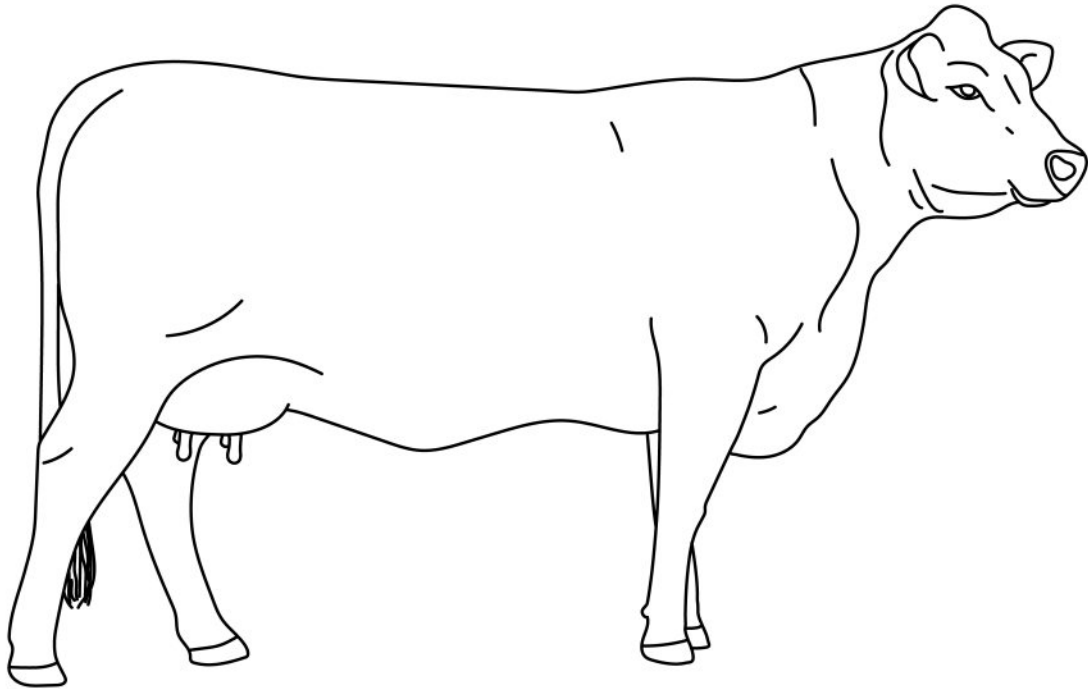
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HEREFORD

Best Known For:

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Physical Characteristics:

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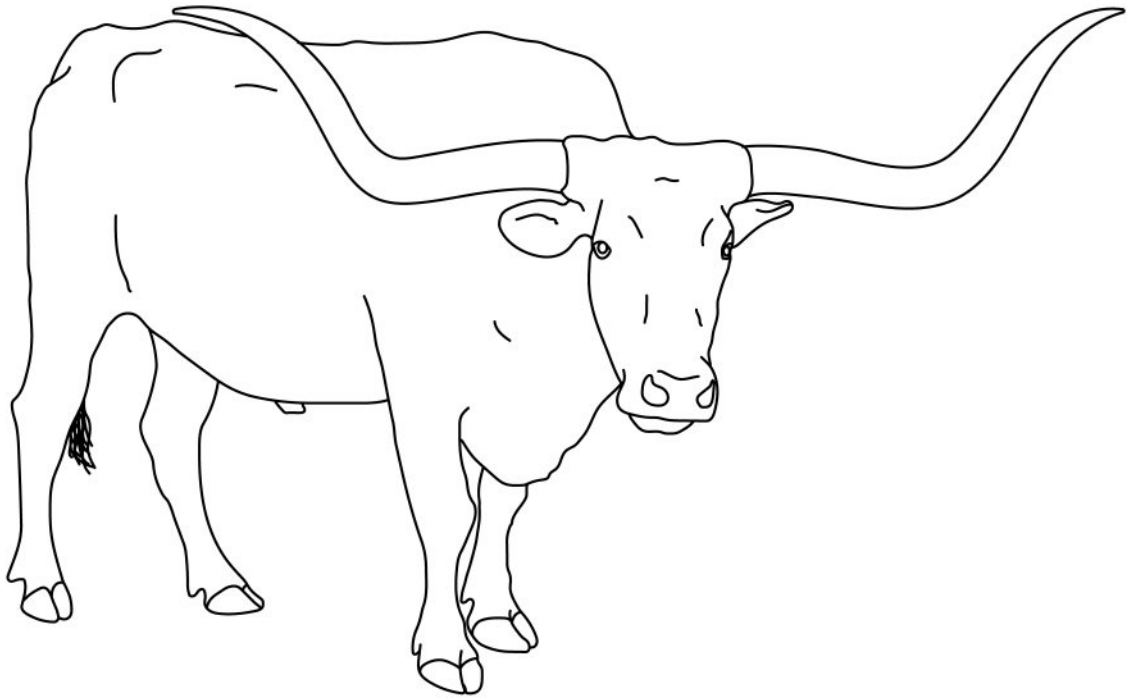
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BEEF BREEDS COLORING BOOK



LONGHORN

Best Known For:

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Physical Characteristics:

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Color:

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