

## Safe Animal Handling

**Objective:** Students will take care when approaching livestock by identifying where and how an animal's vision is different.

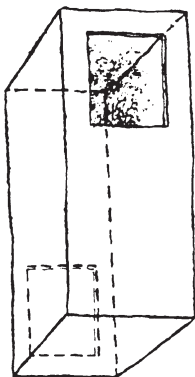
**Concept:** Cattle have what is called a panoramic field of vision. This means they can see close to 360 degrees around, leaving only a small blind area directly behind themselves. Due to eye locations, all animals see differently.

**Targeted Age:** Adolescents beginning to handle and show livestock

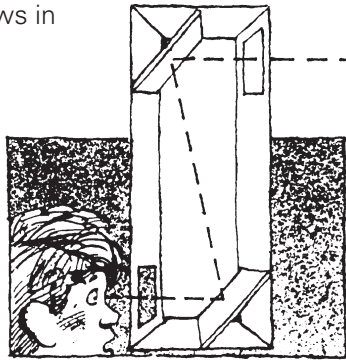
**Materials:**

- ▶ Box (shoe box or milk carton works well)
- ▶ Mirrors
- ▶ Glue or tape

Purchase or make a periscope out of cardboard and mirrors like the one shown below. Have a student hold the periscope up to one eye. Tell the student to keep both eyes open and walk around the room. Ask the student his/her perceptions after the experiment.



**Step 1:** Cut two windows in a long box, as shown.



**Step 2:** Glue mirrors inside as shown in illustration. When you look through the bottom window you can see out the top.

Refer back to pages 39-41 for additional activities. Alter the instructions to reflect other animals.

**Q: How was your perception altered?**

**A:** By seeing in many directions, you (or the animal) has many images to view at the same time. This can be confusing.

**Q: Were you startled when other people approached you?**

**A:** The numerous images distort normal vision and cause sensory overload.

