

# Kids' KOrner

## Why Do Lightning Bugs Flash Their Lights

Lightning bugs, also called fireflies, flash their lights to attract a mate. The fireflies you see flying on summer evenings are all males looking for partners.

The female does not have any wings. She has a grublike appear-

ance and is often called a glow-worm. Her light is bluer and dimmer than her male counterpart's. (You may have luck seeing a female firefly by looking for the females on moonless nights after your eyes have adjusted to the

dark.)

The female waits in the grass flashing her light to attract interested males. Fireflies can tell from the sequence of flashes whether they are of the same species. When visual contact is made and

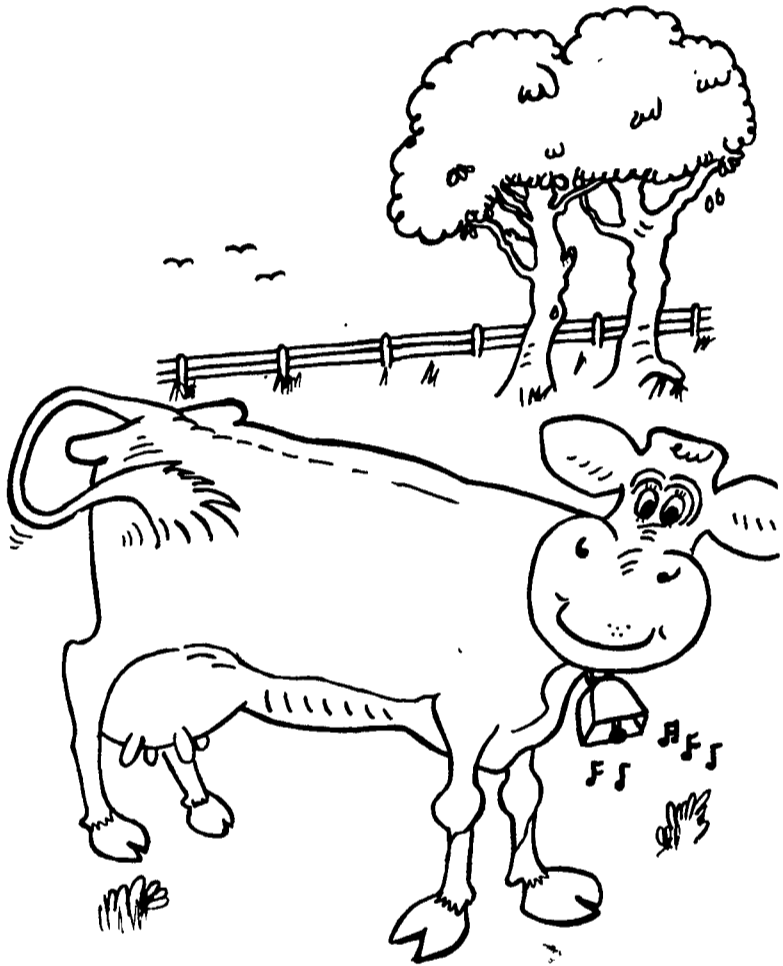
proper identification determined, the male lands and meets the female.

One predatory species of firefly takes advantage of this courtship. It waits in the grass mimicking the female's sequence of flashes. When the male lands to mate, he is

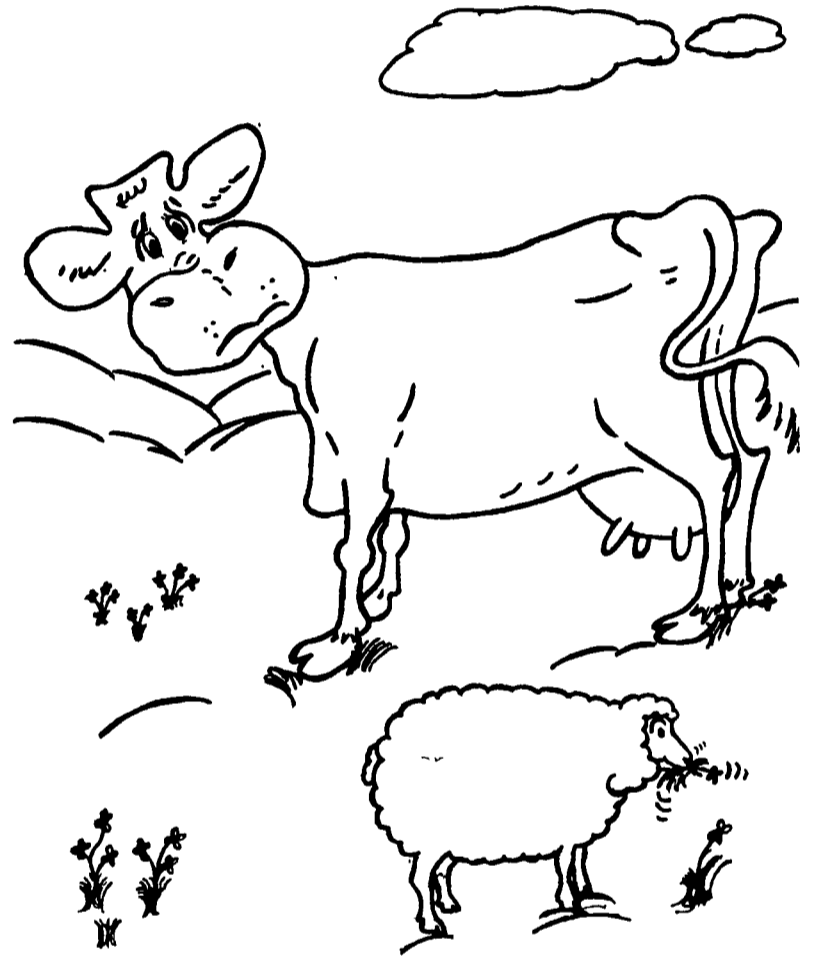
eaten instead.

Did you know that the light given off by fireflies is cold light? It does not produce heat. The light comes from the oxidation of an enzyme. This reaction is nearly 100-percent efficient in producing light.

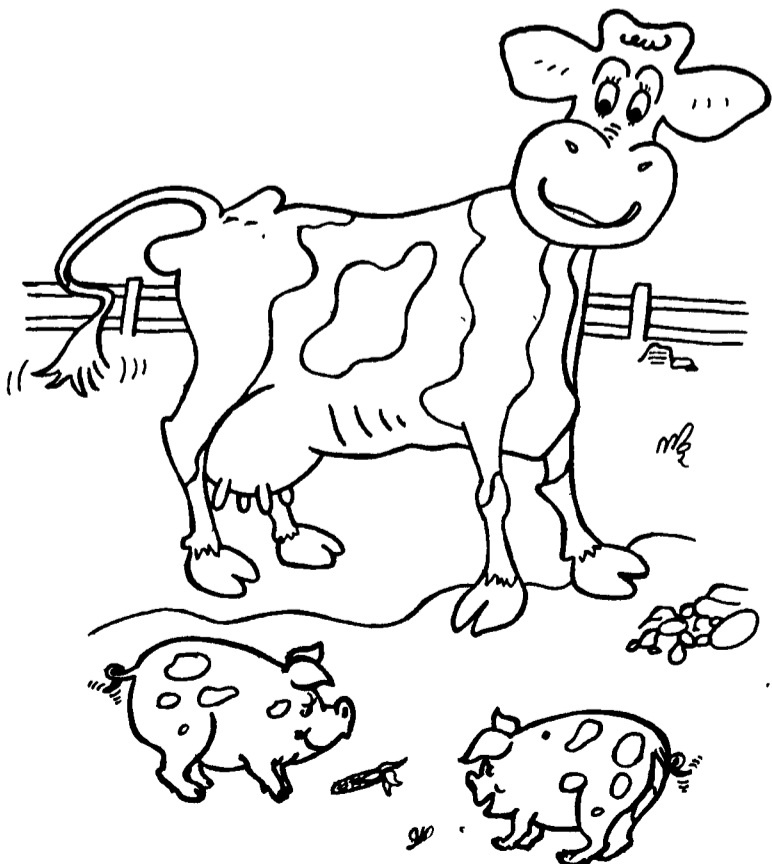
## Color The Cows



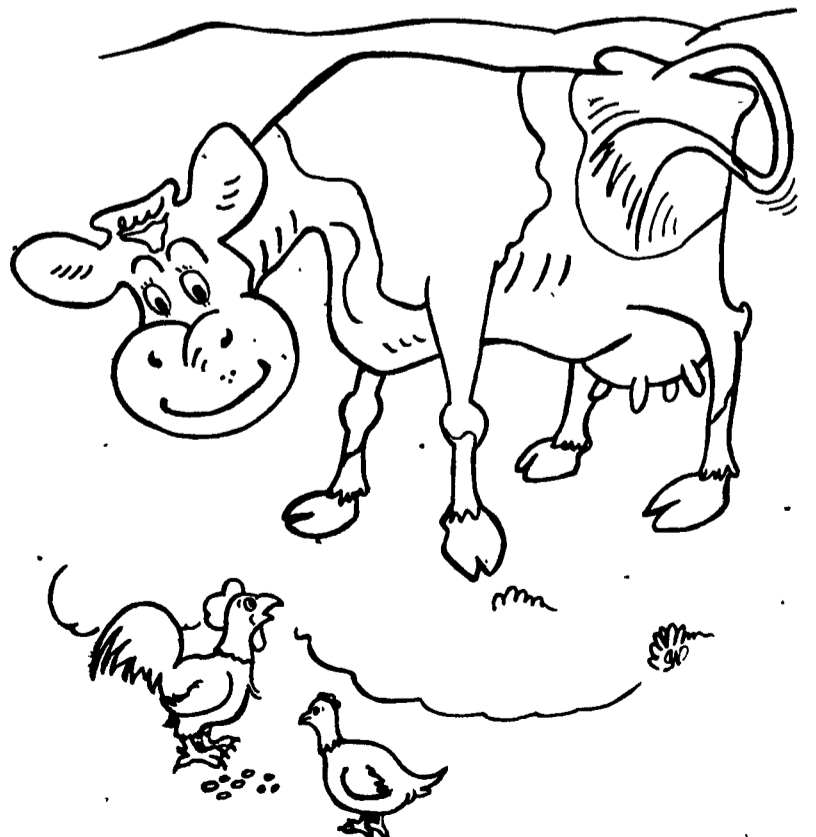
Guernseys and Jerseys are light brown and white.



Brown swiss are brown.



Ayrshires are red and white.



Holsteins are black and white.