

**Vocabulary lists are specific to the understanding of ranching. Students can look at vocabulary as one key to furthering comprehension of new subjects and lifestyles. One way to make students aware of what vocabulary can teach is to, have them create their own vocabulary lists for a subject, sport, job or hobby.**

### **Vocabulary List**

#### **Spring Segment, “Don’t Fence Me In” Ranch Heritage Video**

Altitude: The height above sea level of a given point.

Arid: A geographic region with less than 10 inches annual precipitation.

Bonding: The attachment of babies to mothers and mothers to babies by scent.

Blocks: Salt, protein and minerals in a large solid form (50 lbs.) Used to supplement nutrients.

Brush: Larger plants which provide protection from wind and weather. In the San Luis Valley some common brush plants are: chamisa (rabbit brush), sagebrush and greasewood (chico bush).

Bull: An intact male, able to father calves.

Calf: Baby bovines (cows), less than one year old.

Conservation: The wise use of natural resources.

Corral: An enclosure for holding livestock.

Cow: A fertile female bovine, able to mother calves.

Cud: The portion of food a ruminant regurgitates from their first stomach to the mouth to chew.

Disposition: Temperament. Examples: calm, anxious, aggressive.

Elevation: The altitude of a place above sea level or ground level.

Ewe: A fertile female sheep, able to mother lambs.

Heifer: A young female bovine, so-called until she is three years old, or has birthed her first calf.

Host: A plant or animal on, or in, which a parasitic organism lives.

Lamb: Baby sheep, less than one year old.

Livestock: Domesticated animals, such as cattle, sheep, goats and horses, kept for their services or raised for food.

Maternal Behavior: The way animals act when protecting their young from what they perceive as a threat.

Pair: A livestock mother and her baby.

Parasite: An organism that lives directly off of another organism, external (e.g. ticks) and internal (e.g. worms).

Pasture: A large enclosed area including grass and brush, where livestock live and graze.

Predator: An animal that kills and eats other animals.

Ram: An intact male, able to father lambs.

Resources: The collective wealth of an area or means of producing that wealth.

Ruminants: Any of a group of even-toed, hoofed, cud-chewing mammals, which possess four-chambered stomachs, including cattle, deer, sheep, llama, etc.

Traps: Small paddocks, or pens, for confining livestock, usually for birthing, weaning, and caring for sick animals.

Wean: Permanently separating baby animals from their mothers when they are old enough to depend on foods other than the mother's milk.

Vaccination: Medicine injected into an animal for the purpose of developing immunity to specific diseases.