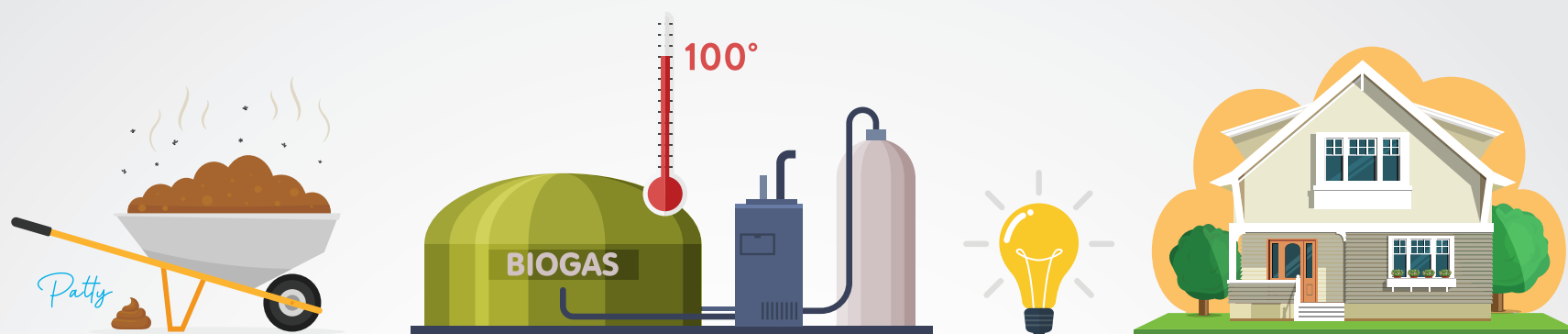


COW POWER

THE STORY OF PATTY COW PLOP A VERY IMPORTANT POOP

COW POWER

Dairy farms have lots of cow patties, which might sound stinky, but those piles of poop are very important on the farm and for the environment. Let's take a look at Patty Cow Plop's journey to becoming a renewable source of electricity!



- 1 Patty, along with all the other poop from around the farm, is trucked or carried to a big tank called a **digester**, where it's heated to 100 °F.
- 2 Bacteria in the digester break Patty down into digested material and a gas called **biogas**.
- 3 The biogas is sent to a generator, where it's turned into electricity (now that's **cow power**)!
- 4 The electricity made from our friend Patty can be used to power the farm (the poop from **15 cows** can power an average home for 1 day).

FERTILIZER FOR THE FARM

Not all cow plops are turned into electricity like Patty because there is another important job for poop on a dairy farm. Cow manure can be used as fertilizer to help the grass and crops on the farm grow better.



- 1 The poop from the farm is moved to a pit, tank, or lagoon for storage until it's time to spread it on the ground as **fertilizer**.
- 2 Sometimes water is added to the manure, turning it into **slurry**.
- 3 Farmers have to **make plans, keep records, and follow rules** about when and how they apply fertilizer.
- 4 Making sure fertilizer **doesn't run off into nearby drains or streams** is important for keeping cow poop out of our water supply!

DO YOU HAVE THE SCOOP ON POOP?

Ask yourself or your friends these questions to see how well you know your poop. The answers can be found at the bottom of the page.



WHAT DO FARMERS COMMONLY CALL COW POOP?



HOW MUCH MANURE DOES AN AVERAGE COW PRODUCE IN A DAY?

- A. 1 POUND B. 10 POUNDS
C. 60 POUNDS D. 100 POUNDS



WHAT IS THE NAME FOR COW POOP THAT IS SPREAD ON GRASS AND CROPS TO HELP THEM GROW?



AN AVERAGE COW CAN POOP UP TO 15 TIMES IN ONE DAY.

TRUE OR FALSE



FARMERS HAVE TO FOLLOW STRICT RULES ABOUT HOW THEY CAN STORE AND USE THE MANURE FROM THEIR COWS.

TRUE OR FALSE