

# BISON TALKING POINTS

Here at (SCHOOL NAME) we support local farmers. This month we are focusing on Bison. Here is some information on Bison.

## What Is a Bison?

In North America, the term “buffalo” usually refers to bison. Bison are large, furry animals that once roamed the Great Plains in massive herds. Though wild, bison are also raised on farms for their meat.

**Read trivia for the week.**

## What Does Bison Meat Taste Like?

Bison is similar to beef, but with a sweeter, richer flavor. Can be made into burgers, steaks, tacos, sausages, and meatballs. **Read trivia for the week.**

## Health Benefits of Bison

Bison is lean and high in protein. It’s packed with iron and vitamin B12—great for strength and energy. Bison is often raised without added hormones, making it a healthy meat choice.

## Fun Bison Facts

Bison can run up to 35 mph. They weigh up to 2,000 pounds. Bison have beards and take dust baths to keep bugs away. They have lived in North America for over 10,000 years. Yellowstone is the only U.S. location where bison have lived continuously since prehistoric times. **Read trivia for the week.**

## Bison in South Dakota

Bison are found in Custer State Park and Badlands National Park. Custer State Park has an annual buffalo roundup that helps manage and maintain herd health. Custer Park is home to 1,350–1,450 freely roaming bison. Bison were reintroduced to the Badlands in 1963 from Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The Wind Cave herd helped restore bison populations across the country. South Dakota has the largest bison population in the U.S.—nearly 40,000 bison. **Read trivia for the week.**



# HELPFUL TIPS

- Harvest of the Month is not designed to be used in any particular order. Please use it as you see fit.
- Choose a different item to focus on each month.
- Hang the poster in the cafeteria where all students can see it.
- Hand out the Fact Sheets and the Recipes for an option to cook at home.
- Have fun with the color sheets. Create a color contest or an opportunity for students to decorate the lunchroom. Choose a different class every month to be featured as the "Harvest of the Month Artists".
- Trivia questions can be used in any order. Feature one question a week. Read the trivia question with the facts for the week and have students share the answer with you throughout the week. At the end of the week give them the answer to the trivia.
- Trivia question answers can be found on the fact sheets.
- Have fun with the feature. Create some new foods and use as a snack throughout the month.

## Adventure Time:

- Take a virtual field trip to a park or farm that raises bison. Search virtual field trips on YouTube.

