

The Great Dairy Adventure

More than 2,000 people had fun learning about the nutritional benefits of dairy foods and cows on July 20 during the sixth "Great Dairy Adventure" at Michigan State University. The annual event is held in conjunction with the week long Michigan Dairy Expo in the Pavilion at MSU.

Families, daycare providers with their students and anyone else who stopped by were able to have a free photo taken wearing a milk mustache. Several MSU athletes were on hand to pose with visitors for the popular photos.

The many hands-on activities included the "I Milked a Cow" area, making a cow puppet, making "bugs" out of string cheese and pretzels along with activities that teach the nutritional benefits of dairy products. There were plenty of give away items for visitors to enjoy including recipes, flavored milks, Go-Gurt donated by Yoplait and ice cream sandwiches donated by Dean Foods.

Dairy promoters from all parts of the Michigan dairy industry worked to make the day a great success. Volunteers from the UDIM, Michigan Department of Agriculture, Michigan State University and Michigan Milk Producers Association collaborated with dozens of dairy farmers to teach visitors how milk gets from the cow to the table.

Plans will soon be underway for the 2006 Great Dairy Adventure. If you would like to assist with this fun-filled dairy promotion event, contact Karla Macelli or Mindy Pratt at (248) 474-6672 in the Novi office.



Visitors learned more about cows from 4-H volunteers.



A large fiberglass cow greeted visitors to the Pavilion during the Great Dairy Adventure.



UDIM encouraged kids and their families to play with their food by turning string cheese and pretzels into "bugs."



MSU Hockey player Jared Nightengale milked a cow during his visit at the Pavilion.



Free milk chugs were available for visitors.



MSU athletes stopped by to pose for milk mustache photos with visitors. Athletes are, from left, Tom Dance and Kaleb Thornhill, football; Ethan Graham, hockey; and Kiel Beltinck, football.



MMPA sponsored a hands-on activity where visitors could make a cow puppet.