

## BiggiE's BrainGame At The Mallary Complex

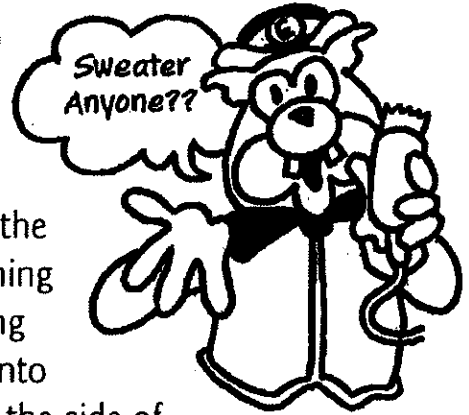
# FIBER NOOK

### The Big E BrainGain Number 15

Did you know that many people in early America had to make their own clothes? No shopping malls for them. Many farmers raised sheep for wool.

Each Spring the farmers and their families would shear (cut off) the wool fleece (coat). The wool was washed and picked over by hand. The next step was "carding," combing the fibers so they would run in the same direction. The wool was now ready to be spun into yarn.

Even though we can buy clothes already made, today many people still raise animals such as sheep, llamas, and alpacas for their fiber. Stop by the Fiber Nook and watch the person sitting at the spinning wheel. When the spinner turns the wheel by stepping on a pedal the spindle also turns, twisting the fiber into yarn. The finished yarn comes out through a hole in the side of the spindle, ready to be dyed and woven into cloth.



For more fun facts on sheep, llamas, and alpacas, pick up The Big E's ALL ABOUT SHEEP, ALL ABOUT LLAMAS, and ALL ABOUT ALPACAS brochures.

### BiggiE's BrainGame Number 15

Do you remember how to make yarn from fleece? Test yourself by numbering in order the steps below. The answers are above, but try to finish the game without looking.

- \_\_\_\_\_ A person sits at the spinning wheel and puts fiber on the spindle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The wheel turns the spindle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The yarns are woven into cloth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ In the spring the fleece is sheared.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The fiber is picked over by hand.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The yarn comes through the spindle.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The spinner turns the wheel by stepping on a pedal.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The fiber is washed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The yarn can then be dyed.