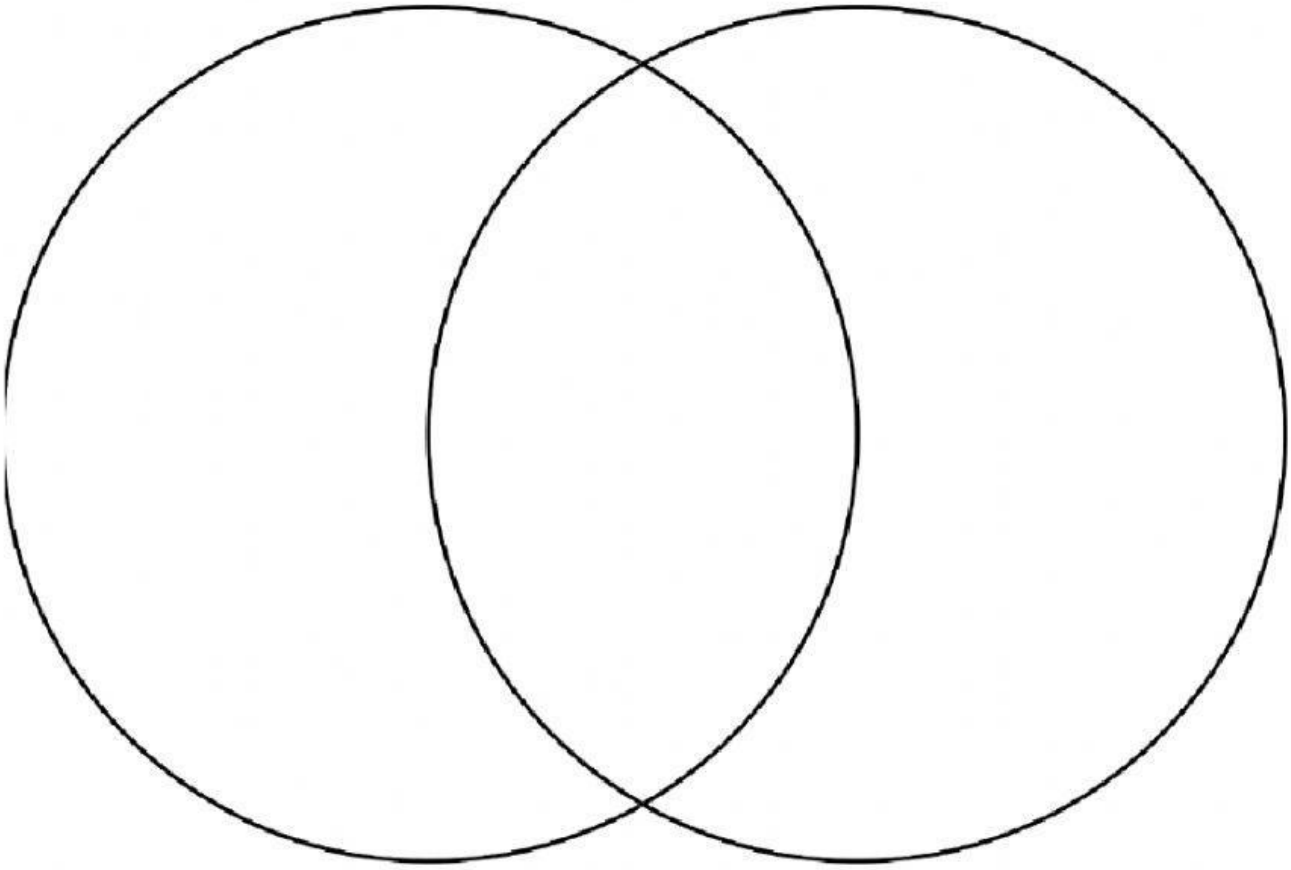
Goats and sheep

Goats and sheep are both closely related to cattle. Wild goats and sheep live mainly in cold, mountainous places. They have woolly coats to keep them warm. They also rely on their even-toed, cloven, hoofed feet to keep a good grasp on the rugged ground.

There are some slight differences between goats and sheep. The easiest way to tell a goat from a sheep is to look at the animal's horns. Both goats and sheep have horns that are hollow and un-branched. Goats' horns often grow straight up. Sheep's horns often curl in loops on the sides of their heads. Also, male goats usually have beards.

We have come up with several different names for these two animals. We call male goats "billies" or "bucks." Female goats are known as "nannies" or "does." Baby goats are called "kids." We also have nicknames for sheep. Male sheep are called "rams." Female sheep are "ewes," and baby sheep are "lambs."

Goats and sheep have been domesticated for thousands of years for their meat, wool, and milk. Hence, like chickens, horses, and cattle, goats and sheep are regulars on farms.

Write four differences between the sheep and the goat. Then, write three similarities between the two animals.

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