From Dawn to Dusk
... Kids Depend On

Most kids couldn’t get through a day without using sheep byproducts, even if they tried. From rising at dawn to the school bus ride to snoozing through the night, sheep make important contributions to life.

Just look.

Get up and get dressed in the morning. If you wash with soap, use mouthwash, use hair gel or wear deodorant, you are depending on sheep byproducts. Add lotion, cosmetics, perfumes and hair spray to the list.

Time to eat breakfast. If your family eats on bone china, that comes from sheep too. The bones are ground to make fine china.

Your wallet might be sheepskin. Are your mittens made from wool? Does your coat have a sheepskin collar? Of course, your clothes could well be made of wool too.

Catch the school bus. Stearic acid, derived from animal fat, is added to the rubber on the tires to make them run cooler. Glycol, another animal-based chemical, is found in brake fluid. Glycerol is one of the main ingredients that makes asphalt stick together when making a road.

Grilled cheese for lunch? Sheep rennet is used to make cheese.

Go to a school concert, and you’ll see that several instruments are made from animal byproducts, such as the strings on a violin and the heads on a drum.

Candlelight at dinner? If your candles are the old-fashioned tallow kind, they are made from animal fat; and if they are the modern kind made from stearic acid and paraffin, they also come from sheep.

If your mom is serving lamb for dinner, take a look at the fancy carving set. It may be made of horn and bone tissue. The softening agents in baked goods and the plasticizers in shortening are made from sheep byproducts.

On to dessert! Your ice cream, yogurt or Jello all contain gelatine, a protein product made from horns, hooves and bones.

If you go to a baseball game, you will find sheep byproducts at the ball park. After all, the hot dogs are probably encased in sheep intestines, and the baseball is stuffed with wool and probably sewn with wool thread. The rubber lining is made with stearic acid, and the cork center contains processed blood.

If you are feeling sick, sheep byproducts help produce all kinds of medicine like cough medicine and insulin. The stitches a doctor uses to sew up a cut could be made from intestines. Other animal products are used to help with medical procedures such as transplants.

Look around you. Sheep are everywhere in your life.

In the future, synthetic products may take over some of the roles animal byproducts now play. But even if they do, there’s nothing like the real thing.