

Incorporate agriculture in everything!



Language Arts

- Cut hand holes on four sides of a small covered box. In it, place some wool fleece, corduroy, cotton washcloth, linen towel, cardboard square, cotton rug yarn, burlap material, short section of cotton or hemp rope, other handy materials. Students put their hands in the box, identify objects and write them down. They then try to identify the agricultural product each was made from.
- Using old magazines have children make agricultural collages by cutting out and pasting pictures of farming, food, fabrics, wood products, or flowers. Don't forget the inconspicuous things like paints, crayons, glues, and soaps.
- Write your own solution to the problem of bugs eating crops. Pretend you are a farmer, what would you do if bugs invaded your crops?

Social Studies and Economics

- How would family life be different if we had to produce all of our own food? Ask students to trace all the food they have eaten that day and all the people who have worked to get that food to them.
- Ask your students to look around the classroom and find things that have come from farm products. Examples: glue, paper, pencils, clothing, chalkboard erasers, books, rubber items, wood items, blind cords, drapes, flags, etc.
- Make flow charts of the processing steps involved in bringing a specific product (or your favorite food) from the farm to the table.
- Discuss how family chores and family life are different in the city than on a farm.
- Use farm crops to discuss the concepts of supply and demand.

Science

- Brainstorm a list of crops and animals the children have seen in their state. How do we use these products?
- Plant vegetable or other crop seeds, count the days to germination, and use other variables to find how the plants grow best.
- Invite a farmer to speak about why topsoil and water are important to our food and how he or she protects these resources.

CORN MAZE CONNECTION:

Agriculture is part of everyday living, although many children aren't aware of it. By incorporating agricultural principles in lessons of all varieties, your students will come to understand how vital ag really is! Then, after classroom lessons, bring your class to The MAiZE and let them see for themselves how agriculture is a fun, interesting and vital part of life.

