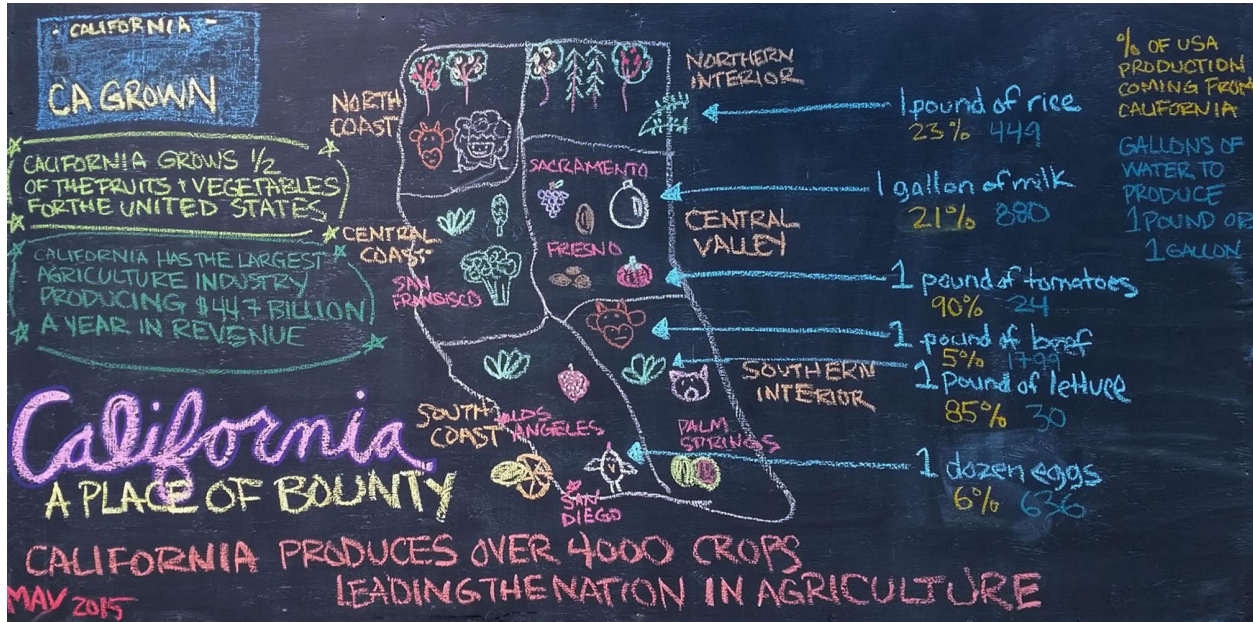


California Agriculture Garden

Fourth Grade Planting Lesson



Objective

Students will learn the significance of the roles that California's agriculture plays on a global scale, national, and within their daily lives.

Standards

History-Social Science

- 4.1 Students demonstrate an understanding of the physical and human geographic features that define places and regions in California.
- Identify the state capital and describe the various regions of California, including how their characteristics and physical environments (e.g., water, landforms, vegetation, climate) affect human activity.
 - Use maps, charts, and pictures to describe how communities in California vary in land use, vegetation, wildlife, climate, population density, architecture, services, and transportation.

Next Generation Science Standards

4-ESS2 Earth's Systems

4-ESS-2. Analyze and interpret data from maps to describe patterns of Earth's features.

Materials

Seedlings: Broccoli (hybrid, broccolini, stir fry), cauliflower (snowball) cabbage (cour di beu, hybrid)

Various seed varieties: carrots, lettuce, spinach(bloomsdale), chard (fardhook), peas(sugar snap peas), edible flowers.

Tasting (see below)

Procedure - Tasting should be served prior to planting

A. Group Discussion (10 minutes)

1. Ask students what they know about agriculture in CA. Agriculture is the process of growing plants or raising animals for use or consumption. The results are food and meat products that we eat. Cotton and leather for fabric and clothing. Wood for furniture, building materials and many products found in our homes.
2. Agriculture is the basis for every moment of our lives. All the things we eat, almost everything we wear, everything we sit on is a product of agriculture.
3. Agriculture is one of the leading industries in CA, and is also the number one farming state in the country.
4. CA's moderate weather is the main reason that we can grow crops year-round.
5. The Central Valley of CA is known as the 'breadbasket' of the US which means it is the region that provides most of the food in the nation(**HSS 4.1. & 4-ESS-2**. Students will be presented with an agricultural map of California)
6. Different regions of CA produce different crops because of their diverse geography. (See CA Grows Map below)
 - a. Coastal regions (north, central and south)
 - b. Inland regions (north and south)
 - c. Valley and mountain regions
7. CA produces 99% of the following crops: almonds (world's largest producer), artichokes, dates, figs, kiwi, olives, pistachios (world's 2nd largest producer), pomegranates, raisins, prunes, and walnuts
8. Today we will be planting some of the vegetables that grow year-round in CA.

B. Small group activities (about 9 minutes at each activity)

1. Half of the students will journal .
2. The other half of the students will plant a CA Agriculture garden.

Conclusion

1. Agriculture supplies our daily lives in the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the products we use, and in furniture and buildings.
2. California is the most important agricultural state in the United States.
3. The moderate weather in CA enables us to grow crops year-round, and the diverse geographic regions of the state make it possible to grow and produce a variety of foods.

Tasting

Students will get a taste some of California's bounty!

On a skewer...

-Orange cube

-Spinach

-Date piece

***PVSG strives to provide a seasonal tasting that accompanies each lesson. We do not serve any nut, meat, or dairy products unless otherwise stated.**

California Grows...

California is the leading agricultural state in the nation producing more than 400 commodities, with a value of more than \$37 billion. Many of the crops grown are fruits and tree nuts, vegetables, herbs and spices, flowers, and horticulture crops which are recognized as specialty crops by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Specialty crops make up a majority of the commodities grown in California – \$23 billion worth! You can say that California is pretty special!

Top 3 Commodities by County

Specialty crops are bold

- Alameda** Winegrapes, Woody Ornamentals, Cattle & Calves
- Alpine** Cattle & Calves, Pasture & Range, Pasture
- Amador** Winegrapes, Cattle & Calves, Pasture & Range
- Butte** Rice, Walnuts, Almonds
- Calaveras** Cattle & Calves, Poultry, Pasture & Range
- Colusa** Rice, Almonds, Vegetable Seeds
- Contra Costa** Cattle & Calves, Sweet Corn, Vegetable Crops
- Del Norte** Cows, Milk, Lily Bulbs
- El Dorado** Apples, Cattle & Calves, Winegrapes
- Fresno** Almonds, Poultry, Raisin Grapes
- Glenn** Rice, Almonds, Walnuts
- Humboldt** Timber, Nursery Products, Milk
- Imperial** Steers & Heifers, Leaf Lettuce, Alfalfa Hay
- Inyo** Steers, Heifers, Alfalfa Hay
- Kern** Almonds, Table Grapes, Pistachios
- Kings** Milk, Cotton, Processing Tomatoes
- Lake** Winegrapes, Bartlett Pears, Nursery Products
- Lassen** Hay, Alfalfa Hay, Strawberry Plants
- Los Angeles** Woody Ornamentals, Bedding Plants, Vegetable Crops
- Madera** Almonds, Pistachios, Milk
- Marin** Milk, Cattle & Calves, Poultry
- Mariposa** Cattle & Calves, Pasture & Range, Livestock Products
- Mendocino** Winegrapes, Timber, Bartlett Pears
- Merced** Milk, Almonds, Broiler Chickens
- Modoc** Alfalfa Hay, Cattle & Calves, Potatoes
- Mono** Alfalfa Hay, Stockers & Feeders, Steers
- Monterey** Strawberries, Head Lettuce, Romaine Lettuce
- Napa** Winegrapes, Cattle & Calves, Nursery Products
- Nevada** Cattle, Pasture, Pasture & Range
- Orange** Woody Ornamentals, Strawberries, Vegetable Crops
- Placer** Rice, Cattle & Calves, Nursery Products
- Plumas** Stockers & Feeders, Timber, Pasture
- Riverside** Milk, Woody Ornamentals, Table Grapes
- Sacramento** Winegrapes, Milk, Bartlett Pears
- San Benito** Vegetable Crops, Salad Lettuce, Bell Peppers
- San Bernardino** Milk, Eggs, Milk Cows
- San Diego** Woody Ornamentals, Foliage Plants, Bedding Plants
- San Francisco** Cut Flowers, Alfalfa & Bean Sprouts
- San Joaquin** Milk, Winegrapes, Walnuts
- San Luis Obispo** Winegrapes, Strawberries, Broccoli
- San Mateo** Potted Plants, Nursery Products, Brussels Sprouts
- Santa Barbara** Strawberries, Broccoli, Vegetable Crops
- Santa Clara** Mushrooms, Bedding Plants, Nursery Products
- Santa Cruz** Strawberries, Raspberries, Cut Flowers



- Shasta** Forest Products, Timber, Hay
- Sierra** Stockers & Feeders, Timber, Pasture
- Siskiyou** Strawberry Plants, Alfalfa Hay, Timber
- Solano** Processing Tomatoes, Walnuts, Vegetable Crops
- Sonoma** Winegrapes, Milk, Poultry
- Stanislaus** Milk, Almonds, Chickens
- Sutter** Rice, Walnuts, Dried Plums
- Tehama** Walnuts, Almonds, Olives
- Trinity** Firwood, Timber, Cattle & Calves
- Tulare** Milk, Navel Oranges, Cattle & Calves
- Tuolumne** Livestock, Cattle & Calves, Pasture & Range
- Ventura** Strawberries, Celery, Lemons
- Yolo** Processing Tomatoes, Rice, Winegrapes
- Yuba** Rice, Walnuts, Dried Plums