



# California Commodity Trail Mix

Learn about California's major agricultural products by creating a trail mix featuring ingredients that California produces in abundance.

Grades 3-5

## Materials

- Medium mixing bowl or sealable gallon bag
- Measuring cups
- Almonds (1 cup)
- Pistachios (½ cup)
- Raisins (¼ cup)
- Dried figs, diced (½ cup)
- Yogurt chips (¼ cup)
- Dried strawberries (½ cup)
- Dried apricots (½ cup)

## Activity

1. Show students the different ingredients and provide a brief background on each. Discuss where they are grown in California and their economic impact.
2. Set up ingredients at the front of the room. Invite a representative from each group to measure out each ingredient. See materials for specific ingredients.
3. Instruct students to return to their groups with their measured ingredient and add it to the group's bowl or bag.
4. Let students taste their trail mix and discuss the flavors and textures of the different ingredients. Encourage them to share their thoughts on which ingredients they liked best and why.

### Almonds

California produces nearly 100% of the nation's supply of almonds.

### Pistachios

California farmers produce 99% of all pistachios grown in the U.S.

### Raisins

Made from dried grapes, California produces nearly all of the nation's raisins.

### Yogurt Chips

Yogurt chips represent California's top commodity—dairy products and milk.

### Dried Strawberries

California produces about 90% of the nation's fresh strawberries.

### Dried Apricots

California supplies nearly 100% of the nation's dried apricots.

### Dried Figs

California produces almost all of the nation's figs, which are consumed fresh and dried.

*Recipe yields 14  
¼-cup servings.*



## Classroom Activities

### Math

- Write number sentences to represent the ratios of different ingredients in their trail mix, such as 4:1 for almonds to raisins.
- Create bar graphs or pie charts to visually illustrate the proportion of each ingredient in the trail mix.

### History - Social Science

- Select one commodity from the trail mix for further research. They can explore how the product was introduced to California, its impact on the economy, and why California is a leading producer.

### English Language Arts

- Create a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the different ingredients in the trail mix. Write a paragraph to summarize the findings, highlighting similarities and differences between ingredients.

## California Standards

### Grade 3

CC Math: 3.NF.1  
CA History-Social Science: 3.5  
CC ELA: SL.3.1

### Grade 4

CC Math: 4.NF.1  
CC ELA: SL.4.1

### Grade 5

CC ELA: SL.5.1