

Where Your Food Grows

Grade Level: 2-3

(Adaptable for all grade levels)

Time: 45 Minutes

Lesson Objectives:

Learners will...

1. Identify the different types of farms and ranches that produce McDonald's menu items.
2. Understand the role of farms and ranches in food production.

Standards:

Next Generation Science Standards:

2-PS1-1: Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties.

CA History-Social Science:

3.5: Understand that some goods are made locally, some elsewhere in the United States, and some abroad.

Materials:

- ▶ *Where Your Food Grows* Picture Cards (one set)
- ▶ *Where Your Food Grows* Handout (one for each learner)

Presenter Prep:

- ▶ Print one set of *Where Your Food Grows* Picture Cards
- ▶ Prepare copies of *Where Your Food Grows* Handout

Procedure:

1. Tell the class that today they are going to investigate where McDonald's menu items really come from.
2. Ask students, "Where does our food come from?" Invite students to share their responses, and help direct them to the idea that almost all food products come from a farm or ranch.
3. Explain that although many of us can easily picture a farm like the one in the song "Old McDonald Had a Farm" with a goat, a pig, a cow, and a donkey—many of today's farms and ranches are specialized, growing or raising one product. Hold up the first *Where Your Food Grows* picture card (#1) and ask students:
 - a. What food is being produced here? (apples)
 - b. What do we call a place that produces apples? (an orchard)
 - c. Can you think of any other foods that are grown in orchards? (oranges, plums, nuts, etc.)
4. Summarize each card before moving on to the next one. For example, you may choose to say, "Apples and many other fruits are grown on trees in orchards." Repeat with each card in the set.
5. Explain to students that all of these different agricultural operations can be found in California, and many of them can be found locally. If possible, give a specific example of a local agricultural operation that produces an ingredient for a McDonald's menu item. For example, McDonald's sources their lettuce from vegetable farms along California's central coast.
6. Tell students it's their turn to show what they know. Display the *Where Your Food Grows* Handout. Point to the McDonald's menu illustration at the top of the page. Explain that they will sort the basic ingredients on the menu by the type of farm or ranch that produced them. If they finish early, they can answer the questions at the bottom of the page.
7. Answer any questions and clarify instructions. Distribute the worksheets. Circulate around the room, guiding students to find the correct sources. After most students have completed the activity, spend a few minutes reviewing the correct answers.

Reflection

As time allows, ask students some of the following reflection questions.

1. What is something new you learned through our activity today?
2. What types of foods are served at McDonald's?
3. Where does the food served at McDonald's come from?

Explain to students that all of McDonald's menu items are sourced from farms and ranches, and many items are sourced locally.























Name _____

Where Your Food Grows

Sort the ingredients for each menu item by the type of farm, field, or ranch that produced it.
Answer the questions at the bottom of the page.



McDonald's Menu

Menu Item	Ingredients					
 Fruit 'N' Yogurt Parfait	 Lowfat Yogurt	 Strawberries	 Blueberries	 Low Fat Crunchy Granola		
 Chicken McNuggets Happy Meal	 Chicken McNuggets	 Milk	 French Fries	 Apple Slices		
 Egg McMuffin	 English Muffin	 Egg	 Canadian Bacon	 Cheese		
 Cheeseburger	 Bun	 100% Beef Patty	 Cheese	 Ketchup	 Pickle Slices	 Onions

Which ingredients came from a(n)...

Orchard: _____
 Poultry Farm: _____
 Berry Field: _____
 Cattle Ranch: _____
 Pig Farm: _____
 Vegetable Farm: _____
 Dairy Farm: _____
 Grain Field: _____

Questions

1. What was easy about this activity?
2. What was hard about this activity?
3. Think of one more menu item from McDonald's NOT on the list. What ingredients are in it, and where do they come from?
4. Think of an item in your fridge at home. What item is it, and where does it come from?






















Name _____

Where Your Food Grows Answer Key

Sort the ingredients for each menu item by the type of farm, field or ranch that produced it.
Answer the questions at the bottom of the page.



McDonald's Menu

Menu Item	Ingredient Items					
 Fruit 'N' Yogurt Parfait	 Lowfat Yogurt	 Strawberries	 Blueberries	 Low Fat Crunchy Granola		
 Chicken McNuggets Happy Meal	 Chicken McNuggets	 Milk	 French Fries	 Apple Slices		
 Egg McMuffin	 English Muffin	 Egg	 Canadian Bacon	 Cheese		
 Cheeseburger	 Bun	 100% Beef Patty	 Cheese	 Ketchup	 Pickle Slices	 Onions

Which ingredients came from...

An Orchard: Apple Slices

A Poultry Farm: Chicken McNuggets, Egg

A Berry Field: Strawberries, Blueberries

A Cattle Ranch: Beef Patty

A Pig Farm: Canadian Bacon

A Vegetable Farm: French Fries, Ketchup, Pickle Slices, Onions

A Dairy Farm: Lowfat Yogurt, Milk, Cheese

A Grain Field: Low Fat Crunchy Granola, English Muffin, Bun

Questions (Answers will vary)

1. What was easy about this activity?
2. What was hard about this activity?
3. Think of one more menu item from McDonald's NOT on the list. What ingredients are in it, and where do they come from?
4. Think of an item in your fridge at home. What item is it, and where does it come from?

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #1



Orchard

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #2



Poultry Farm

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #3



Cattle Ranch

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #4



Vegetable Farm

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #5



Dairy Farm

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #6



Pig Farm

Where Your Food Grows Picture Card #7



Grain Field