THINGS AN APPLE CAN TEACH US

Overview

The class will read books about the life cycles of apples, where apples come from, how they are grown, harvested, and used. Then the students will write and illustrate the stages in the life cycle of an apple using the computer.

Suggested Grade Level:
3rd-4th

Time:
45 minutes per day for one school week

Subjects:
Language Arts

Objectives

1. Students will learn where their food comes from.
2. The students will learn where apples come from, the stages in the life cycle of an apple, and how apples are used.
3. The students will be able to write and draw in sequence the stages in the life cycle of an apple through the seasons of the year.
4. The students will use technology to produce and publish their writing with a partner.

Background Information

Apple trees need sunlight, water, air, soil, and a proper environment to grow. A variety of apples can be grown and used for many different food items. The books listed below will provide the background information needed.

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Materials

- Apple Books:
    1. Apples by Farmer, Jacqueline
    2. Apples by Robbins, Ken
    3. Apple Trees by Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw
- Computers with drawing/writing software
- Notebook paper

Procedures

1. Read the books about apples with a partner or as a class.
2. After reading the books, the students will work with a partner to write out and draw little pencil sketches of the stages in the life cycle of an apple on the worksheet page.
3. After the papers have been reviewed by the teacher, the students will use the computer to produce and publish their writing including illustrations.

Conclusion Questions

1. Where do apples come from?

2. What are the stages in the life cycle of an apple?

3. What things do apples trees need to grow?

4. How are apples harvested?

5. Why are there different varieties of apples?

6. How are apple trees pollinated?

7. How are apples used in our food today?

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Life Cycle of an Apple Name:_____

Using the space provided, draw the life cycle of an apple.