

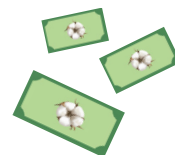


KIDS CONNECTION

Cotton Craze

What is Cotton?

Cotton is a material that comes from a plant. The plant grows in warm places, and its cotton grows inside little pods. After the cotton is picked, it is cleaned and turned into fabric. This fabric is used to make clothes, like t-shirts and jeans, as well as towels and sheets. Cotton is comfortable to wear because it lets air through, keeping us cool.



American paper currency is made of 75% cotton.

Products made with cotton

BASEBALLS



DIAPERS



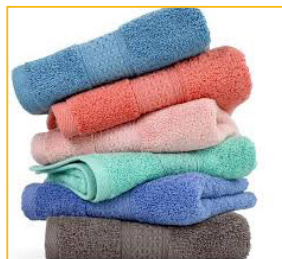
DENIM



MONEY



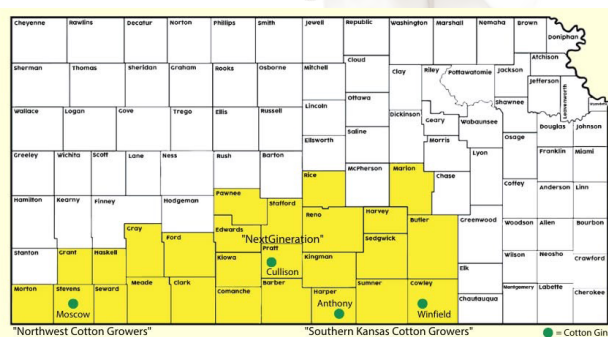
TOWELS



DENIM



Kansas Cotton



In Kansas, cotton is produced in the southwest region. Most of the cotton varieties grown in Kansas are upland cotton and used in a source of fiber for denim. Unlike many Kansas crops, cotton can be left in the field standing for many months without being damaged before it is harvested. The cotton gin locations in Kansas include; Pratt, Moscow, Anthony and Winfield.

Cotton Life Cycle



Seed and Germination

A cotton seed comes from the cotton boll of a mature plant. Cotton plants begin as seeds, which germinate and sprout after 5-10 days in warm, moist soil.

Seedling

The seedling's first two leaves (cotyledons) appear as its roots grow. In 2-4 weeks, the root system develops, and true leaves start to form.



Flowering

After 5-7 weeks, small flower buds (squares) appear. In 2-3 weeks, creamy white flowers bloom, self-pollinate within 24 hours, then turn pink and fall off 7-10 days later.

Boll Growth

After pollination, a boll forms and the plant directs nutrients to it for 20 days. The boll contains over 30 seeds, and cotton fibers grow for 15-20 days. In the next 20-40 days, the fibers fill with cellulose.



Ripening Process

When the bolls finish filling with cellulose, they start to burst open to reveal their cotton fiber. The cotton dries and fluffs up until it is mature and ready for harvesting.

Cotton is ready to harvest about 25 weeks after planting.

LABEL PLANT PARTS



The first lightbulb ever made by Thomas Edison used cotton filament.

WORD BANK

Leaf Ripening Boll
Stem Roots
Flower Boll

the fruit of the cotton plant, and it protects the cotton seeds and helps disperse them.

provides a carbohydrate energy supply for adding nodes and branches and for growing bolls.

the reproductive part of the plant that produces seeds that contain cotton fibers.

protects the cotton seeds and helps disperse them.

supports the plant, transports nutrients, and provides a framework for the plant's leaves, flowers, and fruit.

DID YOU KNOW...?

The cotton plant can grow to be 2-5 feet tall.

anchors the plant in the soil, absorb water and nutrients, and produces gossypol.

PARTS OF A BOLL

WORD BANK

Bur Bracts Lint Seed

Kansas Cotton Economy



What can 1 bale of cotton make?

215 jeans
249 bed sheets
690 bath towels
765 men's dress shirts
4,321 socks
1,245 pillow cases

Kansas has more
than **220** active
cotton growers.

Kansas ranks
15th nationwide
in cotton
production!

Cotton has been
grown and used by
humans for over
7,000 years!

COTTON BOLL ACTIVITY

Hand Gin

Cotton bolls can be hand ginned, or dissected, to experience how machines help us to be more productive. The cotton fibers must be removed from the seeds and boll in order to produce anything made from cotton. This is why today, we use machines to do the work for us.

For more information about cotton and the lesson plan visit this link:
<https://ksagclassroom.org/matriz/resource/130/>



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