

THE GREAT FRUITS OF WEST MICHIGAN

Explore Michigan's Fruity Side

First Grade Lesson



Michigan Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom – Connections to Michigan Content Standards

1st GRADE LESSON – “The Great Fruits of West Michigan – Explore Michigan’s Fruity Side”

Michigan Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee

This lesson meets the following content standards for the lower elementary level:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Comprehension

- R.CM.01.01: Make text-to-self and text-to-text connections and comparisons by activating prior knowledge and connecting personal knowledge and experience to ideas in text through oral and written responses.
- R.CM.01.02: Retell in sequence up to three important ideas and details of familiar simple oral and written text.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Section II: Geographic Perspective

Content Standard

- 3 -1: Identify locations of significance in their immediate environment and explain reasons for their location.

SCIENCE

Section III: Use Scientific knowledge from the Life Sciences in Real-World Contexts

Content Standard

- 2-3: Describe life cycles of familiar organisms.(Key concepts: life cycle stages-egg, young, adult, seed, flower, fruit. Real-world contexts: Common plants and animals such as beans, apples, butterflies, grasshoppers, frogs, birds.)

Section V: Use Scientific Knowledge from the Earth and Space Sciences in Real-world Contexts

Content Standard

- 3-2: Describe weather conditions and climates

The Great Fruits of West Michigan

Explore Michigan's Fruity Side

Show map of Michigan

Introduce yourself and using the Michigan map ask the students if they know what state this is? What state do you live in? Then show the group where you are from in Michigan. Describe your farming operation.

Today we are going to discuss the West Side of Michigan right next to Lake Michigan (point to it on the map). Have you ever been to Lake Michigan? Can you guess what is special about that side of Michigan? That's right; it is the major fruit growing area in the state. Some types of fruit are grown all across Michigan but today you are going to learn more about the Westside of Michigan and the fruit grown there. To do that, we are going to read a special story where ***Captain Food Fabulous*** will take you on a tour of that side of the state. Listen as we read and see if you can remember all the fruits we talk about.

Read the book – have the students move to a carpet or special reading area.
Use the Map with fruit and Captain Food Fabulous
Cut outs to show where you are with the book

Now that you had the opportunity to learn more about the types of fruit grown in that area of Michigan, let's take a moment to explore how these fruits are alike and different. Before we get started, please put your name on your worksheet.

Pass out worksheet #1 and stickers of the fruit. Show large pictures of the fruit.

Let's start by looking at your worksheet. What colors are above each box – *red, blue, green, purple*. As we go through the fruits, place your sticker on the right color for that fruit.

I can be green or red; I am round and grow on a tree? *I am an apple.*

I am small and blue. I grow on a bush and taste great in muffins or pancakes. What am I? *I am a blueberry.*

I am larger than a blueberry but small, round and red. I grow on a tree and taste great in pies. What am I? *I am a cherry.*

I am small and round, I sometimes have seeds I am green or red and I grow on a vine. What am I? *I am a grape.*

I am larger than a grape but not as large as an apple. I am purple and grow on a tree. What am I? *I am a plum.*

I am much smaller than an apple. I have seeds on the outside and I taste great on cereal or short cake. What am I? *I am a strawberry.*

Let's take a second and look at the color boxes. Which color has the most stickers? Which has the least?

Now that you have the top of your worksheet completed, let's complete the bottom for which plant type. You have another set of stickers. Place the fruit sticker in the correct area in which the plant grows. Let's read together the words on the top of the boxes.

Now Let's complete the worksheet together... Remember traveling with Captain Food Fabulous? What fruit did you see first? It can be green or purple, it has seeds or can be seedless – grapes. How do grapes grow? Grapes grow on a vine.

What fruit did you see that is red and has seeds on the outside? Strawberries – How do strawberries grow? Strawberries grow on small plants.

Then you traveled north. This word starts with a B and tastes great in muffins – blueberries. How do blueberries grow? Blueberries grow on a bush.

Flying with Captain Food Fabulous you saw large trees with green and red balls on them – what were they? Apples – What do apples grow on? Apples grow on a tree.

Remember seeing peaches and we also saw a redish purple fruit that was smaller than an apple – what were they? Plums – What do plums grow on? Plums grow on a tree.

Remember flying close to Traverse City? You saw some trees with small red balls – what were they? Cherries – How do cherries grow? Cherries also grow on a tree. Good job. Please put away your sticker worksheet.

Now that we have talked about several fruits that grow in Michigan, let's talk about how they grow.

Can you tell me what we plant to grow most plants? *Seeds*. All the fruits we discussed start from a seed. Then they sprout and grow to a seedling, they flower and eventually become a full-grown plant. Why are flowers important to fruit trees? (The flower produces the fruit) What has to happen to the flower before it can produce fruit? (It has to be pollinated) What is pollination? Pollination is when bees take pollen from one plant on to another plant. – What animal is important to pollination? *Bees*. You have all seen bees flying around flowers and trees – they are helping produce fruit by pollinating the flowers on the fruit trees.

Let's talk about apples and how they grow. If we had planted an apple seed the same day you were born, the apple tree would now be full – grown. How old are you? (Six or seven years old)

Let's look at your worksheet and measure each stage of growth. Let's start with the seed – how big is the seed? Remember, seeds come in several different sizes. Most seeds are much smaller than this seed. Color in the area that represents the height of the seed.

Pick up left over sticker papers.
Show large grow stage poster
and pass out worksheet #2.

Use tree, flower poster with blossom
To show pollination

Now let's measure the sprouting seed. Color in the area that represents the height of the sprouting seed. Now measure the flower and color in that area.

Can anyone guess how tall a full-grown apple tree is? (Use the string to demonstrate).

Wow apples grow fast. Let's talk about apples some more. Apples can be eaten fresh or they can be made into different things. Let's name some of the products. (Fresh apples, apple juice apple sauce, apple pie, etc.)

How many fruits should we eat each day? Based on your age, you should eat 1 ½ cups of fruit a day. How can you make sure you get the fruits you need each day? Breakfast, lunch and dinner – Tell me some examples. You can cut them up on cereal, add fruit to your yogurt or smoothies. How about lunch? Have an apple with your sandwich, add fruit to a salad. How about dinner? Have applesauce with your meal and top yogurt with fruit for dessert.

What else should you eat each day? Whole grains, vegetables, low fat milk, meat and beans. Many of these foods are also grown in Michigan. We will learn more about these foods later.

Hand out mobile supplies

Ok let's review a little, what types of fruit are grown in West Michigan? To help you remember, we are going to make a Michigan Fruit Mobile. Please put your name on the back of the mobile card.

Each of you are getting fruits that you can color. We will help you put the string through the hole of each fruit and tie it to make a Michigan Fruit Mobile.

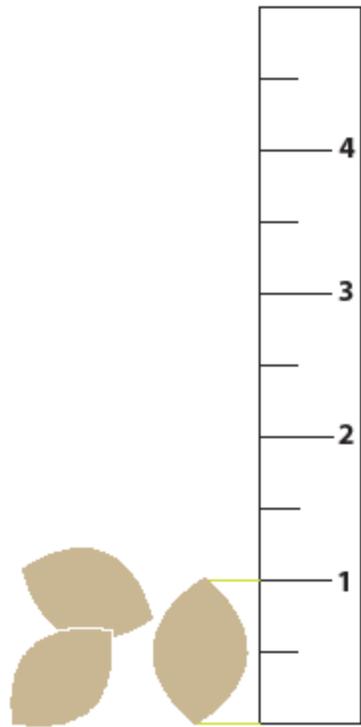
Now that you finished your mobile – how many fruits are on it? Can you tell me how that fruit grows? What fruits did we talk about today? What color is that fruit? How does that fruit grow? (Review with each of the six fruits.)

How many servings of fruit should you eat each day?

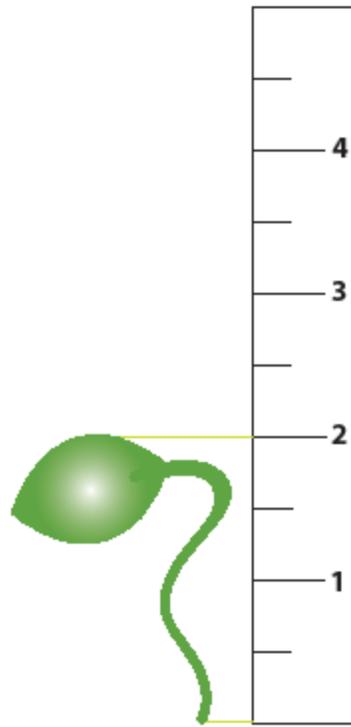
We hope you will take your mobile home and share it with your parents. Please talk with them about the importance of fruit grown in Michigan and eating fruit each day. It tastes so good and is good for you.

Name: _____

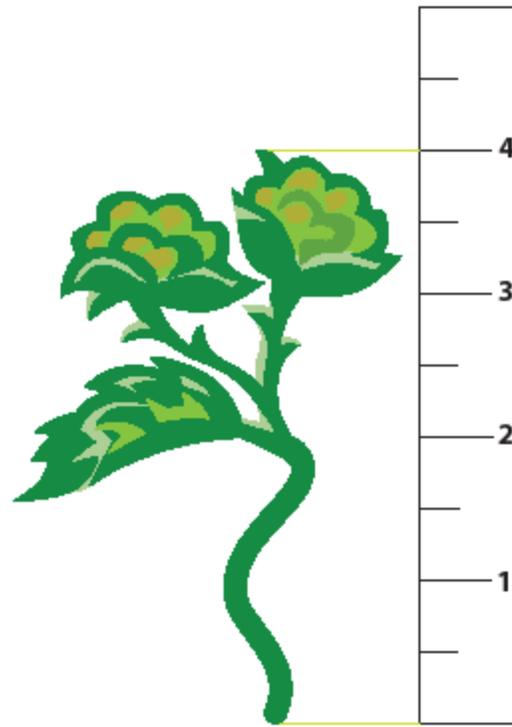
Lab Sheet #2



Seeds

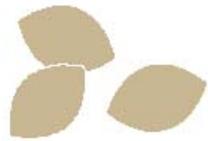


**Sprouting
Seed**

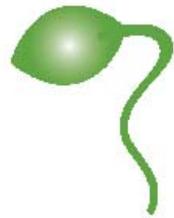


Flowering Plant

Plant Life Cycle



Seeds



Sprouting
Seed



Seedling



Mature Plant



Flower/Fruit

Lab Sheet #1

Name: _____

Fruit Color

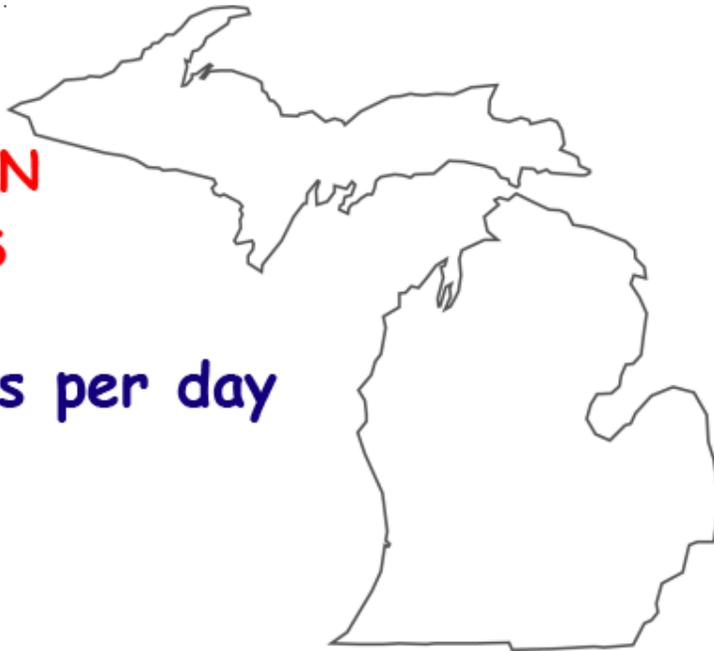
<i>Blue</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Purple</i>
<i>Red</i>		

Plant Type

Vine	Plant	Bush	Tree

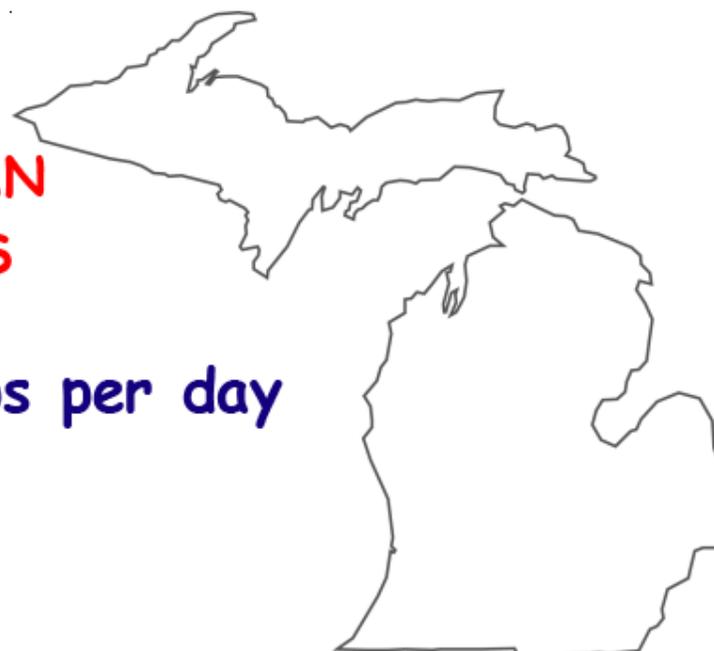
**MICHIGAN
FRUITS**

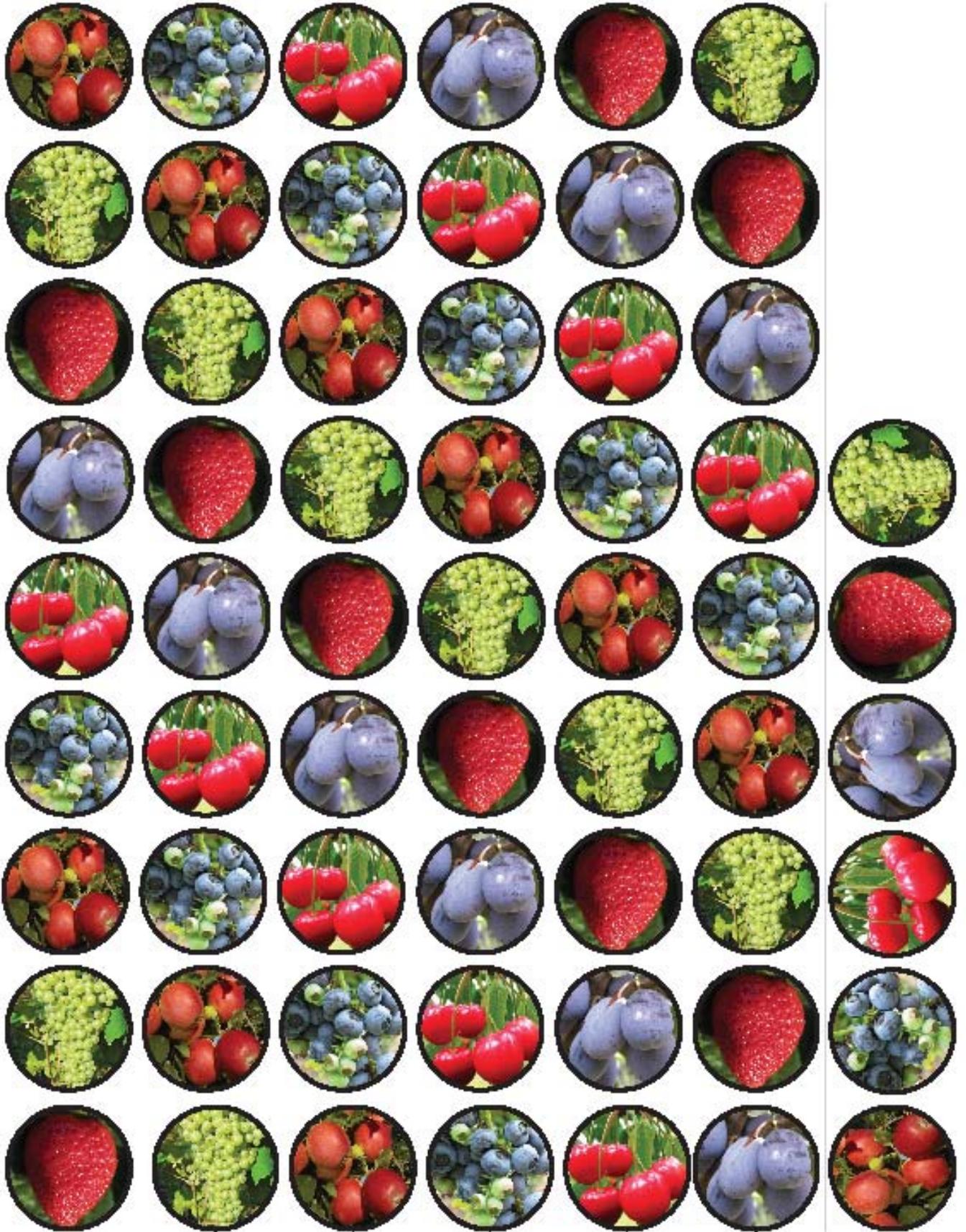
1.5 cups per day



**MICHIGAN
FRUITS**

1.5 cups per day







APPLES

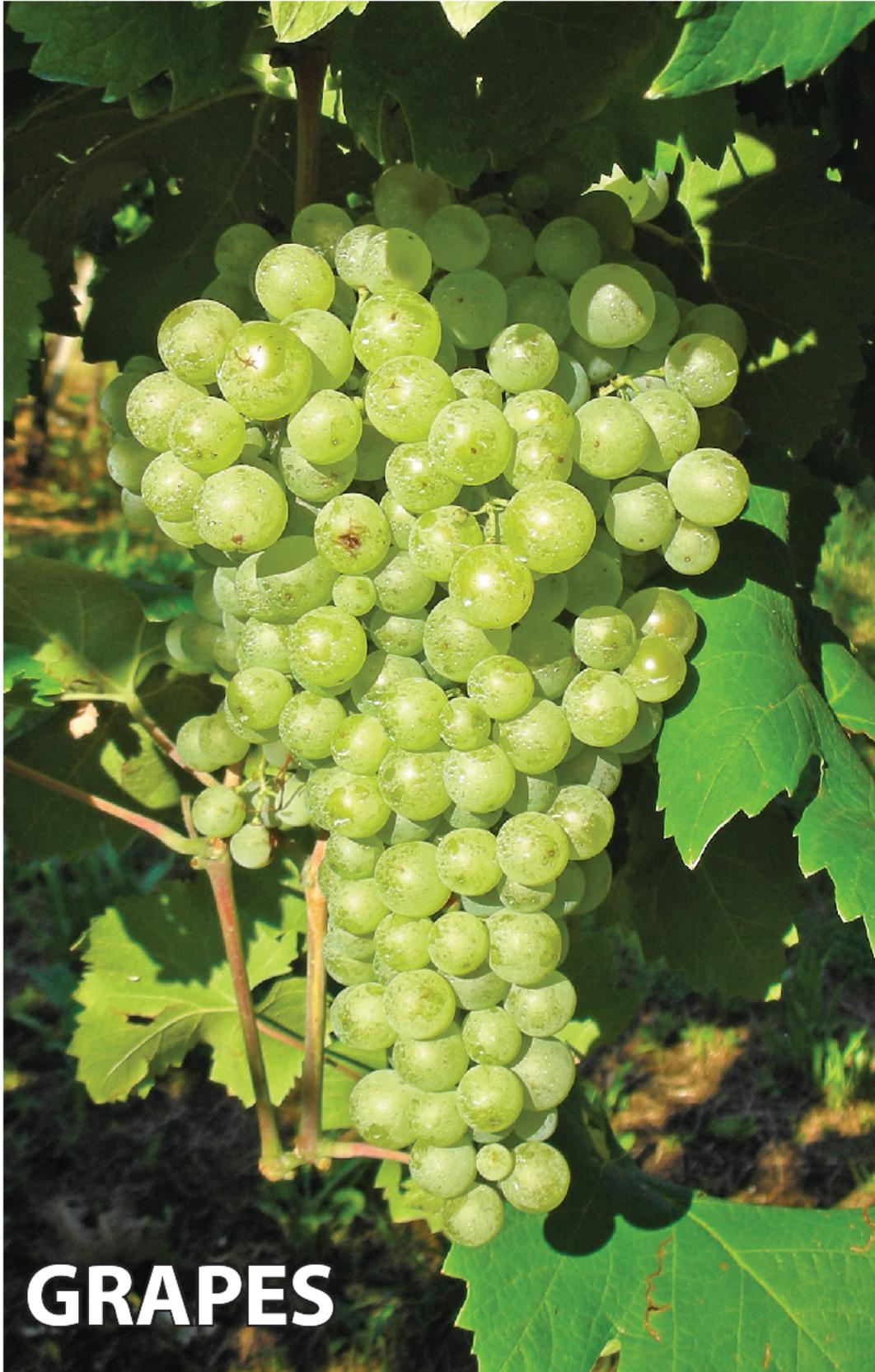


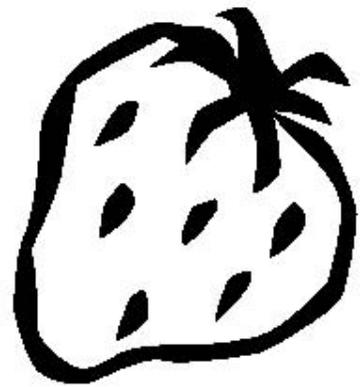
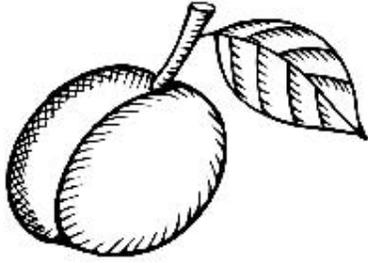


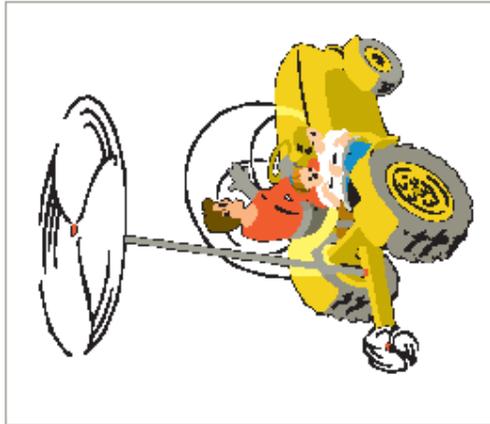
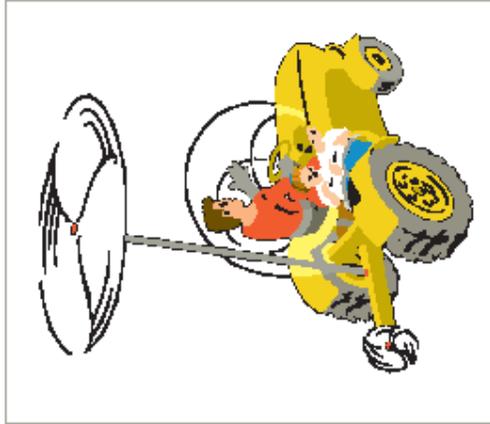


STRAWBERRIES



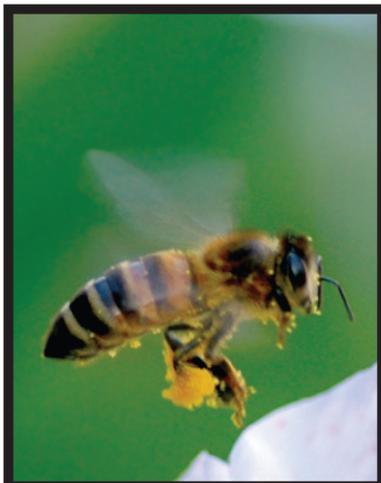
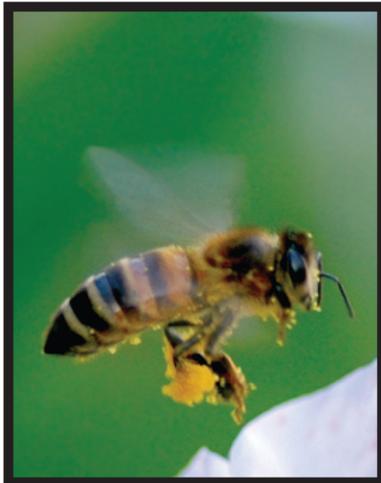
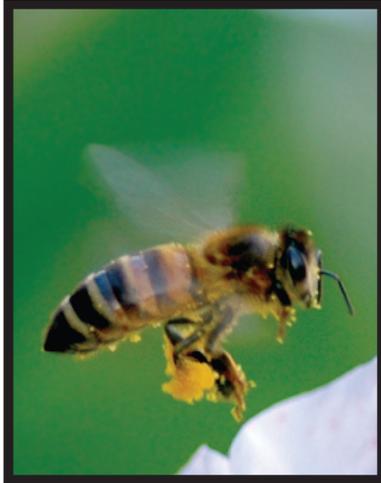








CHERRY TREES



The Great Fruits of West Michigan
Explore Michigan's Fruity Side

Material list
(Designed for 2 classes of 30)

- 1 Michigan Map Poster
- 1 Captain Food Fabulous Book
 - 1 Small cut of Captain Food Fabulous with Velcro
 - 1 Set of small fruit with Velcro
- 1 Apple Poster
- 1 Blueberry Poster
- 1 Cherry Poster
- 1 Plum Poster
- 1 Grape Poster
- 1 Strawberry Poster
- 60 Mobile Cards
- 60 Sets of Mobile fruits
- 60 Lab Sheet # 1
- 60 Lab Sheet #2
- 60 Sets of fruit stickers
- 250 pieces of yarn/string
- 1 long string for mature apple tree
- 1 Plant Life Poster
- 1 Flowering tree/blossom Poster
 - 1 Small Bee with Velcro
 - 1 Small fruit with Velcro