

Lesson Plan:

From Boll to Bolt



Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify the natural, human, and capital resources involved in moving cotton from the farm to the consumer
- Correctly sequence the steps in the production of jeans

Materials Needed:

- Ball of cotton string or yarn
- Index cards with the following words: jeans; cotton plant; soil; farmer; tractor; factory; factory worker; truck; truck driver; mall; sewing machine; water

Procedure:

1. Ask students to raise their hands if they are wearing jeans. Point out that jeans are just one example of products that are made with cotton. Explain that many resources are involved in producing them for consumers.
2. Have 12 volunteers stand in a circle. Give each student an index card representing one step in producing jeans.
3. The student holding the “jeans” card begins by rolling the ball of yarn to any other student. That student then says what is on their card, explains why it is needed to make jeans, and then identifies their resource as natural, human, or capital.
4. Continue until each person holding a card has gone.
5. Point out that they have now created a web of resources need to produce jeans for consumers.
6. Next, have the students holding cards pass their cards to a student who has not participated. These students will now work together to sequence themselves at the front of the room to show the correct order in the creation of jeans.

