

Cathy Over
Ag in the Classroom II

“Introduction to Pennsylvania’s Agricultural Products”

(This lesson would be used to introduce my 6th grade students to agricultural production in Pennsylvania. It would probably take at least 2 to 3 day to complete this lesson.)

- OBJECTIVES:**
1. The student will identify the major crops grown in the United States
 2. The student will locate where the major crops are grown on a map of the United States
 3. The student will identify the major crops grown in Pennsylvania as well as where these crops are grown in the state

STANDARDS: 4.4 Agriculture and Society

- MATERIALS:**
1. Maps of the United States showing the location of various crops (wheat, corn, sorghum, rice, soybeans) distributed at the Processing Ag Products workshop at Ag in the Classroom II
 2. Booklet, “Farm Facts” by the American Farm Bureau Federation (distributed at Ag in the Classroom II)
 3. Handout, “Where Does YOUR Food Come From?” (by PA Preferred; distributed at Ag in the Classroom II)
 4. PA Pride (textbook used in my PA History class)

- PROCEDURES:**
1. Teacher distributes various maps of United States showing the locations of major crops grown in USA; students identify various crops and the locations where they are grown
 2. Discuss places where these crops are grown; students list reasons why they think various crops are grown in those locations (climate, land formations, transportation factors, population densities, etc.)
 3. Read and discuss selected pages in booklet. “Farm Facts”:
page 3 - What’s on America’s dinner table?
page 6 - How many people does one farmer feed?
page 9 - What is produced on America’s farms?
page 24 - Where does pizza come from?
 4. Teacher distributes the map, “Where Does YOUR Food Come From?” to begin to narrow discussion to crops/commodities grown in Pennsylvania ; students read information around edge of map of PA listing various counties and the main ag products/commodities they produce.
 5. Divide students into 5 groups, one for each of the five regions of PA as described in our textbook, PA PRIDE. (Students would have read about these regions previously) Using textbook, groups identify various ag products/commodities by regions of PA

- EVALUATION:**
1. Participation in discussions
 2. Lists of various ag products/commodities by regions