

Virtual Field Trip Week One- Pumpkin Patch

Objective- to provide students with a virtual lesson and fun activity about the pumpkin patch to take place of the fall field trip

Students will learn about the pumpkin plant, planting and harvesting pumpkins, history and facts about pumpkins.

Watch the short video on how pumpkins grow and what you might see at the pumpkin patch. Allow students time to ask Extension Agents about pumpkins. Then students can complete the activity. Additional resource for further learning and activities are provided below.

- Pumpkin Patch Video- <https://youtu.be/zLL8T2Vy3Js>
- Activity- 3D Pumpkins
- Materials Needed:
 - Orange construction paper
 - Green construction paper
 - Hole punch
 - 2 paper fasteners for each pumpkin
 - Scissors
- Directions:
 1. Cut 3 strips about 1 in. wide down the short side of the orange paper.
 2. Write a pumpkin fact on each strip.
 3. Holding the strips together in a stack, use a paper punch to make 3 holes in the strips. Punch one in the middle and one 1/2 inch from each end.
 4. Cut strips of green construction paper into 1 inch by 1 inch squares. Punch a hole in the middle of these squares. This will be the pumpkin's stem.
 5. Still holding the strips together, place the stem on top of the middle hole and put a paper fastener through the stem and the orange strips of paper in the middle hole.
 6. Bring together the ends of the long orange strips and fasten them with a paper fastener.
 7. Spread out the paper strips to form a pumpkin.

Another Variation: Trace your hand for the leaf, keeping your fingers together. Cut strips of green and curl them with a pencil for vines. Finish pumpkin by completing steps 6 and 7.

- Additional Resources:
<https://www.agclassroom.org/teacher/matrix/lessonplan.cfm?lpid=131>
<http://www.howgrow.org/newblog/2016/11/4/pumpkin>

Virtual Field Trip Week Two - Cotton

Objective- to provide students with a virtual educational lesson about cotton.

Students will learn how farmers plant, care for, and harvest cotton. They will also learn fun facts and history about the plant.

Students will watch a short video about cotton. After the video students can ask the Extension Agent questions about cotton. Then students can complete the activity. Additional resource for further learning and activities are provided below.

- Walking in High Cotton Video- https://youtu.be/lUP7s9P_fjE
- Activity- Cotton Boll Kit

Students will be given a bag of cotton bolls.

Help your students understand how the fiber in their clothing, towels, and sheets comes from cotton plants. The seeds must be removed from the cotton fibers to make cloth. This process is called ginning (after Eli Whitney's cotton gin; gin is short for engine). The cotton bolls in this kit may be hand ginned, or dissected, allowing students to experience the process of hand ginning, understand the significance of the cotton gin, and explain how machines help us today to be more productive. Each kit contains 35 individually wrapped cotton bolls. Each cotton boll can easily be pulled apart into four distinct sections so that a group of four students may use one cotton boll. **Teacher Note:** The purpose of this activity is to investigate cotton, the process of hand ginning cotton, and the impacts of the cotton gin.

- Additional Resources:

<http://www.cotton.org/pubs/cottoncounts/fieldtofabric/index.cfm>

<http://www.cotton.org/pubs/cottoncounts/what-can-you-make.cfm>

Virtual Field Trip Week Three- Peanuts

Objective- to provide students with a virtual educational lesson about peanuts.

Students will learn how farms plant, care for, and harvest peanuts. They will also learn fun facts and history about the plant.

Students will watch a short video about peanuts. After the video students can ask the Extension Agent questions about peanuts. Then students can complete the activity. Additional resource for further learning and activities are provided below.

- Activity- Peanut Plan Hat
 - Growing Peanuts in Alabama Video - <https://youtu.be/6gsty0Yv2a8>
 - Peanuts chant written on chart paper (or small copy displayed on document camera)
 - Peanut Plant illustration to refer to when discussing chant.
 - Brown butcher paper headband for each student (or any type of paper to make a headband)
 - Peanut Plant Hat Pattern for each student

Procedure:

- Video: Before making the peanut plant hat, watch the "Growing Peanuts in Alabama" video with students.
 - Discuss food they like to eat that has peanuts in it.
 - Make a list and write on the board.
- Chant: Use the chant to teach the parts of a peanut plant and how peanuts grow.
 - Ask students how they think peanuts grow. Do they grow on a tree? On a bush? Above ground? Underground?
 - Read chant to students.
 - Read chant again with students (choral or echo style) and discuss as you go, using the peanut plant diagram to help explain the parts of the peanut plant.
- Peanut Plant Hat
 - Show students an example of the peanut hat.
 - Discuss/ model the following steps.
On the Peanut Plant Pattern page:
 1. Write a peanut food/ product what we eat on each peanut shape. Color peanuts lightly with brown.
 2. Color the peanut plant (leaves-green, flowers-yellow)
 3. Color the "pegs" green.
 4. Cut out all the parts. Glue plant to the inside of the brown headband. Glue each peanut to the end of the "peg." Glue "pegs to hat near a flower.
 - Staple each child's hat/ headband to fit.

- You can send a copy of the Peanut Plant chant home with students to share with their family, along with their peanut hat.
- See attachments for activity materials

This lesson is courtesy of: Alabama Peanut Producers Association

Virtual Field Trip Week Four- Sunflowers

Objective- to educate students about the growth and development of sunflowers, identify how sunflower seeds are used, and make a paper plate sunflower illustrating the life cycle of the sunflower.

Students will watch a short video about sunflowers. After the video students can ask Extension Agents about sunflowers. Then students can complete the activity. Additional resource for further learning and activities are provided below.

- Sunflower Video- <https://youtu.be/GsGeht5vkLY>
- Activity- Sunflower Life Cycle
 - Materials
 - Small white paper plates – one per student
 - Seed to Seed Cycle diagrams copied on orange or yellow paper – one per student
 - Large craft sticks or popsicle sticks – one per student
 - These can be purchased at craft stores – most sizes will work for this activity
 - Sunflower seeds – at least 6 per student
 - Green paper, cut into 1” pieces
 - Sunflower heads or pictures of sunflower heads
 - Glue and/or Tape
 - Crayons
 - Procedures
 - **Activity 1: Sunflower Lifecycle**
 - Discuss with students the meaning of a “life cycle.”
 - Show students the *Sunflower Cycle* pictures. Show the students an actual sunflower head with the seeds inside if you can, but if not, use the pictures provided with this lesson. Go through each step of the cycle. Place the pictures on the board with tape or a magnet and leave them for the next activity.
 - **Activity 2: Paper Plate Sunflowers**
 - Distribute the activity supplies.
 - Glue the *Seed to Seed Cycle* in the middle of the paper plate, and set aside.
 - Ask students what the first step in the Seed Cycle is (*seed*). Have students glue one sunflower seed about 1” up the craft stick, as if they were planting a seed in the ground and the stick is the stem that would grow from the seed.
 - Ask students what the next step in the cycle is (*sprout*). Talk with them about what is needed for a seed to germinate. Have students draw roots on their craft stick below the seed with the brown crayon.
 - Ask students what the next step is (*grow*). As the stems and leaves begin to grow, have students cut out leaves from the green paper and glue them to the stick above the seed.
 - Ask students what step 4 is (*flower*). Have them color the white paper plate around the *Seed to Seed Cycle*. Use scissors to snip the plate edges to the center circle to create flower petals.
 - Talk with students about step 5 (*fruit*). Students should glue sunflower seeds to the center of the *Seed to Seed Cycle*.
 - Tape or glue the paper plate flower to the craft stick.

- After conducting these activities, review and summarize the following key concepts:
 - Sunflowers are grown by farmers for the seeds and oil they produce.
 - The life cycle of a sunflower begins and ends with a seed.
- See attachments for activity materials

This lesson is courtesy of: The National Ag in the Classroom Literacy Curriculum

- Additional Resources:

<https://www.agclassroom.org/ok/lessons/intermed/plants.pdf>