

- [www.cfaitc.org/Resource\\_Materials/Lesson\\_Plans/pdf/cu410.pdf](http://www.cfaitc.org/Resource_Materials/Lesson_Plans/pdf/cu410.pdf)  
This online lesson plan for grades K-3 entitled "Tree to Table" is sponsored by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. This lesson plan's multidisciplinary approach provides students with a firm understanding of how agricultural products make their way to the store.
- [www.floridajuice.com/floridacitrus/kids/](http://www.floridajuice.com/floridacitrus/kids/)  
The Florida Department of Citrus sponsors this web site designed to teach kids about growing, harvesting and eating oranges. "Kids Want to Know...How Is Orange Juice Made?" is an interesting link that provides wonderful images of the trip an orange makes from the orange grove to the juice glass. Puzzles, mazes and coloring pages are also offered on this site.
- [www.fsa.usda.gov/ca/agforkids.htm](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ca/agforkids.htm)  
This web site sponsored by the Farm Service Agency for Kids includes fun activities for young children, including word searches, mazes, coloring pages and letters to unscramble.

### Suggested Print Resources

- Egan, Robert. *From Wheat to Pasta*. Children's Press, Danbury, CT; 1997.
- Hautzig, David. *At the Supermarket*. Orchard Books, New York, NY; 1994.
- Kalman, Bobbie. *Hooray for Orchards!* Crabtree Publishing Company, New York, NY; 1998.
- Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *Apple Trees*. Lerner Publications, Minneapolis, MN; 1998.
- Peterson, Cris. *Extra Cheese, Please! Mozzarella's Journey From Cow to Pizza*. Boyds Mills Press, Honesdale, PA; 1994.

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### TEACHER'S GUIDE

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### TITLES

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- FROM FARM TO TABLE
  - GROWING OUR FOOD
  - WHAT IS AGRICULTURE?
  - WHERE FOOD IS GROWN
- 

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## From Farm to Table

### Grades K-2

There's a whole world out there that supplies the food on our lunch tables — the world of agriculture! Food takes an interesting journey from the farm, where it is grown, to the table, where it is eaten. Farms are the places where plants are grown and animals are raised to provide us with food. The food grown on farms is often sent to factories where it is washed, checked and packaged to get it ready for the store. Food can be changed into different forms at the factory as well — from tomatoes to tomato soup, for example! Finally, food is placed into a truck, train, ship or plane to make its way to the store where people can buy it. Learning about the stages of this exciting trip from farm to table enables children to better understand that food in their lunch bags!

## Pre-viewing Discussion

To enhance your students' learning, it is important to build upon their prior knowledge. Engage your class in a brainstorming activity to determine the prior knowledge that students have about agriculture. As you record their ideas on chart paper, encourage students to share their thoughts with the class. Use the following questions to help students access their preexisting ideas about agriculture:

- What is a farm?
- Where does our food come from?
- Where can we buy food?
- How does food travel from place to place?

## Vocabulary

To prepare students for viewing the show, review these vocabulary words. They are listed in the order in which they appear in the video.

**agriculture** — The way people grow plants and raise animals to give us food to eat, clothes to wear and places to live.

**farm** — A place where plants and animals are raised for food, clothing and shelter.

**crops** — Plants that are raised for food.

**seeds** — The parts of plants from which baby plants grow. Seeds grow inside most fruits and vegetables.

**orchard** — A group of trees that grow a certain kind of fruit or nut.

**harvest** — To gather crops after they are fully grown.

**factory** — A place where food can be taken to be washed, checked and put in packages. At a factory, food can also be made into different kinds of food, like tomatoes into tomato soup.

**supermarket** — A store where people can buy food.

**fish markets** — Places where fish are sold for food.

**bakeries** — Places where breads, cakes and cookies are sold.

**farmer's markets** — Places where farmers can sell the food that they grow on their farms.

**wheat** — A crop that is grown on farms. Wheat can be made into flour, which is used to make bread and other foods.

**kneading** — To push and squeeze with your hands. Bakers knead dough before it is baked into bread.

## Follow-up Discussion

After viewing the program with your class, review the information students provided about agriculture before watching the show. Help students to determine the accuracy of these ideas based on information that they gained from watching the program. If incorrect information was recorded during the brainstorming session, it should be revised accordingly based on the new information. Students can also generate a list of new ideas and concepts that they learned from the show. You can use the following questions to help stimulate this class discussion:

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- How does our food get from farms to us?
- Why is farming important to people?
- What happens to food at a factory?
- What are some of the different places where we can buy food?
- What is one thing you learned about the trip food takes from farms to us?

## Follow-up Activities

- Share the story by Claire Llewellyn called *Oranges* (Children's Press, 1999), which describes where and how oranges are grown, and what products are made from oranges. Now your class is ready to make some fresh orange juice to drink by using fresh oranges and a juicer! Encourage all of your students to become involved in making and tasting the juice.
- Make a class visit to a local supermarket or specialty market. Take lots of pictures throughout the event to make a special book for the class library. Students can write or dictate their thoughts as captions for the pictures.
- The dramatic play area of your classroom can be transformed into a supermarket! Include empty food cartons, plastic food, small carts, a cash register and other necessities of food shopping.
- In your block area, be sure to include transportation toys (planes, trucks, trains, ships) so students can pretend to ship food from one place to another.
- Laminate pictures or drawings of the trip food takes from farm to table (e.g., oranges growing in orchard, being picked, washed and boxed at factory, traveling in truck, being sold at store). Students can sequence these images in the proper order.
- Your class can create a mural of an apple orchard that focuses on different elements of the apple farming process, including growing, harvesting and eating.
- Have an apple feast! Ask children to bring in different types of apple products, such as apple juice, applesauce and dried apples, and share them with the class. Students can vote for their favorite apple product, and you can chart the results on a large class graph.
- Encourage students to bring in different food packaging, like boxes, plastic bottles and cans (glass bottles should not be brought into the classroom). Discuss with students why some kinds of packaging are better than others for certain types of food. Students can also design their own packaging for a certain farm product (i.e., milk, eggs, oranges) using art supplies and stamps.
- Cut open some apples to show children the seeds that grow inside. Encourage students to count the number of seeds inside each apple.

## Suggested Internet Resources

Periodically, Internet Resources are updated on our web site at [www.LibraryVideo.com](http://www.LibraryVideo.com)

- [www.mda.state.mi.us/kids/pictures/dairy/](http://www.mda.state.mi.us/kids/pictures/dairy/) "Dairy Facts: From the Farm to You!" is a site sponsored by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. This virtual picture book provides images of milk, starting with the cows, through the milking process, to the truck and then to the store.

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