**Agricultural Commodities**

**Animal Sciences 2:**

20.01 Assess the agricultural impact upon the US gross national product and the total global economy.

20.04 Research new and emerging technologies and their impact on the economy.

20.05 Recognize the value of the food and agribusiness industry.

**Objectives:**

* Students will be able to define what a commodity is.
* Students will be able to provide examples of agricultural commodities.
* Students will be able to analyze data that supports the impact that agriculture has provided to the American economy.

**Background:** Please open up the **Agriculture Commodities PowerPoint** that is attached before beginning this lesson. You are going to go through this PowerPoint while reading this background section.

Have you guys ever considered how much money the agriculture industry contributes to the American economy? Agriculture, food, and related industries contributed $1.053 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) in 2017. We are going to analyze the data in the chart that is found in the PowerPoint that represents the $1.053 trillion that agriculture. There are 6 categories that this amount of money appears to stem from. Let’s break them down and talk a little about each one.

Food services, eating and drinking places we all know a place that can fit into this category such as Chick-Fil-A. Continuing on food and beverage stores category, what would be an example that could fall into this category? A store front like Publix. For the textile, apparel, and leather products category a saddle is an example of a product that falls into this category. All of these examples are items that fit into these categories can be bought and sold.

 Let’s focus on items that can be bought and sold. Does anyone know a vocabulary word they might use to fit that description “items that can be bought and sold”? A commodity is an item that can be bought and sold. Refer to the slide for more information on a commodity. We are going to be diving deep into commodities. Specifically, commodities that are produced within the USA.

**Instructions:** You will be researching a specific commodity that contributes to the agriculture industry. Below is a chart of commodities that you can choose to do your research on. You may select any 1 commodity to conduct your research on.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Corn  | Cotton |
| Bananas | Beef |
| Strawberries | Pork |
| Rice | Chicken |
| Soybean | Eggs |
| Wheat  | Oranges  |
| Blueberries  | Tomatoes  |
| Peanuts  | Thoroughbred Horses |
| Potatoes | Nursery/ Greenhouse Crops |

Through your research you should be able to answer all of the following questions.

1. How does this commodity contribute to National agriculture?
2. How does this commodity contribute to Florida agriculture?
3. Name a place where your product gets globally exported to?
4. Give me an example of a product that is produced from your commodity.
5. What are some new technologies that are being implemented in order to produce this commodity?
6. How do you think this commodity relates to animal science?

You may use the internet as a resource to find the answers to your questions. You can record all of your answers on a sheet of paper or even a word document. You will need this data for the next activity.

Creating a Commodity Brochure: Take a sheet of paper, or construction paper if you have. Either will be accepted. Fold the paper into 3 different sections like this.



You will be creating a brochure based on the commodity you chose. Make sure on the front page of your brochure the commodity name is printed clearly. You will fill these pages of the brochure will the answers to the questions from above. Any information in the brochure should be written in complete sentences. Once you finish filling your brochure with information you should add color using pens, colored pencils, markers, highlighters, and crayons whichever you have available to you at home. Once your brochure is complete it should look something like this example:



You can hold on to your brochure and submit a picture of it through google classroom.

**Summary:** By researching this one commodity you will be able to see the impact that is has on the agriculture industry. Now take into account all the different commodities that are produced that come from agriculture. Our industry is massive and contributes greatly to the American economy.