Dairy Breeds Lesson Plan

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| What type of lesson is this: | |
| * Inquiry based * Problem-based | * Project based * Hands-on lab experience |

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| **What is the AFNR standard(s) this lesson relates to?**  06.02 – Analyze commercially important livestock breeds in Florida. |

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| **Define the objective(s):**   1. Students will be able to analyze the physical characteristics and traits of different dairy cattle breeds, correctly identifying and describing key features of each breed with at least 80% accuracy during a classroom discussion or written assessment, using the internet for research. 2. Students will be able to compose a formal letter, effectively conveying a message with appropriate structure, language, and formatting, using standard conventions of letter writing, in response to a given prompt or scenario. |

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| **3 key points/take aways:**   * Ag literacy or career connections * Breed Identification * Research techniques * Letter writing skills |

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| **Summative Assessment:** |

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| **Student Learning Approach(es):**   * Research on assigned/chosen breed of dairy cattle to justify the use in Florida instead of Holsteins * Prepare a letter with the outlined format defending the group’s decision with research. |

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| **Materials List:**  Computers/cell phones/tablets  Internet access  Word processing/google docs |

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| **Interest Approach (3 minutes):**  Students will brainstorm and select five words or phrases that they believe best represent the dairy industry. These words should go beyond basic descriptors and reflect deeper insights into the dairy industry commodities, characteristics, contributions, and significance.  Once students have written down their 5 words, popcorn share out ideas and have them explain why they picked that word. |

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| **Lesson Content:**   * Dairy breeds: 98% of dairy cattle in Florida are Holsteins. Break into groups and they are the chairman of different breeds, you are going to convince the Florida Dairy Cattle Association to change to your breed. Have the participants do research on their specific breed and create a letter to the association stating your case and giving reasons why. * Now you are challenged to come up with a scenario like this for the rest of the species in the breed characteristics list:   + Sheep   + Goat   + Horses   + Beef cattle   + Swine   + Poultry   **Student Questioning/Formative Assessment:**  Write a letter to the Florida Dairy Cattle Association stating your case to change the breed of dairy cattle from Holstein to the breed you chose. |

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| **Reflection:** |

**Letter Outline Example**

[Your Name]

[Your Position, if applicable]

[Your Contact Information]

[Date]

[Recipient's Name]

[Agriculture Association Name]

[Association Address]

Dear [Recipient's Name or Title],

Introduction:

Why are you writing to the association?

Body:

What information did you collect to defend your claim?

Conclusion:

Thank the recipient for their dedication.

Express eagerness to work together.

Provide contact information for further discussion.

Closing:

Sincerely,