Note to Parents and Teachers: Our Agency has a link on its’ Homepage called “Education and Outreach”. This site is contains the Census at School: Food Preference Survey Lesson Plan and Activities. It is a great way teach and address common core standards for grades 5-8 in Mathematics, Language Arts, Nutrition, Social Studies, National Family and Consumer Sciences. Students complete a brief online survey, analyze their class census results, and compare their class with random samples from students in the United States and other countries.

PLEASE! Follow the link to our website for educational materials and information:


And hover on About NASS → Click Education → Lesson Plans

We hope that this book will enhance awareness of agriculture in the Delta Region in an educational, but fun way. By completing the activities, you will gain an awareness of agriculture in the Delta. Please share your comments and suggestions for making this activity book a more useful tool for agriculture education.

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What does the word “agriculture” mean to you? You may think of sugarcane or rice growing in the field, or the livestock living on the farm. But even if you live in a city, agriculture is an important part of your community. Farmers provide the agricultural lifeline by providing food, feed, and fiber products for people throughout the world. Through the activities provided in this book you will participate in a journey to learn about the crops and livestock grown in the Delta.
Mississippi is known for producing many agricultural commodities. Agriculture is Mississippi’s top industry in the state at $7 billion. Unscramble the words below to learn some important facts about Mississippi Crops.

Mississippi rank #4 in the U.S. for ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ crop according to the 2017 Census.

       O       T       O       T       C       N

Milk is an important ingredient for ____ ____ ____ ____ .

       E       C       S       E       H       E

Broilers, other meat type chickens, and chicken eggs are considered ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ products.

       T       Y       P       O       L       U       R

____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ is the second most widely produced cereal crop.

       H       E       W       T       A
MARKET MAZE

Can you help the family find their way to the farmers’ market so they can purchase fruits and vegetables for dinner?
Hidden Farm Friends

Can you find the 15 farm friends that are hidden in the puzzle below?

FARMER  PIG  COW  DUCK  CHICKS
GOAT    HORSE  CAT  DOG    CHICKEN
Calf    Hen    Pony  Kitty  Donkey
Can you help the farmer get to his cotton boll?
Across
3. What vegetable do rabbits like?
4. What green vegetable is in salads?
8. Farmers get up __ five o’clock.
9. What animal guards the farmer’s house?
10. What is two minus one?
11. What animal gives us eggs?

Down
1. What animal do we ride?
2. When do we harvest?
3. What animal catches mice?
5. What is two times one?
6. What animal gives us milk?
7. Where do we keep the animals?
9. What animal lives in the pond?
10. The pencil is __ the book.
Arkansas Fun

Agriculture is Arkansas’ largest industry, adding around $16 billion to the state’s economy annually. Arkansas is a major exporter of rice, soybeans, cotton, poultry, and feed grains.

Find Arkansas’ major agriculture products in this puzzle:

Cotton
Feed Grains
Poultry
Rice
Soybeans

C I A P E F E R W M C S E S
E I A F E E D G R A I N S A R
C I I A N D Y R S L I O T L E I
S O Y B E A N S A X Z W R C
E L B A N O T T O C C W J E
C A N S U M N P O U L T R Y
IT’S BOILING TIME!

Louisiana has long been recognized for its culinary excellence and Cajun cooking. Crawfish, catfish and alligator are important aquaculture products in Louisiana.

For an average crawfish boil, allow 3-5 lbs of crawfish per person. Add some corn, mushrooms, Cajun sausage, potatoes, and onions to the pot and experience the joie de vivre which has made Louisiana cuisine legendary.

Help Sid Crawfish unscramble his ingredient list and join him for a crawfish boil.

30 lbs. of live RCWAFHSI C A W F S

2 cups salt for purging

2 (3 ounce) boxes crawfish or shrimp boil seasoning or 2 cups liquid crab boil

20 small NIONS O I N

Smoked sausage

Whole mushrooms

5 pounds small red or new SOTEAOPT P T T O S

10 to 15 ears of fresh NOCR C R on the cob, shucked and broken into halves
How many words can you make from the letters in the word AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the science or art of cultivating the soil, producing crops and/or raising livestock. Agriculture provides food for the world.
A CROP is any product such as grain, fruit, nut or vegetable. After a crop is grown, it is either exported or distributed in the United States. Total cropland in the United States is 396.4 million acres, according to the 2017 U.S. Census.

Can you match the picture of the crop shown below to its name?

A. Soybeans   B. Sorghum   C. Cotton   D. Pecans

E. Sweet Potatoes   F. Rice   G. Corn

__________  __________  __________

__________  __________  __________

__________  __________  __________  __________
FARMERS' MARKETS

Have you visited a farmers' market to buy local produce? The market provides the consumer with an opportunity to get great fresh foods. Farmers markets are popular during the summer and fall.

Can you unscramble the types of products that can be purchase at a farmers’ market?

ronc:   o n

stoatmoe:  t m t o s

weset ptooatse:  e t p t t o s

capens:  p c n

ohney:  h n

mupinpks:  m i s
Down in the Delta TRIVIA

The Delta is home of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Here are a few trivia questions to see how well YOU know the Delta!

_________ is the leading farm product in Louisiana.

A. corn  
B. sugar cane  
C. soybeans  
D. peaches

In 2017 Arkansas rice growers harvested ________ acres of rice.

A. 590,577  
B. 100,000  
C. 700,349  
D. 500,620  
E. 600,520

The poultry industry is the largest income-producing agricultural commodity in ________ and has been for the past 18 years.

A. Louisiana  
B. Mississippi  
C. Arkansas

_______ ranks in the top three nationally for broilers, catfish and several other commodities, as well as fifth in timber production, eighth in egg production.

A. Arkansas  
B. Louisiana  
C. Mississippi

The premier sweet potato variety developed at the LSU AG Center in Louisiana is

A. Beauregard  
B. Bienville  
C. 96-117
Forestry is the #1 agriculture industry in Louisiana (13.9 million acres of forests). The other top crops in Louisiana are rice, corn, sugarcane, soybeans, and cattle and calves.
According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, there were 78 strawberry producers in Arkansas with 88 acres land utilized for strawberry production.
The Mississippi poultry industry's income is generated by broilers 92 %, with commercial egg production 7 %, and spent hens and non-commercial farm chickens produced about 1 %.
According to the 2017 U.S. Census of Agriculture, the Delta Region has 29,801 sheep (Arkansas has 22,620, Louisiana has 13,161, and Mississippi has 16,640).
1. Color the horse brown.
2. Color the cow black with white spots.
3. Color the pig pink.
4. Color the goat orange.
5. Color the sheep white.
6. Color the rabbit gray.
7. Color the chicken orange.
8. Color the dog yellow.
9. Color the barn’s window and door yellow.
10. Color the barn red.
11. Circle the words that name farm animals.

For a complete farm unit, check out the "First Grade" tab at www.creativeclassroomconnections.com
Ninety seven percent of Arkansas cattle farms are family owned and operated with an average cow herd size of near 40 head.
According to the 2017 U.S. Census of Agriculture, Mississippi Rank #1 in the U.S. for Aquaculture production.
The crawfish industry is important in Louisiana. The Annual Crawfish Festival is held each year in Breaux Bridge, LA. According to the 2017 Census, crustacean sales generated $58.8 million in revenue in Louisiana.
According to the 2017 U.S. Census, Soybeans were the top crop at 3.5 million acres in Arkansas.
As of December 31, 2017 Mississippi’s livestock industry for broilers and chickens was 137,708,442.
The equine industry is an important component of agriculture in the Delta Region. According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture there were 24,692 farms with horses in the Delta Region (Arkansas had 9,207, Louisiana had 7,869, and Mississippi had 7,616). There were a total of 129,484 horses on farms in the Delta Region (45,318 in AR, 43,680 in LA, and 40,480 in MS).
According to the 2017 U.S. Census, Corn for grain was 1 out of 5 of the top crop in acres at 594,773 acres in Arkansas.
As of December 31, 2017 Mississippi livestock inventory for hogs and pigs were 569,898.
Farmers harvest the crops and they are then processed or consumed as fresh foods.
Visit a local farmers’ market near you to get fresh fruit and vegetables.
Farm Jokes

Why did the unwashed chicken cross the road twice?  
Because he was a dirty double crosser!

What do you call a sleeping bull?  
A bulldozer!

What do you get if you cross a cow with an octopus?  
A cow that can milk itself!

Why did the farmer call his pig 'Ink'?  
Because he kept running out of the pen!

What do you get from an Alaskan cow?  
Cold cream!

What game do cows play at parties?  
Moosical chairs!

Why is it called a 'herd' of cattle?  
Well, have you 'herd' the sound they make!

Why was the lamb told off for being rude?  
He would not say 'thank ewe' to his mum!

Where does a farmer keep his pigs?  
In a hog cabin!
Answer Key:
Mississippi Most Valuable Crops
Cotton
Cheese
Poultry
Wheat

Market Maze

Hidden Farm Friends

Farm Crossword Puzzle

Arkansas Fun

It's Boiling Time
Crawfish
Onions
Potatoes
Corn

The word AGRICULTURE*
caret clear cult culture cure
ear gear girl great ice
lace lag leg lice lile
lug lure race rag rage
rare rat rate rear rice
rig rile rug rule tear
tile trace trail true tug

Crops
E A G B C F D

Farmer's Market
corn
tomatoes
sweet potatoes
pecans
honey
pumpkins

Down in the Delta
B A B A A
Dear children, parents, and teachers:

We sincerely hope that you enjoyed the activities provided in this booklet. We appreciate all of our Delta Region farmers and their families for the food that they produce.

We also appreciate them for completing our surveys throughout the year. The Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi farmer plays an integral role in our data collection process. The estimates we make are utilized by:

- The farmers
- Farm associations and businesses
- Agricultural lenders
- Schools and universities
- Farm cooperatives
- Government agencies
- Legislators
- Media

We hope that you have gained an appreciation of the impact of agriculture on the Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi economy and that you will share the information that you have learned with others. This will make them more aware of the important role that farmers play in our community.