

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

Middle School: Foot Prints on the Earth

Connections to Standards:

Science MS-LS1-5; MS-ESS3-3, 5; MS-LS2-1;
MS-ESS3-4

Social Studies 8.23

Lesson: In Oregon, the majority of blueberries are harvested July to August. When there are fresh berries available in the supermarket year-round and how does that impact the planet? In this lesson, students explore the idea of each person's "ecological footprint" and learn how much land area it takes to support their lifestyle. Students take the quiz to find out their own ecological footprint, discover their biggest areas of resource consumption, and learn what they can do to tread more lightly on the earth. After completing the quiz, have students research and write about an aspect of their own lives where they can make a change to lessen their impact on the earth.

Resources: Ecological Footprint Calculator

http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/personal_footprint/

Early Childhood and Lower Elementary:

Blueberries for Sal

Connections to Standards:

English Language Arts K.RL.10; K.RI.3; 1.RL.7;
1.RL.7; 2.RI.1; 2.RL.7

Lesson: In the children's book, *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey, a little girl and a bear cub pick blueberries in the countryside with their mothers. Wandering astray, however, each youngster mistakes the other's mother for its own. Reading this book with students provides an opportunity to learn more about how blueberries grow, who eats them and discuss how some foods grow not only on farms, but also in the wild.

Resources: *Blueberries for Sal*

<http://www.liveoakmedia.com/client/guides/26932.pdf>

Upper Elementary: Extracting Colors

Connections to Standards:

Art AR.03.CP.01; AR.03.HC.01, 04;
AR.05.HC.01, 03, 04

Lesson: Adapt this lesson from NOVA to explore plant-based pigments and the creation of ink with students. In this activity, students will use natural ingredients from well-known foods to make four different dyes and will investigate the pigments responsible for creating the colors in those dyes.

Resources: *Extracting Colors*

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/education/activities/3205_vinland.html

High School: Health Claim Round-Up

Connections to Standards:

Health HE.12.PH01.CC; HE.12.PH01.SM;
HE.12.PH03.CC

Lesson: Due to numerous reports touting the health benefits of eating blueberries, there has been a dramatic increase in blueberry consumption. Have students examine the different health claims surrounding blueberries to learn why they are such a healthy choice and if they really live up to all the hype. The resource listed provides broad health claims, but have students practice their research and writing skills to find out if these claims are substantiated.

Resources: Blueberry Nutrition and Research Areas

<http://www.blueberrycouncil.org/healthy-living/blueberry-nutrition/>