

Geography: Why does it matter where our food comes from?

Year 2 Autumn 1

Key Facts

Why should you learn about agriculture?

By learning about farming, will be studying an important area of human geography. You will learn valuable lessons about where your food comes from, the benefits of eating fresh and healthy produce, and how to care for animals and the environment.

- Devon, in the southwest of England, is home to lots of dairy farms. This is because the weather conditions are ideal for growing the grass that cows can feed on. It is warmer than the average UK temperature and has more rainfall and more hours of sunlight.
- A lot of the fruit bought in UK shops is grown in other countries. For example, most bananas are imported from Costa Rica. This is because it is closer to the Equator so the climate is hotter and wetter than it is in the UK – perfect for growing bananas!
- When you are buying food, it is important to think about where that food comes from whenever possible. Food should be good for you, good for the animals and good for farmers. Companies like Fair Trade and the Rainforest Alliance help to look after and support people and places in other parts of the world.



Key Vocabulary

Agriculture – another word for farming. It involves both growing and harvesting crops and raising animals, or livestock.

Dairy farm - a place where dairy products are made.

Dairy produce - containing or made from milk.

Free-range - Livestock that is kept in natural conditions, with freedom of movement.

Harvest – to gather or cut crops when they are ready to eat.

Hedgerow - a rough or mixed hedge of wild shrubs and occasional trees, typically bordering a road or field.

Local produce - Products that are made or grown in an area close to where someone lives.

Pasture - land covered with grass and other low plants suitable for grazing animals.

Plantation – a farm where bananas are grown.

Website Links

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdPRZ3wjCxA>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V64iUpLrE04>
- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiGAAbnpbIYqZeCFeA4K_nQ

Enquiry Questions

- What does a farmer need to make ice-cream?
- Why are there so many dairy farms in Devon?
- What is it like to work on a farm?
- What are our favourite fruits?
- What food can we harvest in the school grounds?
- Why does it matter where my food comes from?

Geographical Skills

- Label a diagram or photograph with geographical words.
- Gather information using a range of methods.
- Describe how food is produced.
- Use aerial photos and OS maps to recognise human and physical features of places being studied.

Why don't you...

- Draw a map of the local area, showing all the places you can buy food?
- Make a list of five foods in your cupboard and find out where they came from?
- Design your own farm? What produce would you farm, and if there are animals, how would you look after them?

Geographical Concepts

Scale – understanding the big picture as well as our experiences in day-to-day life. The concept of scale is about the way that geographical phenomena and problems can be examined at different spatial levels.

Space – examining how natural and man-made spaces fit together. Space involves looking at the significance of location distribution, and ways people organise space.