



Lesson Plan

Food Deserts

Created: 08/2016 by the National FFA Organization

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing these activities students will...

1. Demonstrate what it means to live in a food desert.
2. Describe the impact agriculture can have on eliminating food deserts.

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

RESOURCES:

1. FFA.org
2. Video: *Eliminating Food Deserts in America* <https://youtu.be/8My-iWjTBQ8>
3. Website: USDA Interactive Food Desert Map <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx>

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1. A copy of the "Food Deserts" worksheet for each student.
2. Internet access to play the video in real time or embed it in a PowerPoint ahead of time.
3. Internet access for students.

THIS QUICK LESSON PLAN WOULD WORK WELL AS:

1. As a portion of a service-learning project.
2. As a portion of exploratory agriculture class.
3. As a portion of an agricultural business class.

THESE ACTIVITIES ARE ALIGNED TO THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS:

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A. Action: Assume responsibility for life and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.PL-E. Awareness: Understanding where you are with regard to personal vision, mission, and goals.
- FFA.CS-M. Communication: Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings.

AFNR Cluster Skills

- CS.01. Analyze how issues, trends, technologies and public policies impact systems in the Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Career Cluster.
- CS.02. Evaluate the nature and scope of the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Career Cluster and the role of agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR) in society and the economy.

Common Core- Speaking and Listening

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.2 Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.04. Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Communication
- Information Literacy
- Collaboration

LESSON PLAN:

1. *Introduction:* Depending on where we live, we may have easy access to fresh food. Some of us can go to a local farmer's market or have local, fresh food available at the grocery store. For others, this is not a reality.
2. *Activity:* Each student will need a copy of the handout "Food Deserts." Have them complete part 1 during the video.
 - a. Show the video *Eliminating Food Deserts in America*. The direct URL is <https://youtu.be/8My-iWjTBQ8>.
 - b. At the completion of the video, have students work with a partner to complete part 2 of the handout. Students will use the USDA interactive food desert map for question 3. The direct URL is <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx>.
3. *Discussion:* At the completion of the activity, have a class discussion using the following questions:
 - a. What can be done to eliminate food deserts?
 - b. What impact would eliminating food deserts have on agriculture and the overall well-being of Americans?
 - c. How can you as an individual contribute to eliminating food deserts?
4. *Leveling-Up:* Develop a plan for eliminating food deserts in a community.

NAME: _____

Aligned to the following standards:
FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-E; FFA.CS-M, CS.01;
CS.02; CCSS.SL.9-10.1; CCSS. SL.9-10.2;
CRP.04

Food Deserts

DIRECTIONS:

Part 1: Watch the video *Eliminating Food Deserts in America*. The direct URL is <https://youtu.be/8My-iWjTBQ8>. Use this page to record your thoughts and questions during the video.

Thoughts or Questions

List 3 observations you made, 2 questions you have, 1 interesting fact you learned

Part 2: Utilize what you saw in the video and the internet to complete the questions. You will use the USDA interactive food desert map to complete question 4. The direct URL is <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx>.

1. What is a food desert?
2. What was Michelle Obama's motivation for her call to action for eliminating food deserts?
3. Why are food deserts an issue?

4. Do you live in a food desert? Explain observations you have made within the community.
5. Brainstorm and strategize how food deserts could be eliminated with the help from the agricultural industry.