America the Bountiful

Social Studies

Materials
- Overhead projector
- Two-3' x 5' pieces of paper
- Atlas
- Copies of "Top Five State Commodities" handout
- Copies of "Where in the United States" worksheet

Time: Day 1—60 minutes; Day 2—60 minutes; Additional activities—30 minutes each

Grade Level: 5
Standard 1–Students will understand how the exploration and colonization of North America transformed human history.
Objective 1–Describe and explain the growth and development of the early American colonies.
Indicator e–Compare the geographic and cultural differences between New England, Middle and Southern colonies (e.g. economic, political).
Objective 2–Assess the global impact of cultural and economic diffusion as a result of colonization.
Indicator a–Describe the cultural and economic impacts that occurred as a result of trade between North American and other markets (e.g. arts, language, ideas, the beginning and expansion of the slave trade, new agricultural markets).
Standard 4–Students will understand that the 19th century was a time of incredible change for the United States, including geographic expansion, constitutional crisis, and economic growth.
Objective 2–Assess the geographic, cultural, political and economic divisions between regions that contributed to the civil war.
Indicator a–Describe the impact of physical geography on the cultures of the northern and southern regions (e.g. industrial resources, agriculture, climate)

Grade Level: 4
Standard 2–Students will understand how Utah's history has been shaped by many diverse people, events, and ideas.
Objective 3–Investigate the development of the economy in Utah
Indicator a–Explain the relationship between supply and demand
Indicator b–Describe the role of producers and consumers.

More standards can be found on the next page.

Background

This lesson is designed to familiarize students with the importance of American agriculture. Our geography, soils, and climate along with our political system have made American farmers the most productive in the world. Agriculture is what takes place on the land. As your students study the states and our nation they should become aware of and explore what makes each state and region different and how that diversity played out on the land effects the states and our nation's economy and environment.

Activity Procedures

Using an overhead or opaque projector, trace two copies of the U.S. Regional Map onto the butcher paper. Save one map as a template. Cut the other map into 10 regions: Northeast, Appalachia, Southeast, Lake States, Corn Belt, Delta States, Northern Plains, Southern Plains, Mountain, and Pacific, following along the heavy lines inside and outside the map.

Day 1

1. Divide the class into ten groups. (You may want more students in the region with more states.) Assign one group of students to each region and provide them with the cutout of their assigned region. Ask them to write the name of their region on the back.
2. Ask students to label each state and state capital in their region. You may also want them to label other important mountains, or bodies of water.
3. Ask students: What is a commodity? (A quantity of goods to be bartered, traded or sold. In reference to agricultural commodities these are generally bulk grains, produce, meats, etc., that cannot be differentiated as to producer or manufacturer of origin.)
4. Distribute the Top Five State Commodities handout. Ask students to highlight or underline the states in their region. (Note: GrH stands for greenhouse)
5. Together each group of students should create a legend and place the symbols in each state for the states Top Five commodities.

Day 2

1. Ask students to create a graph of their region's top five commodities.
2. One at a time, ask each group to name and attach their regions onto the other large (template) map and present the information they have gathered such as names of states, capitals, commodities, and other information you may have assigned.

3. Explain to students that agriculture exists because we as humans have needs and our basic needs are met by agriculture. Ask students to help you create a list of needs and a list of wants. What is the difference? All students should become aware of the fact that we all need farmers. Someone has to produce the raw ingredients. Mention that:
    - The U.S. is one of the most productive agricultural countries in the world—something we can all take pride in.
    - America's farmers and ranchers produce 16% of the world's food on just 7% of the world's land. A total of 932 million acres in the U.S. are devoted to farming—either as cropland, timberland, or for fish farming.
    - Agriculture generates the most jobs in the U.S. One in five jobs is related to agriculture, providing jobs for 22 million people.
    - Agriculture is more than farmers—it includes farm managers, plant and animal researchers, food scientists, commodity brokers, ag journalists, nutritionists, farm economists, ag teachers, crop consultants, bankers, salespeople, marketing experts, and many other occupations.

Additional Activities

Write directions using an atlas about how you would move one commodity from one capital to another (via interstate).

Compute the commodity cash receipts from the top five states, the bottom five states, and states within a certain region.

Indicator c–Identify examples of the producers and consumers in the local community.
Indicator e–Identify the factors which bring about economic changes (e.g. natural resource development, new technologies, new market development, globalization, global conflicts, education).

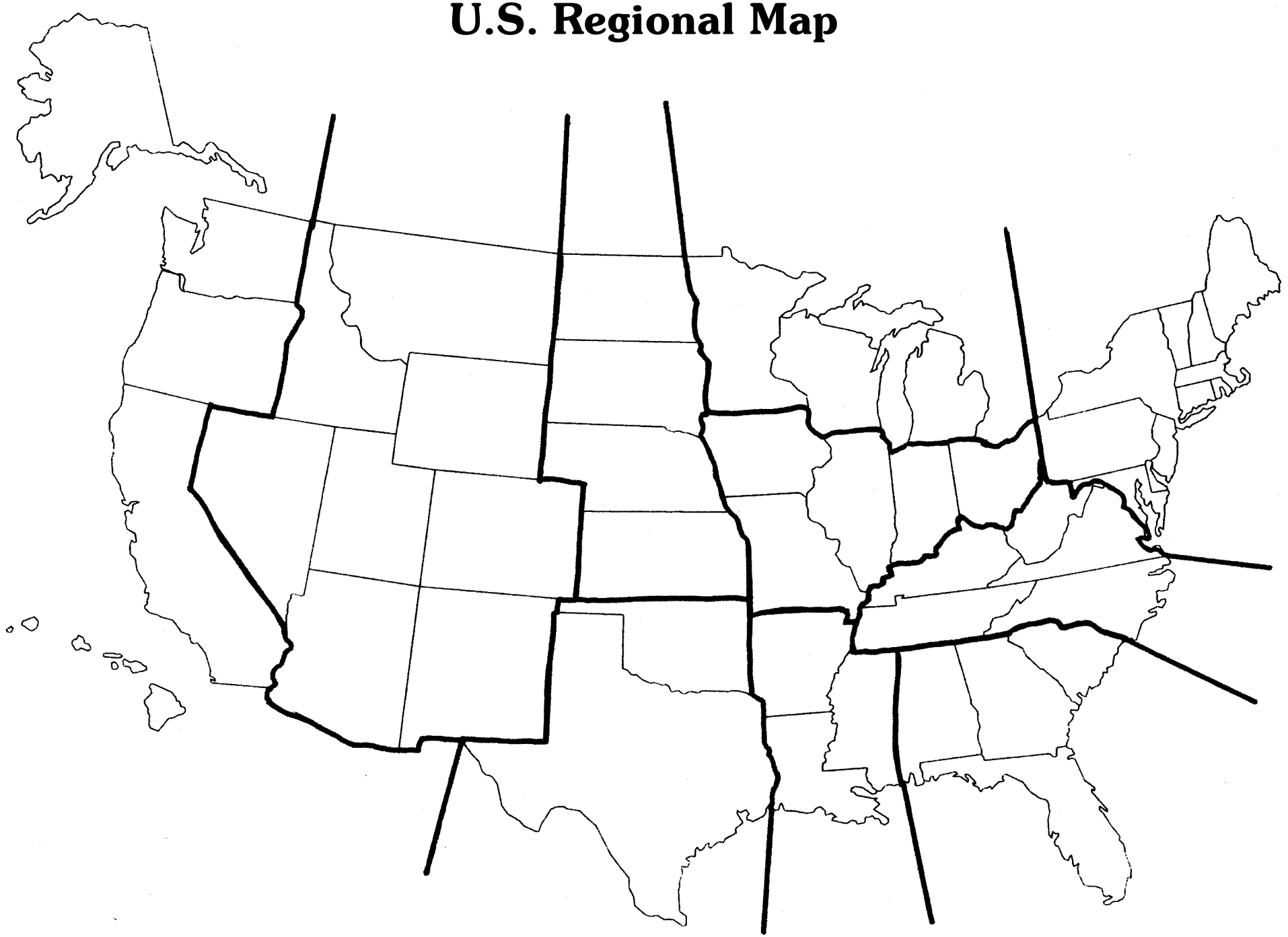
Math Standards
Grade Level: 5
Standard 5–Students will construct, analyze, and construct reasonable conclusions from data and apply basic concepts of probability.
Objective 1–Formulate and answer questions using statistical methods to compare data, and propose and justify inferences based on data.
Indicator a–Construct, analyze and display data using an appropriate format (e.g. line plots, bar graphs, line graphs).

Grade Level: 4
Standard 3–Students will understand attributes and properties of plane geometric objects and spatial relationships.
Objective 2–Specify locations using grids and maps
Standard 5–Students will interpret and organize collected data to make predictions, answer questions and describe basic concepts of probability.
Objective 1 – Collect, organize, and display data to answer questions.
Indicator a – Identify a question that can be answered by collecting data.
Indicator b – Collect, read, and interpret data from tables, graphs, charts, surveys and observations.

TOP FIVE COMMODITIES PRODUCED IN EACH STATE (in millions of dollars)

State	#1 Commodity	#2 Commodity	#3 Commodity	#4 Commodity	#5 Commodity	Rank	Cash Receipts
Alabama	Broilers	Cattle/Calves	Cotton	Eggs	GrH/Nursery	26	$3,174
Alaska	GrH/Nursery	Dairy Products	Potatoes	Hay	Cattle/Calves	50	$29
Arizona	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	Cotton	Lettuce	Cantaloupes	32	$2,146
Arkansas	Broilers	Soybeans	Rice	Cotton	Eggs	11	$5,887
California	Dairy Products	GrH/Nursery	Grapes	Cotton	Cattle/Calves	1	$23,310
Colorado	Cattle/Calves	Wheat	Corn	Dairy Products	Hogs	17	$1,229
Connecticut	GrH/Nursery	Dairy Products	Aquaculture	Eggs	Cattle/Calves	45	$489
Delaware	Broilers	Soybeans	Corn	GrH/Nursery	Dairy Products	39	$757
Florida	Oranges	GrH/Nursery	Cane for Sugar	Dairy Products	Tomatoes	9	$6,181
Georgia	Broilers	Cotton	Peanuts	Eggs	GrH/Nursery	12	$5,687
Hawaii	Cane for Sugar	Pineapples	GrH/Nursery	Macadamia Nuts	Dairy Products	44	$483
Idaho	Potatoes	Dairy Products	Cattle/Calves	Wheat	Hay	25	$3,410
Illinois	Corn	Soybeans	Hogs	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	5	$9,050
Indiana	Corn	Soybeans	Hogs	Eggs	Dairy Products	14	$5,558
Iowa	Corn	Hogs	Soybeans	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	3	$12,853
Kansas	Cattle/Calves	Wheat	Corn	Sorghum Grain	Soybeans	7	$7,869
Kentucky	Tobacco	Horses/Mules	Cattle/Calves	Corn	Soybeans	22	$3,550
Louisiana	Cotton	Cane for Sugar	Soybeans	Rice	Corn	31	$2,342
Maine	Potatoes	Dairy Products	Eggs	Aquaculture	Wild Blueberries	43	$485
Maryland	Broilers	GrH/Nursery	Dairy Products	Corn	Soybeans	36	$1,534
Massachusetts	GrH/Nursery	Cranberries	Dairy Products	Apples	Sweet Corn	45	$478
Michigan	Dairy Products	Corn	GrH/Nursery	Soybeans	Cattle/Calves	20	$3,643
Minnesota	Corn	Soybeans	Dairy Products	Hogs	Cattle/Calves	6	$3,809
Mississippi	Broilers	Cotton	Soybeans	Aquaculture	Eggs	24	$3,483
Missouri	Soybeans	Corn	Hogs	Cattle/Calves	Broilers	16	$4,950
Montana	Wheat	Cattle/Calves	Barley	Hay	Sugar Beets	33	$2,027
Nebraska	Cattle/Calves	Corn	Hogs	Soybeans	Wheat	4	$9,454
Nevada	Cattle/Calves	Hay	Dairy Products	Potatoes	Onions	47	$286
New Hampshire	Dairy Products	GrH/Nursery	Apples	Cattle/Calves	Sweet Corn	48	$161
New Jersey	GrH/Nursery	Dairy Products	Peaches	Blueberries	Eggs	38	$801
New Mexico	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	Hay	Chili Peppers	Onions	34	$1,709
New York	Dairy Products	GrH/Nursery	Apples	Corn	Cattle/Calves	27	$3,043
N. Carolina	Hogs	Broilers	Tobacco	GrH/Nursery	Turkeys	8	$7,831
N. Dakota	Wheat	Cattle/Calves	Barley	Sunflowers	Sugar Beets	23	$3,532
Ohio	Soybeans	Corn	Dairy Products	GrH/Nursery	Hogs	15	$5,122
Oklahoma	Cattle/Calves	Wheat	Broilers	Hogs	GrH/Nursery	21	$3,566
Oregon	GrH/Nursery	Wheat	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	Hay	28	$2,977
Pennsylvania	Dairy Products	Cattle/Calves	GrH/Nursery	Eggs	Mushrooms	18	$4,143
Rhode Island	GrH/Nursery	Dairy Products	Eggs	Sweet Corn	Cattle/Calves	49	$83
S. Carolina	Broilers	Tobacco	GrH/Nursery	Cotton	Turkeys	35	$1,602
S. Dakota	Cattle/Calves	Corn	Soybeans	Wheat	Hogs	19	$3,664
Tennessee	Cattle/Calves	Cotton	Soybeans	Dairy Products	Broilers	30	$2,372
Texas	Cattle/Calves	Cotton	Dairy Products	GrH/Nursery	Broilers	2	$13,053
Utah	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	Hay	Wheat	GrH/Nursery	37	$873
Vermont	Dairy Products	Cattle/Calves	GrH/Nursery	Maple Products	Christmas Trees	41	$535
Virginia	Broilers	Dairy Products	Cattle/Calves	Turkeys	Tobacco	29	$2,378
Washington	Apples	Dairy Products	Wheat	Cattle/Calves	Potatoes	13	$5,681
W. Virginia	Broilers	Cattle/Calves	Dairy Products	Turkeys	Eggs	46	$388
Wisconsin	Dairy Products	Corn	Cattle/Calves	Soybeans	Hogs	10	$6,062
Wyoming	Cattle/Calves	Hay	Sugar Beets	Wheat	Sheep and Lambs	40	$662

U.S. Regional Map



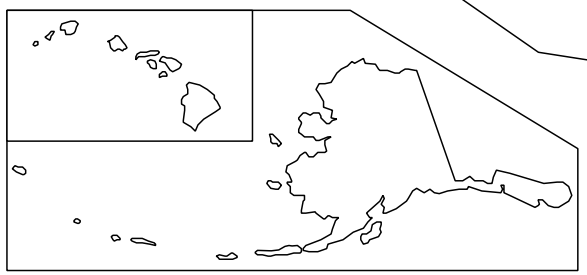
Where in the United States did my food come from?

Where did your lunch come from?

Some of the foods you eat every day are produced here in Utah. Most states produce their own milk, eggs, fruits, vegetables, and grains. Some states produce so much of a particular crop or animal that they have become famous for that product. Fill in this map to see some of the most productive states in the U.S.

1. Color code the map legend by filling each of the small squares with a different color.
2. For each product listed in the legend, draw a small circle in the states listed next to that product using the corresponding color. Some states are listed more than once.

Do you see some regional patterns?



- ❑ Corn: Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Indiana, Minnesota, & Ohio.
- ❑ Dairy Products: Wisconsin, California, New York, Pennsylvania, & Minnesota.
- ❑ Beef: Texas, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Iowa, Oklahoma, & California.
- ❑ Soybeans, major oil crop used in salad dressings and mayonnaise: Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Indiana, Minnesota, & Ohio.
- ❑ Pork: Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, Indiana, North Carolina, & Missouri.
- ❑ Chickens: Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi, & Texas.
- ❑ Wheat: North Dakota, Kansas, Montana, Oklahoma, Washington, & Minnesota.
- ❑ Eggs: California, Georgia, Arkansas, Indiana, Pennsylvania & Texas.
- ❑ Potatoes: Idaho, Washington, California, North Dakota, Maine, & Wisconsin.
- ❑ Tomatoes: Florida, California, Virginia, Ohio, Georgia, & Michigan.