



Student Name:

Strawberries and Labor

Summary: Did you know that California grows almost 90% of all the strawberries grown in the United States? Or that strawberries are one of the most labor-intensive crops to grow? In this lesson, you will examine an infographic on strawberries and labor that shows the connections between strawberry growing, production, and immigration policies. Next, you will choose from a list of topics explored in the infographic and complete a close read.

Time: 30-40 minutes.

WRITE: Look over the information presented in the [Infographic on Strawberry and Labor](#) and answer the following questions.

List three facts you found interesting

1.

2.

3.

4. Why is California's temperate climate perfect for growing strawberries? How does temperature affect strawberries?

5. Why are strawberries such a labor intensive-crop?

6. What is the Bracero program?

READ: Read about **ONE** of the following topics explored in the infographic. Use the worksheet [How to Talk to the Text](#) to complete a close read. Click on the topic to find your reading.

Read about:

- [Labor Conditions in Strawberry Fields](#)
- [The Bracero Program](#)
- [Food Justice Certification](#)

WRITE: Complete a **3,2,1** answering questions about the reading.

1. Write down **three** facts, phrases, or ideas discussed in the text.
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

2. Write **two** things you found interesting about the text.
 - a.

 - b.

3. Write down **one** question you have after reading the text.
 - a.

Student Notes:

- To learn more about what is impacting farmworkers in strawberry fields, go to our lesson on [Strawberries and Pesticides](#).
- Read more about Jim Cochran of Swanton Berry Farms in this [UC Santa Cruz Magazine article](#).
- Try enjoying a strawberry through a [Mindful Eating Exercise](#) that will have you slow down and focus in on every detail as you eat.
- Feeling creative? Try writing a poem from the perspective of a strawberry in this [I Am Poem Lesson](#).

References:

Doyne, S., Ojalvo E. H., Schulten, K. (2011, April 8) *Data Visualized: More on Teaching With Infographics*. Retrieved from

<https://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/04/08/data-visualized-more-on-teaching-with-infographics/>

Strawberries and Labor Infographic (2020). *The Edible Schoolyard*. Retrieved from https://edibleschoolyard.org/sites/default/files/EdibleSchoolyardProject_Infographic.pdf

Text to Text (n.d). Facing History. Retrieved from https://www.facinghistory.org/sites/default/files/TexttoText_handout_v.final_.pdf

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Notes for Teachers and Parents

- The reading level of this lesson is best for upper-middle school age and high school age students.
- This activity supports [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.8.1](#), [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.4](#), [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.7](#).
- We recommend asking students to turn in their fillable sheets for assessment purposes.
- Using close reading strategies like *talking to the text* is a great way to support students with literacy development. See the links in our handout and our reference section to utilize close reading strategies.
- The links in the readings have excellent resources for learning more about the topics explored in this lesson.
- See Doyne et al. (2011) in our reference section to learn more about teaching with infographics.
- This activity integrates learning that connects food and gardening to what students are learning in the classroom.