

Origins of the Thanksgiving Feast Lesson Plan

Introduction:

Welcome! Today, through this activity, you will be learning a bit more about the history of some of your favorite thanksgiving foods, and the journey that they take from pasture to plate! This lesson plan is set up to follow the activity booklet linked on the website. For set up, I have created several stations, which have supplies following the different foods in the activity booklets. Below is a list of general supplies, as well as which supplies should be found at each station.

General Supplies:

Activity Booklet (one per student. Attached to website for you to print)

Pencil

Colored Paper

Markers

Glue Sticks

Scissors

Carrot Diagram (Attached to website for you to print)

1 potato for every 2 students

Knife

Cutting board

Paint

Paintbrush

Metal Rivets

Note:

For set up, I created 5 separate “stations.” Each station had its own table, a sign which indicated which food from the activity packet the station was for, and supplies for the specific activity. The way the stations should be set up is listed below.

Station 1:

The Three Sisters (Squash, Corn, and Beans)

Supplies: Printed out “three sisters” story; Pencil

Lesson: Students read the traditional native American story of the three sisters crops; corn, squash and beans. The goal of this station is for students to learn how corn, squash and beans were grown together, as each crop had benefits which helped the others grow. They will then draw parallels between the story, which depicts this growing technique through an analogy of “three sisters,” and the plants in real life.

Station 2:

Pie

Supplies: Colored Paper, Paper Plate, Metal Rivets, Markers

Lesson: Students will create a gratitude pie, with each slice representing something that they are grateful for. To create, choose a piece of colored paper (this will be the “filling” of the pie) and cut it into a circle a bit smaller than the paper plate (the paper plate is the “crust.”) Once you have cut the

circle, cut a slice out of the colored paper, so that the paper plate shows through. Connect the colored paper to the paper plate with a metal rivet in the center of the two. Now, have the student write things that they are grateful on the paper plate, rotating the above “filling” to revel each one. (example included below)



Station 3:

Turkey

Supplies: Colored Paper, Markers

Lesson: Students will read in the activity packet about various ways in which turkeys are raised in the United States. They will then answer questions based on the facts that they have read. For the activity, students will create their own turkey through a tracing of their hand! Have students trace their hand onto a colored sheet of paper, and then use markers to fill in the eyes, feet and beak.

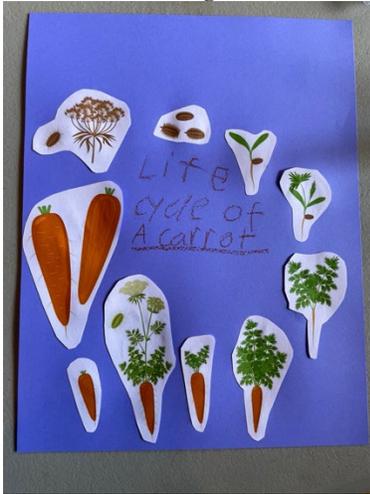


Station 4:

Carrots

Supplies: Life cycle of a carrot diagram, cut and placed into Ziplock baggies. Glue sticks.

Lesson: Students will learn about the life cycle of a carrot, from seed to sprout to harvest! Have students read the life cycle of a carrot story in their activity packet. Then, have each student grab one ziplock bag filled with the carrot life cycle image, each stage cut out separately. Students then have to assemble the stages of the carrot in the order that they read in the story!



Station 5:
Potatoes

Supplies: 1 potato for every 2 students. Knife, cutting board, paint, paintbrush.

Lesson: Students will learn about potatoes through the reading of some fun facts. Then, they will create their own stamps using carvings from the potatoes. For this activity, I recommend cutting the potatoes in half ahead of time. Students will create their "stamps" by carving shapes into the bottoms of these cut potatoes. For younger students, it is recommended that an adult helps with this part.

