

Activity: My Ag Roots

Activity Level: Basic

Source: Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom

Purpose

Research student's past to create a family tree and identify careers in agriculture.

Example Topics It Supplements

Basic components of culture; family history; career exploration

Activity Snapshot

1. Organize and Prepare Supplies
2. Read Background Information
3. Interest Approach
4. Conduct Activity
Students have the opportunity to learn about their family history by interviewing their parents about their family members and careers. They may be surprised by some of the careers members in their family have. Based on our location here in Nebraska, several students will probably have agriculture somewhere in their family tree. Remember, any job that is involved with food, fiber, fuel, and energy are considered to be part of agriculture.
5. Ask follow up questions and make the connection to agriculture.
 - By a show of hands, how many of us had someone in our family tree with a job or career in agriculture?
 - Were you surprised? Why or why not?
 - What are some jobs and careers that are available in agriculture?
 - What can we share with others about what we learned today?

State Standards It Supports

- SS 0.4.5.a—Develop questions about their personal history.
SS 0.4.5.b—Identify and cite appropriate sources for researching their personal history.
SS 0.4.5.c—Gather historical information about their lives.
SS 0.4.5.d—Present historical information about their lives.

Materials

- “My Ag Roots” worksheet—1 per student

What's the Connection to Agriculture?

Students will explore careers and jobs that members of their family tree have held. Several students might be surprised that grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins may have had careers in agriculture!

NEBRASKA
**AGRICULTURE
IN THE CLASSROOM**
NEBRASKA FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION

PROCEDURES:

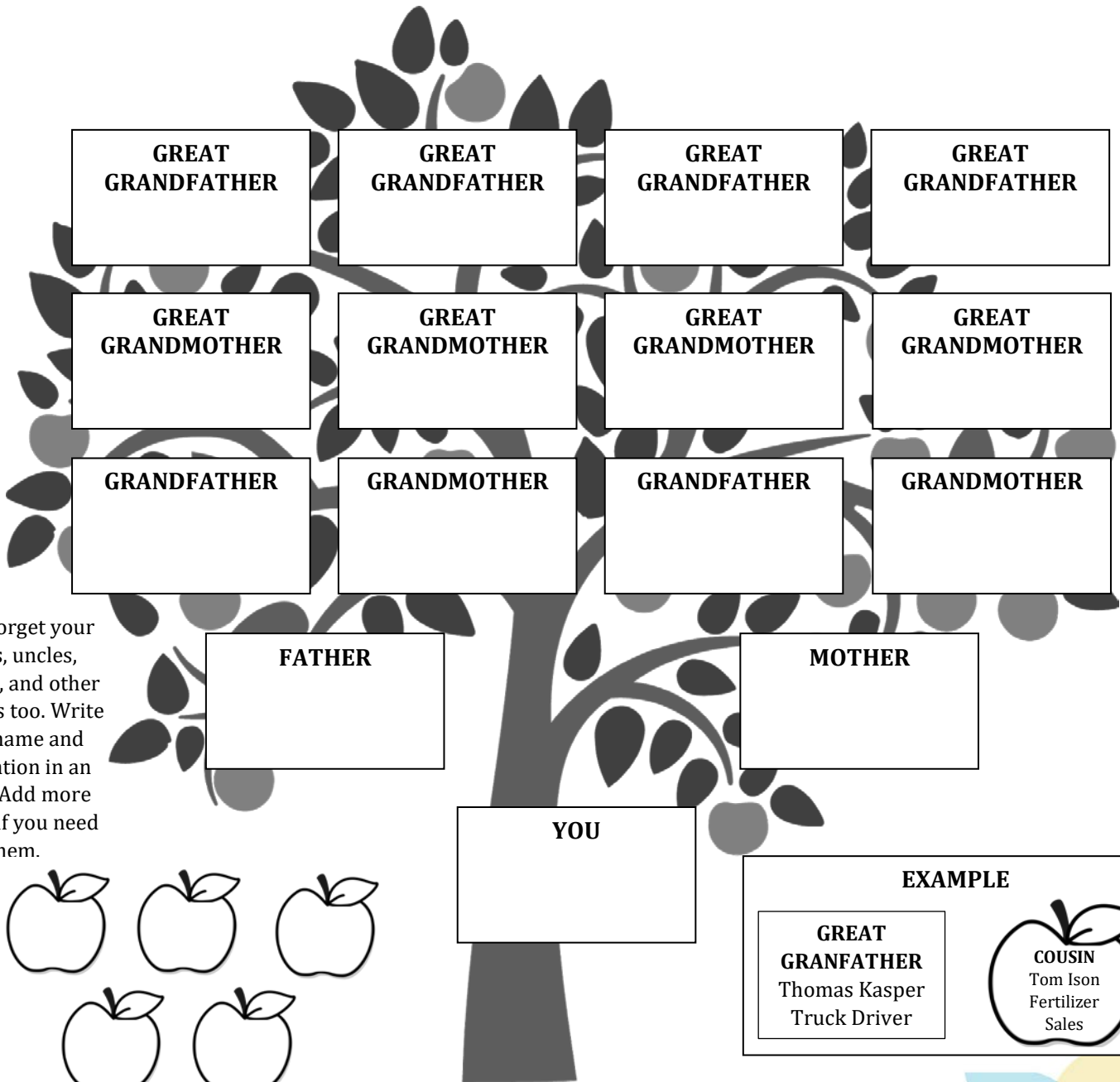
1. Organize and Prepare Supplies
See “Materials” on cover page.
2. Background Information
Explain to students that they will have the opportunity to learn about their family history by interviewing their parents about their family members and careers. They may be surprised by some of the careers members in their family have. Based on our location here in Nebraska, several students will probably have agriculture somewhere in their family tree. Remember, any job that is involved with food, fiber, fuel, and energy are considered to be part of agriculture.
3. Interest Approach
Ask students questions about their family history.
 - a) What types of jobs do your parents have? What types of jobs and careers do other family members have? What does it mean to be involved in agriculture? Do you think that there are careers in agriculture in your family tree?
4. Conduct Activity
Distribute “My Ag Roots” worksheet and instruct students to complete the worksheet with their parents. Bring the worksheet back to class.
5. Ask Follow-Up Questions and Make the Connection to Agriculture.
 - By a show of hands, how many of us had someone in our family tree with a job or career in agriculture?
Remember, any job that is involved with food, fiber, fuel, and energy are considered to be part of agriculture.
 - Were you surprised? Why or why not?
It wouldn't be surprising if several students had a family member with a career in agriculture. Because several industries in Nebraska are related to food, fiber, fuel, and energy, several jobs are related to agriculture.
 - What are some jobs and careers that are available in agriculture?
1 in 3 jobs in the United States is related to agriculture. Typically speaking, the first careers that pop into mind is farming and raising cattle. While those jobs are certainly very important, they are only the very beginning of the opportunities in agriculture. A few areas of agriculture are: animals (i.e. vet, rancher, zoologist), biotechnology (i.e. microbiologist, research and development), natural resources (wildlife biologist, natural resources manager), plant science, environmental science, power generation and distribution, structural and technical systems, and food products and processing.

My Ag Roots Worksheet

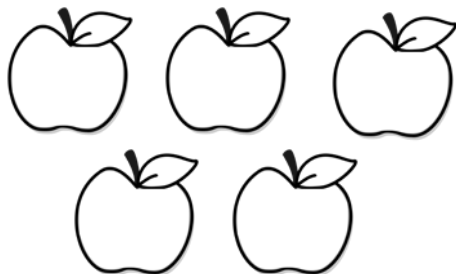
Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Use this thinking page to work with your parents to trace family roots. Write the occupations together with each name. When you are done, circle each job related to agriculture. Remember, anything to do with food, fiber, fuel, and energy is part of agriculture!



Don't forget your aunts, uncles, cousins, and other relatives too. Write each name and occupation in an apple. Add more apples if you need them.



EXAMPLE	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">GREAT GRANDFATHER</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Thomas Kasper Truck Driver</p> </div>	