

Teacher Ambassador Program™ Lesson Summaries

The following is a list of the lesson topics offered through the Teacher Ambassador Program™. The lessons have been designed to be easily tailored to specific grade levels and accommodate a variety of learning needs. Teacher Ambassadors are Ontario Certified Teachers who strive to use differentiated instruction to ensure every student gets the most out of the experience.

Grade 7-12 teachers can choose from the 12 topic choices below. All lessons are modified accordingly for the appropriate grade level.

Issues Focused Lessons

Lesson 1: Local Food: Students examine the health, economic, social and environmental benefits of eating local as well as the challenges it presents.

Best curriculum connections: Food and Nutrition, Food and Healthy Living, Nutrition and Health, Hospitality and Tourism, Green Industries, Canadian and World Studies (Gr. 9 Geography)

Lesson 2: Food Security: Students will explore the factors that contribute to local and global food security and critically review methods which work to eliminate food insecurity.

Best curriculum connections: Food and Nutrition, Nutrition and Health, Food and Culture

Lesson 3: Food Safety: Students will explore health and safety issues surrounding food supply and production.

Best curriculum connections: All Food and Nutrition courses, Green Industries

Lesson 4: Business and Economics of Food: Students will explore agriculture and food from a business perspective.

Best curriculum connections: Business, Food and Nutrition, Civics and Careers

Lesson 5: Climate Change: Students will investigate the interrelationships between agri-food production and climate change.

Best curriculum connections: Science, Environmental Science

Lesson 6: Environmental Initiatives: Students will critically analyse various environmental issues related to the agriculture industry and examine the various initiatives which farmers and agricultural workers implement to reduce their environmental impact. Opportunities to focus on invasive species and water use at the grade 7/8 level.

Best curriculum connections: Environmental Science, Green Industries, Canadian and World Studies, Science, Chemistry

Lesson 7: Agriculture in Canada: A broad overview of Canadian agriculture including what grows where, uses of commodities, various production methods and a general outline of issues in Canadian agriculture.

Best curriculum connections: Any course dealing with agriculture topics - this lesson is an introduction to what the sector looks like in Canada today. Food and Nutrition, Canadian and World Studies, Green Industries, Science, and Hospitality and Tourism link to this topic

Lesson 8: Conventional and Organic Agriculture: Students critically examine both organic and conventional methods of production, focusing on the use of pesticides.

Best curriculum connections: Food and Nutrition courses, Environmental Science, Green Industries, Hospitality and Tourism, Science, Biology

Lesson 9: Animal Health and Welfare: Students discuss the use of antibiotics, growth hormones and issues pertaining to animal welfare in Canada.

Best curriculum connections: Science, Environmental Science, Biology, Hospitality and Tourism, Green Industries, Food and Nutrition courses

Lesson 10: Biotechnology: Students weigh a variety of perspectives on the issue of genetically modified organisms and their impact on human health, environment, and society. Students gain an understanding of the regulations and laws that are related to genetic modification and current research in the area.

Best curriculum connections: Biology, Environmental Science, Science, Food and Nutrition courses, Green Industries, Hospitality and Tourism

Lesson 11: Technology and Innovations: Students will critically examine the impact that on farm technologies have on crop yields, the environment, cost of food and on farm workers. These technologies could include the use of robotics, precision agriculture, unmanned aerial vehicles, geospatial mapping etc.

Best curriculum connections: A variety of courses within the technology curriculum as well as Environmental Science, Biology and Geography

Lesson 12: Careers in Agri-Food: Students will learn about the exciting and vast opportunities that exist in the agri-food industry. Students will learn that no matter where their interest lies (whether they are interested in science or business, etc.), there are exciting career opportunities in the agriculture sector.

Best curriculum connections: Grade 7-12, subject specific (i.e., science careers in agriculture) or broad and general (often for grade 10 careers)



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