

Lesson 1: Virtual Farm Tour

Enduring Understanding:

- Mushrooms are good and good for me!

Lesson Objectives

- Students will make inferences and predict that we will be learning about mushrooms.
- Students will explain the steps in the mushroom growing process.

New Vocabulary

- Composting
- Pasteurizing
- Spawning
- Casing
- Harvesting

Materials

- PowerPoint Lesson 1: Virtual Farm Tour
- Mushroom photos for photo walk
- "I Notice, I Wonder" handout
- "Farm to Table" handout
- Virtual farm tour video (linked in PowerPoint or available at: <https://youtu.be/FDTF0uI5WSs>)



Activity Session

Opening: Photo Walk

- Prior to starting the lesson, post mushroom and farm photographs around the room. (Photos can be found in the student materials packet.)
- Use the Lesson 1 PowerPoint as a visual aid to guide students through the lesson.
- Distribute the “I Notice, I Wonder” handout to each student (younger students will share their observations orally with a partner).
- Direct students to walk around the room silently, look at the pictures and record their observations of each picture in the “I Notice” column of the organizer. Any questions that students have should be recorded in the “I Wonder” side of the organizer. (Younger students will share their observations orally with a partner.)
- Once students complete the photo walk, each pair should come up with an inference about what they think we will be learning.
- After students share their inferences, explain that we will be learning about mushrooms - how they are good for us and good for the planet! We will also be helping our very own cafeteria staff prepare a mushroom recipe!
- Explain that in a minute we will be going on a virtual farm tour and will learn about how mushrooms are grown and how they get from the farm to our tables.
- As a class, complete a K-W-L chart discussing what students already know about mushrooms and what they want to know about mushrooms. If a projector is not available, make the KWL chart on chart paper.
 1. Draw a chart with three columns.
 2. At the top of the first column, write the word “Know”. In this column, discuss and record the things that students already know about mushrooms.
 3. At the top of the second column, write “Want to Know”. In this column, discuss and record questions that students have about mushrooms.
 4. At the top of the third column, write the word “Learned”. For now, leave this column blank. This column will be used later to record what students learn throughout the unit.



Mushroom Madness!



Part 1: Virtual Farm Tour

- Explain that we are going on a virtual farm tour and we will learn how mushrooms are grown. Students will need to pay close attention to each step in the process because they will need this information for a game that we will play after the tour.
- Show students the Virtual Farm Tour video (in the PowerPoint presentation or available at <https://youtu.be/FDTF0uI5WSs>) and answer any questions they have about it.
- Remind students that mushrooms also grow in the wild but some are not safe to eat, so we always get our mushrooms from farmers - we never pick them ourselves.
- In small groups or pairs, direct students to put the steps of the mushroom growing process in order on the Farm to Table handout.

Closing

- As a class, tweet Mushrooms in Schools (@MushroomsK12) with information learned from today's lesson and any questions that they have about mushrooms.
- Let students know that tomorrow they will learn about the different types of mushrooms as they prepare to help the cafeteria staff make a mushroom recipe!

