



The History of Our State’s Food, Land, and People

The Cultivating Washington curriculum is intended to be a go-to resource for Washington state middle school educators seeking student-centered instructional materials that make learning about the history of the Pacific Northwest more relevant and meaningful for students.

In addition, it is a resource for agricultural education teachers, parents, and community members interested in helping students discover the history and development of agriculture in the state of Washington.

Objectives

Cultivating Washington’s objectives are to:

- Build connection to and pride in the food, land, and people of Washington state
- Celebrate the diversity of the land, people, and agriculture of Washington state
- Nurture curiosity in students to better understand the world around them

Approach

The curriculum is:

- **Contextual:** Food sourcing and food production in Washington state provides a real-world and relevant context for students to understand how humans interact with the environment, how global issues and events led to decisions by people, and that there are multiple perspectives of activities and events. The curriculum is organized in a chronological order to help students understand what factors shaped events and activities leading to current day.
- **Student-Centered:** Food and the ability to secure food is relatable and relevant to every student; it provides a means to engage students in understanding historical activities. Further, the design of the curriculum includes primary-source and first-hand account stories presented in a way to help students “see” themselves in the stories. Students have choice of which stories and related projects to pursue in each lesson.
- **Interdisciplinary:** While designed to meet 7th grade state standards for social studies with a focus on Washington state history, this curriculum could be used in a middle school agricultural education course or co-taught in middle schools where agricultural education is offered. The curriculum offers optional activities to integrate state standards. Each lesson has been crosswalked and relevant standards are listed on the cover page of the lesson.
- **Turnkey:** This complete set of materials includes all visuals and manipulatives needed for teachers to facilitate with minimal preparation. The materials are also provided in a format that allow educators to easily customize and/or supplement.

Themes

The following themes are woven throughout the curriculum:

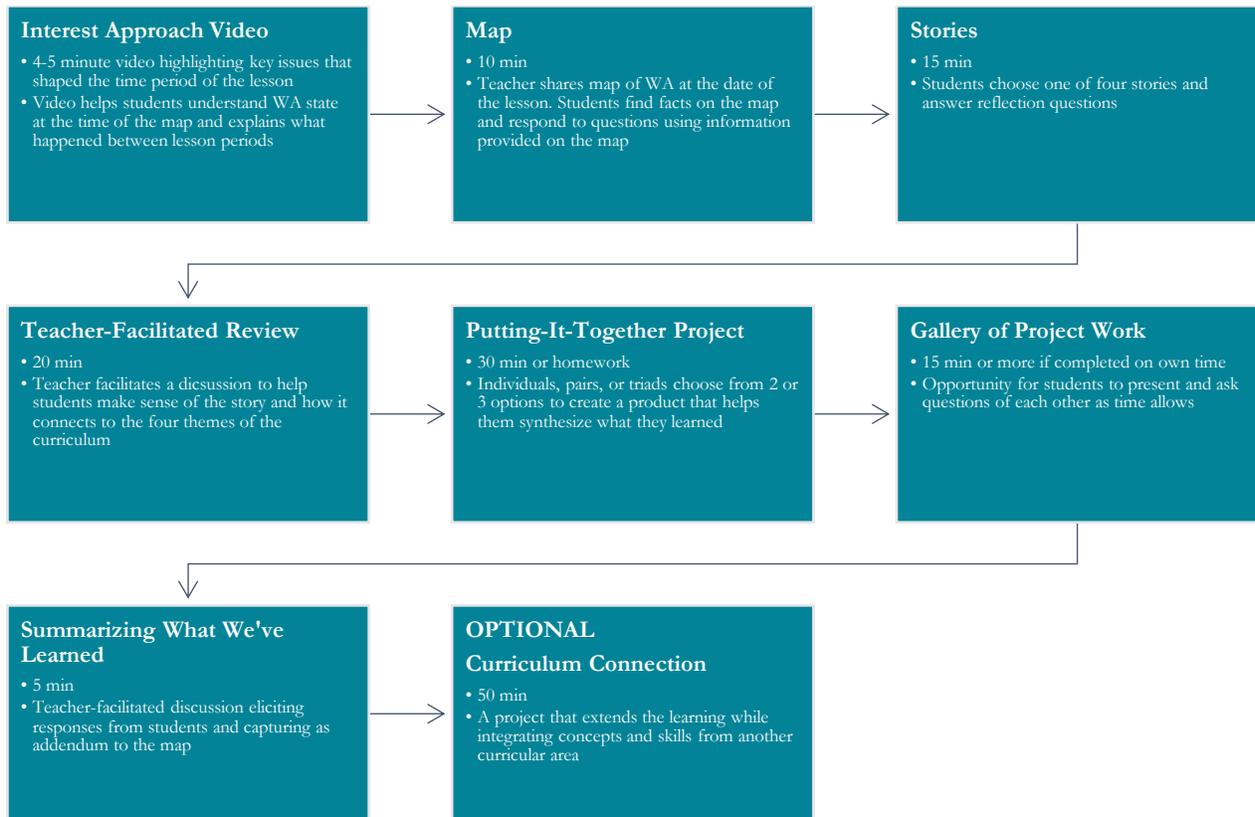
- Contributions of native people to Washington state agriculture
- Contributions of immigrants to Washington state agriculture
- Role of technology and innovation in Washington state agriculture
- Role of globalization in Washington state agriculture

Lessons

The Cultivating Washington curriculum is composed of four lessons. Each lesson focuses on a different period of time in Washington state. The lessons include:

- Lesson 1: Stories from 1840 – Different Worldviews
- Lesson 2: Stories from 1900 – Tremendous Change Powered by Technology and Ideas
- Lesson 3: Stories from 1950 – World Events Reshape Society
- Lesson 4: Your Story in 2020 – How to Feed a Growing Planet with Less Impact

While each lesson contains unique content and activities designed for learners to experience what life is like during the specified time period, all lessons follow the same format:



Attribution

This resource was developed for the [Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction](#) Cultivating Washington Ag History Project.

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- Washington agriculture and history teachers
- HistoryLink.org
- Washington State Historical Society
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