

Lunchbox Miles

Objectives

To investigate and understand issues of transportation, in relation to the purchase and consumption of food.

To become empowered with choice.

Activity outline

Show the children a shopping basket of food items eg chocolate bar, honey, raisins. Each item has a label attached stating what the main ingredient is and where the item comes from.

Show them a map on the wall.

Divide into groups.

Each group has an atlas, a dry wipe pen and two 'runners.'

Runner A collects a food item from the basket and returns to the group to discuss its source location on the map.

Runner B, armed with pen, goes to the map and draws a line from food item's country of origin to Cornwall.

Repeat this exercise as many times as there are items in the shopping basket!

Learning outcomes

- Confidently use atlases and improve their geographical knowledge of continents and countries
- Participate in group activities to record and present information for class discussions
- Learn about key economic/environmental impacting issues relating to food sourcing, transportation, purchase and consumption

Possible follow-up/feedback discussion

Using the world map and a food miles chart discuss how many miles each food and drink item from the shopping basket has travelled from its country of origin to Cornwall.

Look at transport trends between different countries, and the type of transport used.

Ask the children to list the items of food they have consumed during the day and mark their place of origin maps provided. Using a mileage chart and atlas, ask the children to calculate how many miles in total their day's food has travelled.

Start discussing the global vs local food sourcing debate.

Resources

- Atlases
- Mileage chart
- Lunchbox
- Shopping Basket
- Food & drink items
- labels
- Interactive white board
- Coloured labels
- Black pens