

Ag Literacy Adventure

with an Ag Teacher and an English Teacher

Chris Wyant
Lee Deal



Ag Literacy Adventure

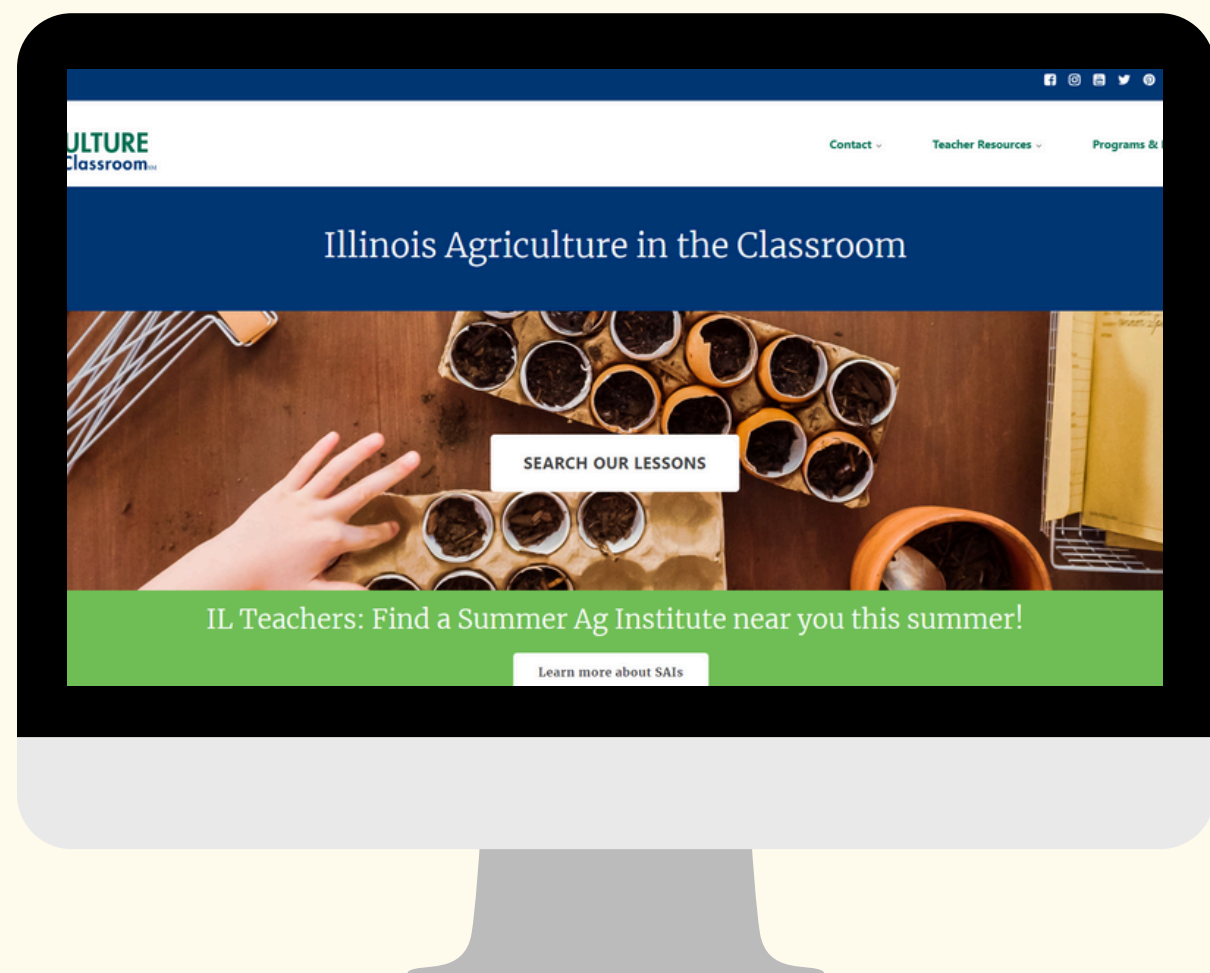
with an Ag Teacher and an English Teacher

As you come in, introduce yourself to the person next to you and *tell them a story about a memorable favorite food from your childhood.*





Illinois AITC



Lessons + Ag Mags +
Presentations + Resources



90 County-Level Coordinators



600,000+ Illinois Students



Concepts and Definitions

The Goal:

Increase critical reading & reading comprehension skills.

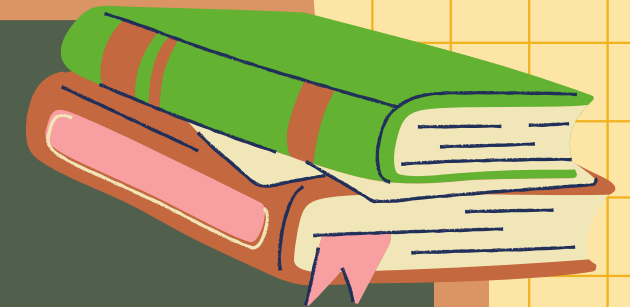
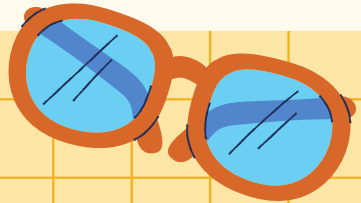
- NCES' 2022 Reading Assessment showed that nine-year-olds had the largest decline in reading since 1990.

Ag Teachers

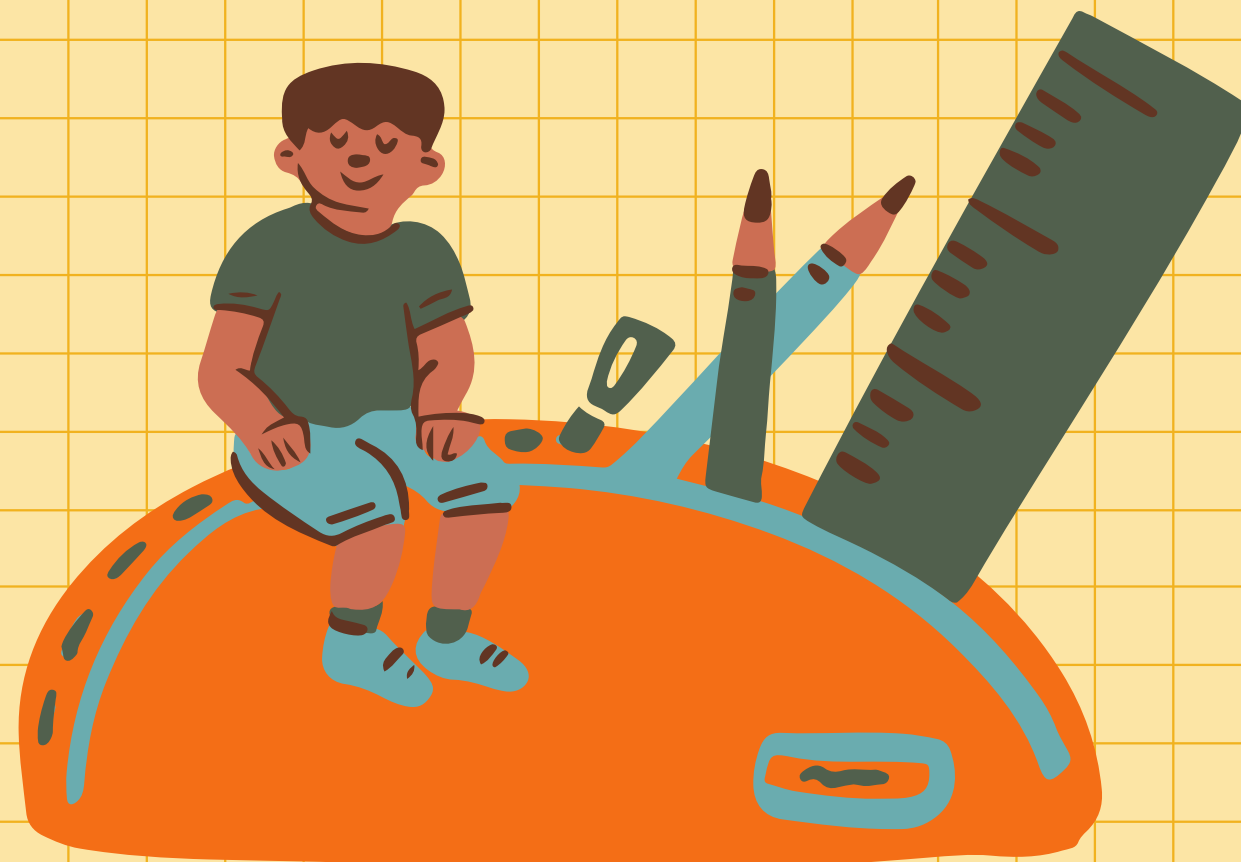
have the real-world context,
lack the strategies to help
students understand it

English Teachers

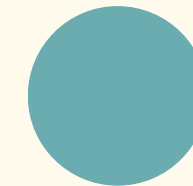
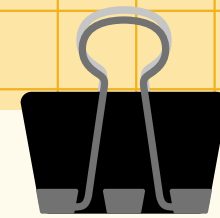
have the learning strategies,
struggle to apply concepts to
real-world applications



Class Preview

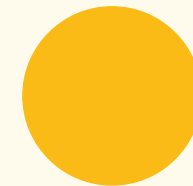
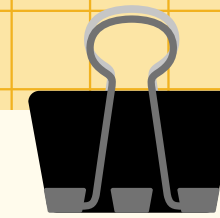


Strategies for:



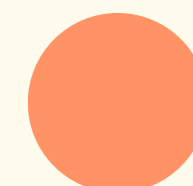
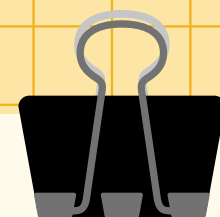
Children's Books: Fiction

Children's story
books



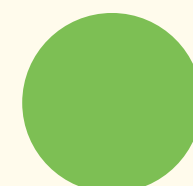
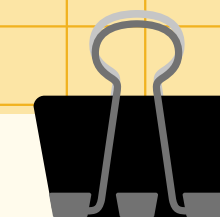
Childrens' Books: Creative Nonfiction

Biographies,
historical references



Traditional Nonfiction Text

Ag Mags, current
events articles, etc.

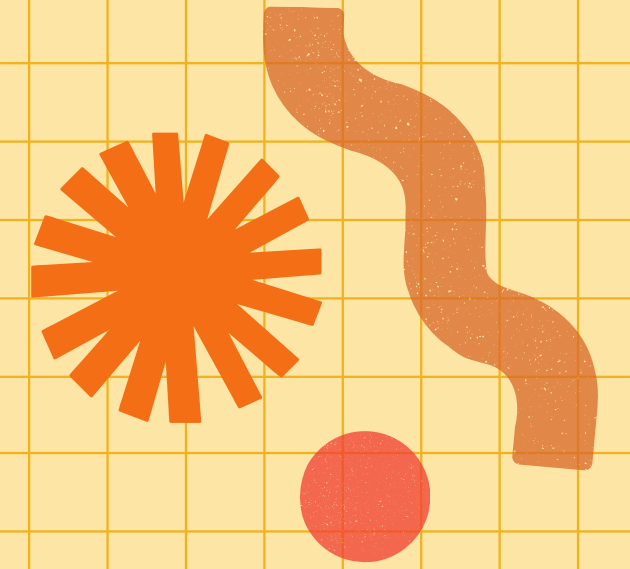


Images & Videos

Real or
illustrated/animated



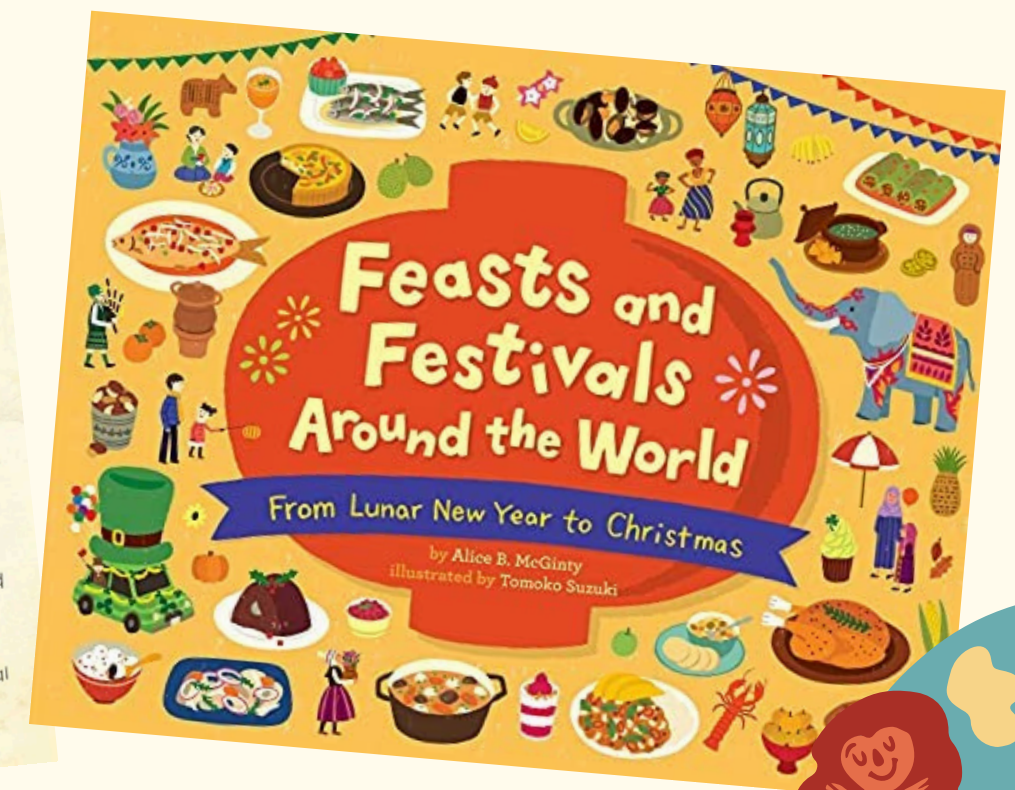
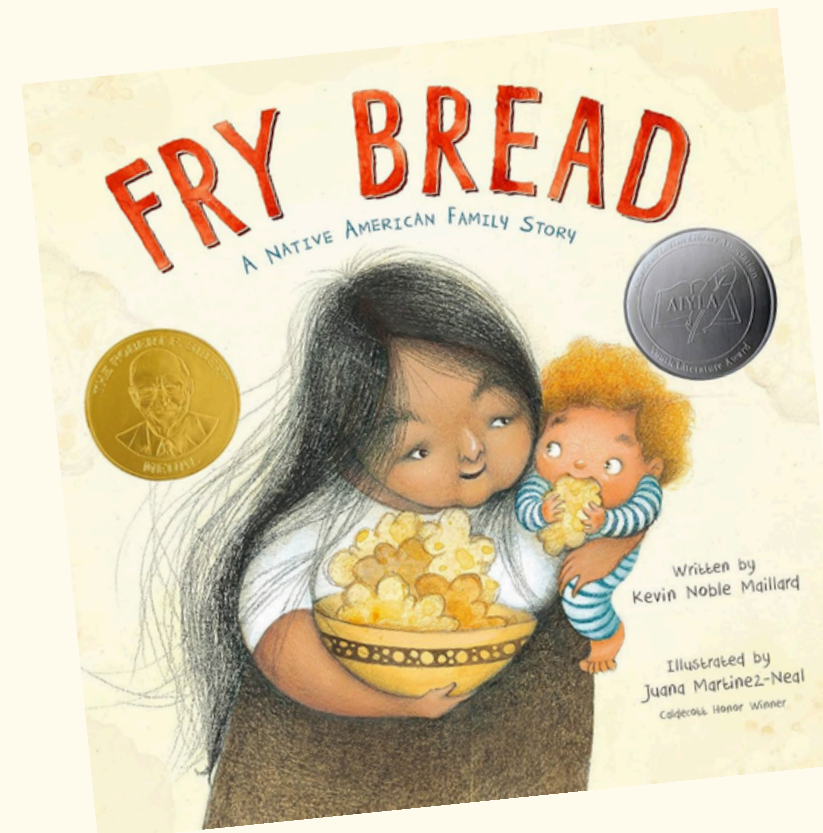
My Childhood Tasted Like...



Children's Books: Fiction

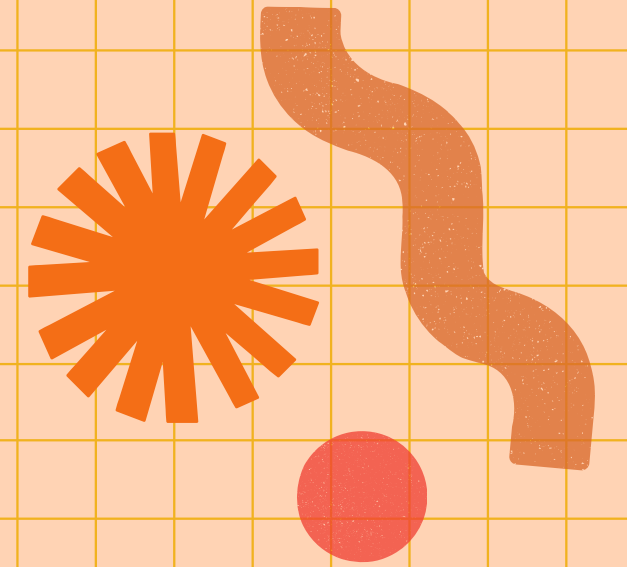
Students brainstorm a list of foods from their childhood, choose one and write about the memories surrounding it before sharing with the class.

Try it with:





Ode to a Vegetable

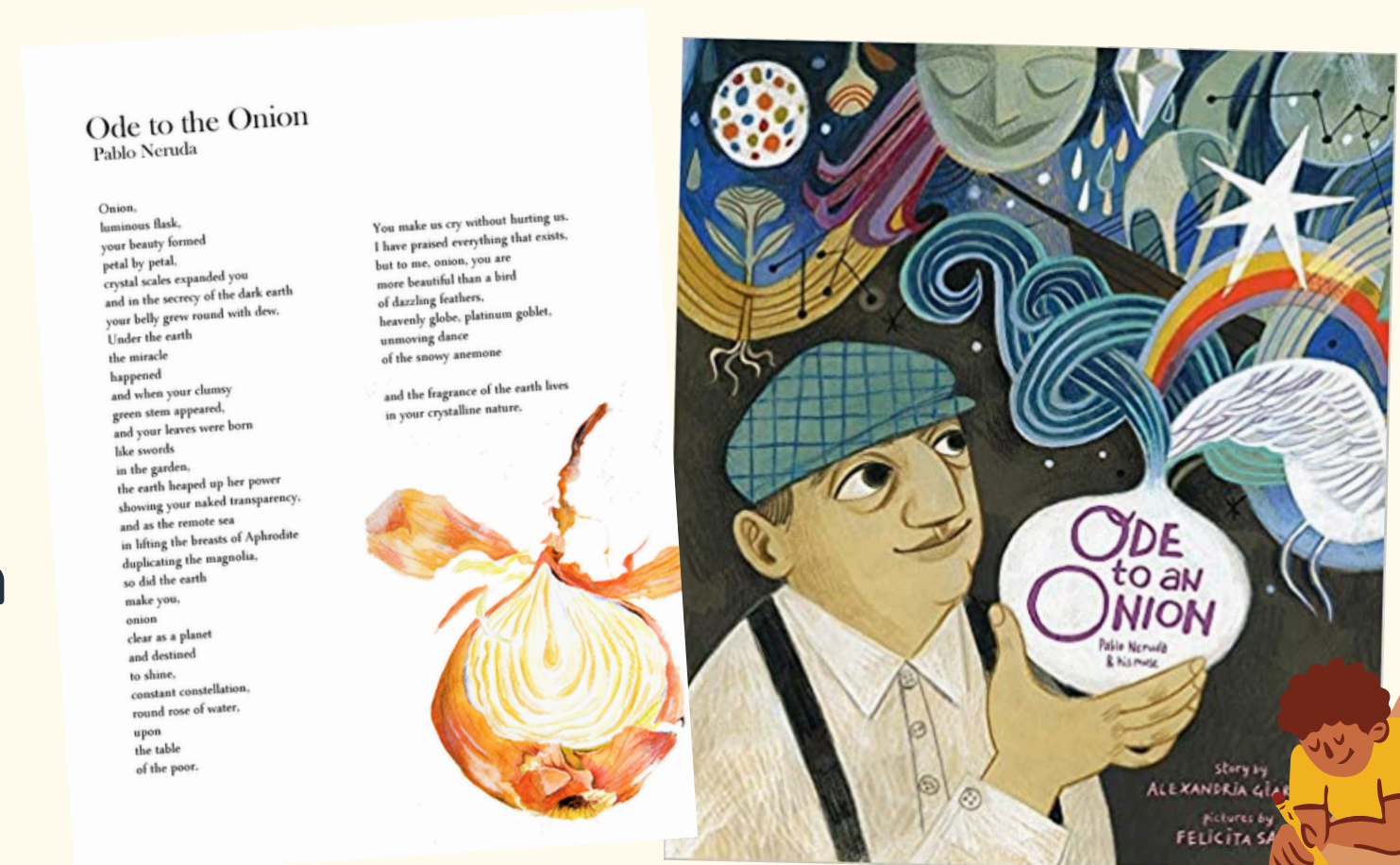


Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Students learn about Chilean poet Pablo Neruda and his "odes" to various foods, then write poetry about their favorite vegetables.

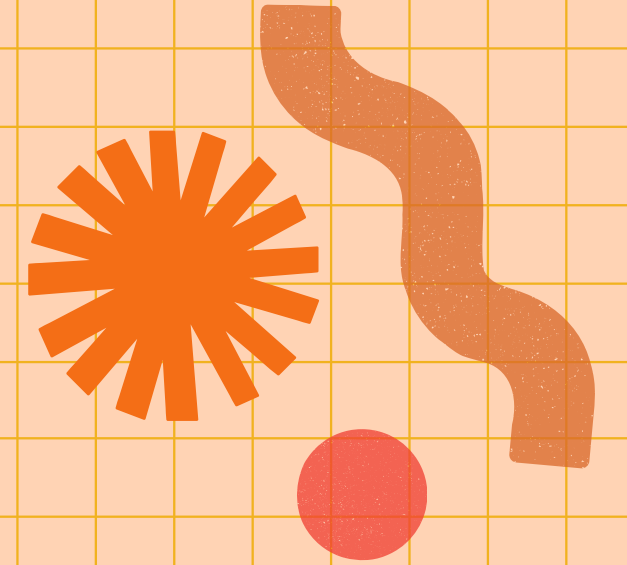
Try it with:





Ode to a Vegetable

Example: Haiku

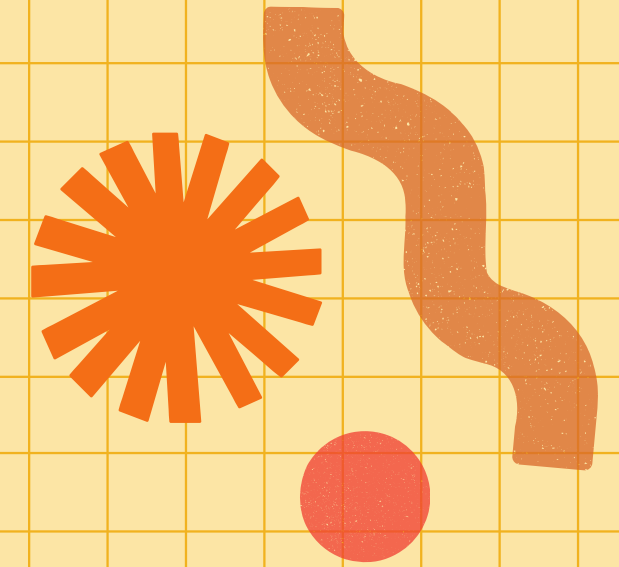


First fruit of the year
Laying on a bed of straw
Seeds on the outside





Collaborative Annotation



Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Try it with:

Students gather around one large-print copy of an engaging text and use different colored markers to annotate the text and comment on each others' written thoughts in a "silent discussion."

New facility in Decatur makes animal feed ingredients from insects

By Jim Meadows | Apr 22, 2024



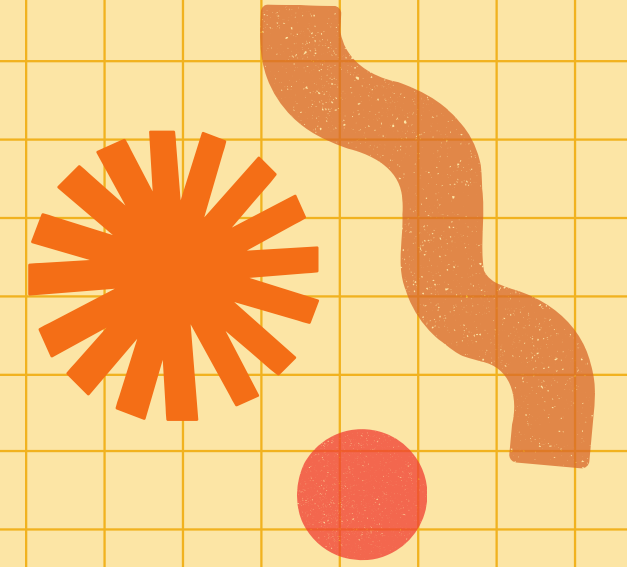
Black soldier fly larvae wriggle in a tray, where they are being raised to make meal and oil for animal feed, at InnovaFeed's new North American insect

NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY
BY ROBERT FROST

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.



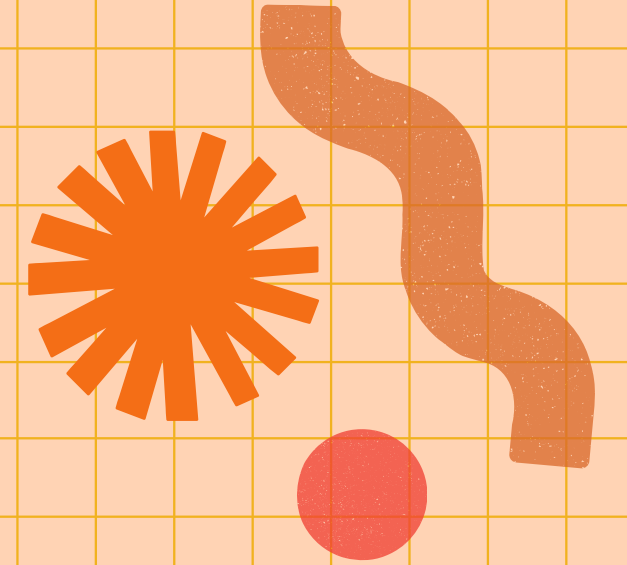
Collaborative Annotation



1. In small groups, gather around one large sticky note on the wall.
2. *Silently*, read through the passage on the note.
3. Using your marker, write down your thoughts in the empty space.
4. As your groupmates add their thoughts, respond to them on the paper.
5. Continue to engage in this *silent*, written “discussion” until time is called.



One Minute Write



Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

Students respond to a text, image, or video by writing down their thoughts for one full minute.

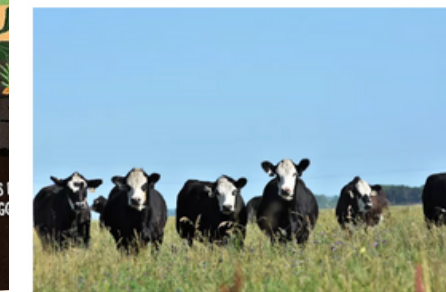
Try it with:



A quicker change for cow herd genetics

Three replacement heifer programs for accelerating beef herd genetics

By Gene Johnston | Updated on April 22, 2024



You can upgrade the genetic quality of your beef cow herd the old-fashioned way by buying better bulls and saving those heifers. Or, you may be able to accelerate the process by buying-in replacement heifers. Here are three programs that can help you do that.

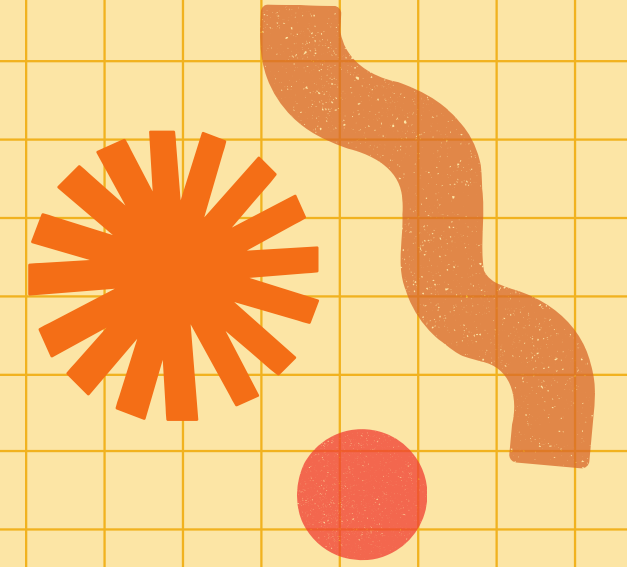
F1 baldy heifers from an elite hereford ranch

[Topp Herefords](#), Grace City, North Dakota, sells registered Hereford bulls, and many of them go to commercial Angus herds, resulting





6-Word Memoir



Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

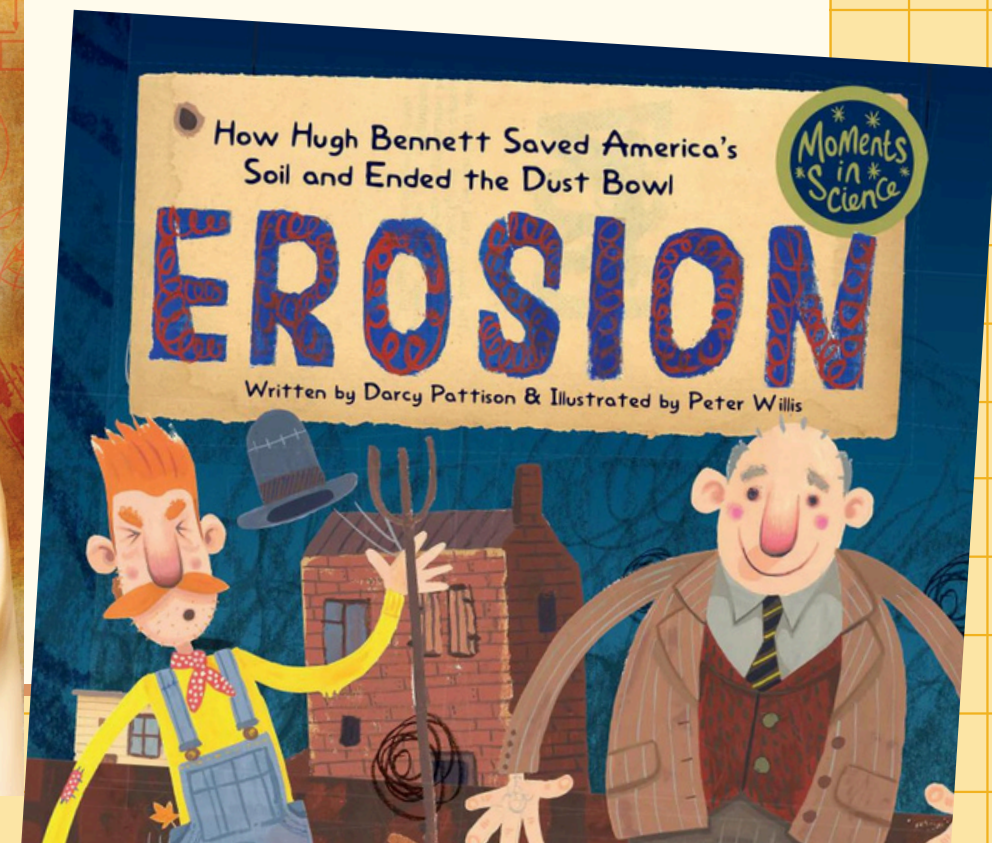
Children's Books:
Fiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

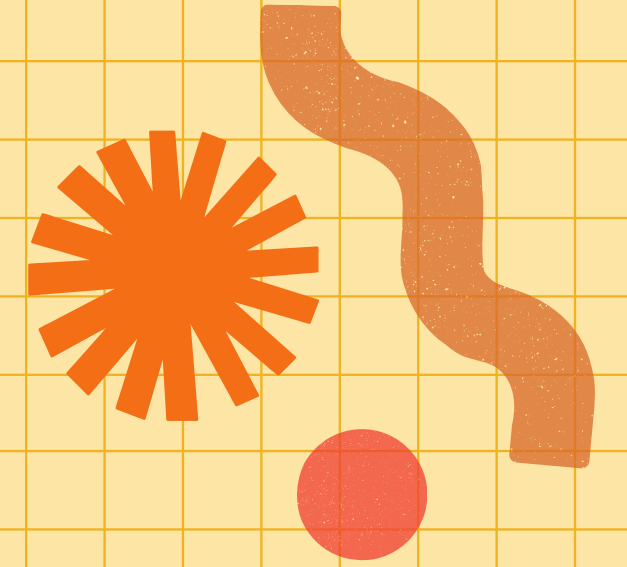
Students summarize the life of a person or character (real or fictional) in just six words.

Try it with:





6-Word Memoir Examples



Perfect world?
Everyone has a garden.

Vegetables are great;
bacon is too.

Happier with dirt
under my fingernails.

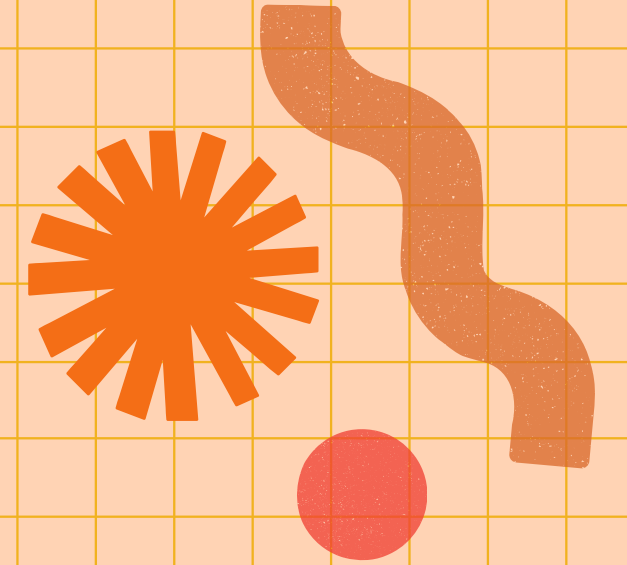
John Deere:
Bent some metal.
Changed the world.

Frida Caplan:
Bought weird fruit.
People ate it.

Norman Borlaug:
My greatest friends
are wheat heads.



Identity Web



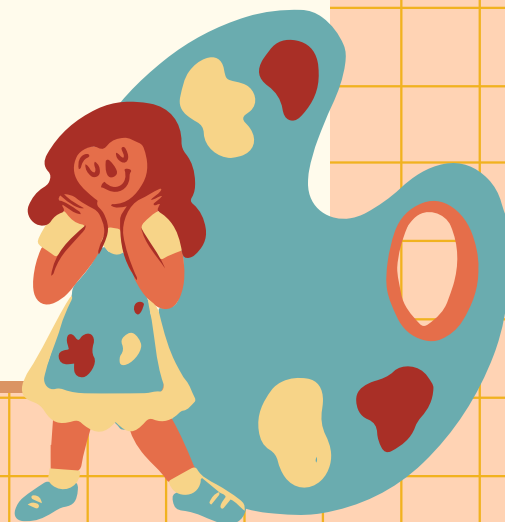
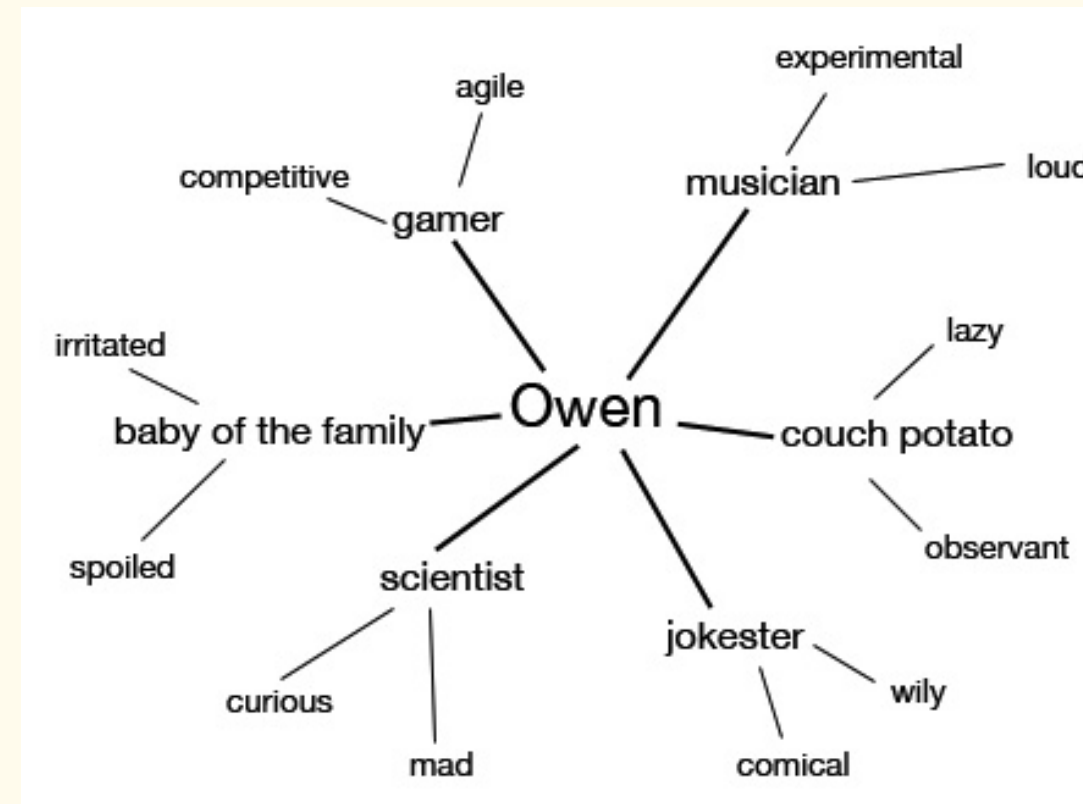
Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Children's Books:
Fiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

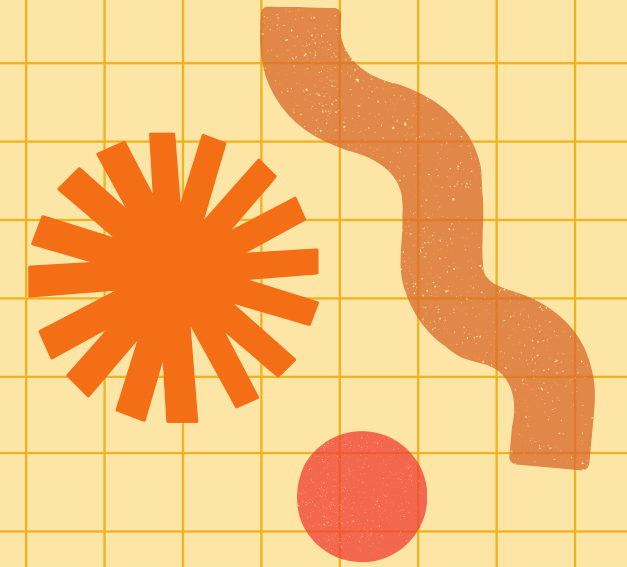
Images & Videos

Students describe the life of a person by creating a web with descriptive words about them.





Text Coding



Traditional Nonfiction Texts

Students use a coding
system (provided by the
teacher, or developed by the
student) to annotate a text.



Try it with:

A Giant Organic Farm Faces Criticism That It's Harming The Environment

MAY 3, 2021 · 4:04 PM ET
HEARD ON ALL THINGS CONSIDERED
By Dan Charles



Wind-blown soil fills a ditch between a road and the fields of Guns smoke Farms, a large organic farm northwest of Pierre, S.D., in early March.
Stringer



Sustainability and the Environment

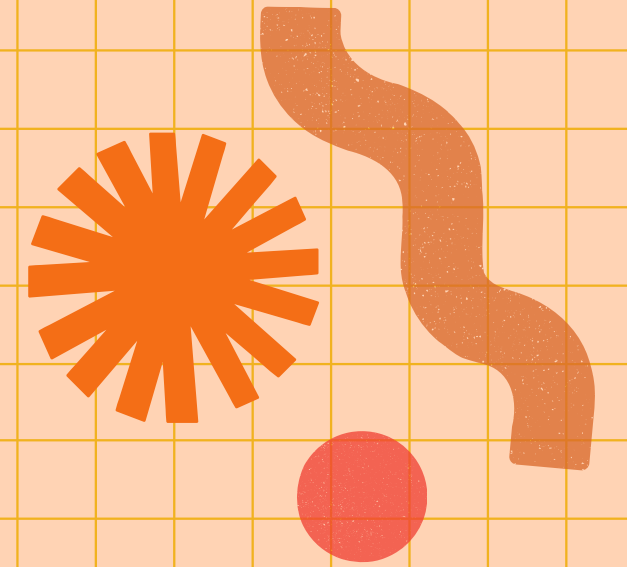
Everything that surrounds you is a part of the environment! This includes living things like plants and animals, and non-living things like weather and climate, rocks, soil, water, nutrients, and even also depend on one another, which is what keeps balance in the environment. This balance is very important for all living things, including humans, to survive. If something changes in the environment, it will affect all living and non-living things in some way, big or small, quickly or over time.

Humans play a large role in how the environment is impacted. This is because we develop the environment in ways that are not natural. As the human population continues to increase, we impact more and more of the environment. We need food, so we use land to grow food and to raise animals. We need things like vehicles and houses, so we use land to build them.





Blackout Poetry



Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Children's Books:
Fiction

Students create poetry from a short nonfiction text by using a permanent marker to "blackout" all the words they don't want to use. Then they create a poem using the words that remain.

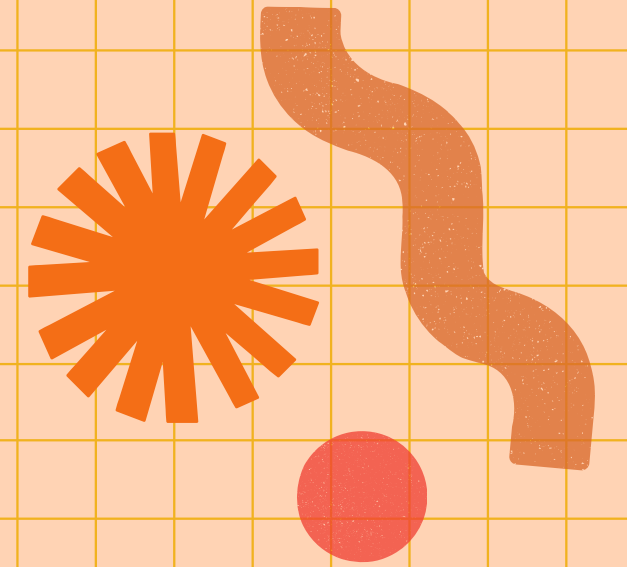
Try it with:





Blackout Poetry

Example



HONEY BEES & AGRICULTURE

Honey bees live in large colonies made up of one queen bee, a small number of male drone bees, and thousands of female honey bees. The female honey bee, also called a worker bee, performs all the important duties to keep hives healthy. These tasks include taking care of the young, protecting the hive, and bringing back nectar and pollen and turning them into honey for the hive to eat. Many honey bees in the U.S. are managed in hives by over 200,000 beekeepers. In Illinois, there are currently over 4,000 beekeepers and over 30,000 honey bee hives! Honey bees produce six hive products used by humans for nutritional and medicinal purposes: honey, pollen, royal jelly, beeswax, propolis, and venom. But the most important contribution that honey bees make is in the number of vital crops that they pollinate across the country. Honey bees alone account for about \$15 billion in U.S. crops every single year. Many crops we eat every day are only on our plates because of honey bees. Nuts, vegetables, apples, cantaloupe, cranberries, pumpkins, sunflowers, and many more crops are dependent on honey bee pollination.



“Honey Bees”
Large colonies
One Queen
Thousands of worker bees
Taking care of the young
protecting the hive
bringing back
Nectar

and

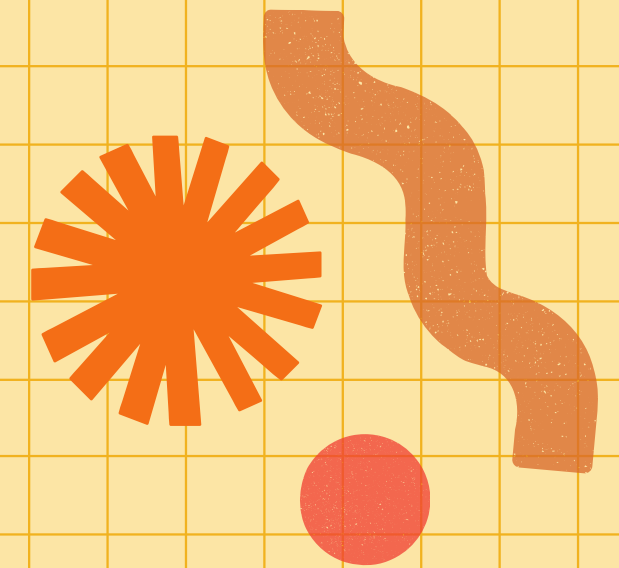
Pollen
Honey for the hive to eat.
We eat every day
because of:

Honey Bees.





Read with a Question in Mind



Traditional Nonfiction Texts

With prompting from the teacher, students develop questions about a topic prior to reading a text. Then, as they read, they read with a purpose: find answers to some of the class questions.

Try it with:

Montana man pleads guilty to creating 'giant' hybrid sheep with cloned animal parts

Court documents describe a yearslong conspiracy, beginning in 2013, in which Schubarth and at least five other people sought to create "giant sheep hybrids" by cross-breeding different species

By Matthew Brown | Associated Press •
Published March 13, 2024 • Updated on March 13, 2024 at 10:19 pm



Photo provided by the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, shows a sheep that was part of unlawful scheme to create hybrid species of wild sheep for sale to hunting preserves in Texas.

A Montana rancher illegally used tissue and testicles from wild sheep killed by hunters in central Asia and the U.S. to breed "giant" hybrid sheep for sale to private hunting preserves in Texas, according to court documents and federal prosecutors.

Arthur "Jack" Schubarth, 80, of Vaughn, Montana pleaded guilty to felony charges of wildlife trafficking and conspiracy to traffic wildlife during an appearance Tuesday before a federal judge in Great Falls. Each count carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Trending Stories

CANTON
Understanding the Karen Read trial: Who killed John O'Keefe?

GUNS & WEAPONS
Virginia man is latest American charged with ammunition possession in Turks and Caicos

NEWS
There's a new No. 1 U.S. airline — it's not Delta

BILLERICA
BillERICA police sergeant killed in crash at construction site

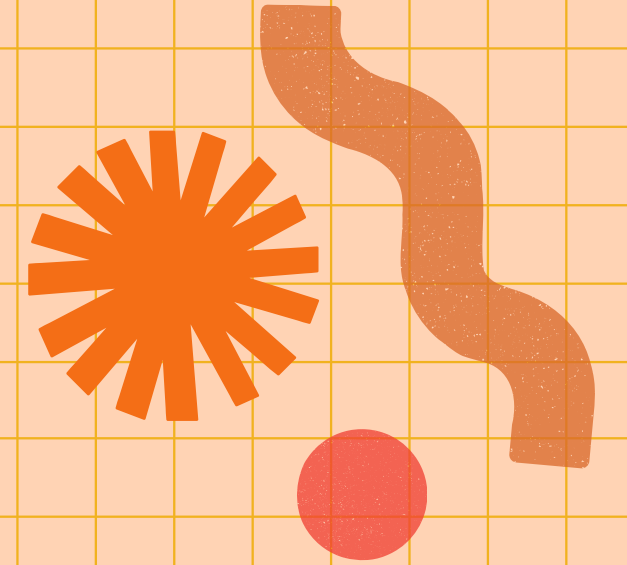
LOWELL
Three people dead in apparent murder-suicide in Lowell

SPONSORED
GNC's #1 Testosterone B...
Turning Old Men Into 'You...
Read More





Alternative Perspective Writing



Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

Students write about a topic, event,
or story from the perspective of
conflicting “characters.”

Try it with:

A Giant Organic Farm Faces Criticism That It's Harming The Environment

MAY 3, 2021 · 4:04 PM ET
HEARD ON ALL THINGS CONSIDERED
By Dan Charles

4-Minute Listen

+ PLAYLIST



Wind-blown soil fills a ditch between a road and the fields of Guns smoke Farms, a large organic farm northwest of Pierre, S.D., in early March.
Stringer

Hardly a week goes by, it seems, without a big food company making
...to deliver products from green, sustainable farms. Turning those



How Farmers Reshaped a Region and
Solved Drought

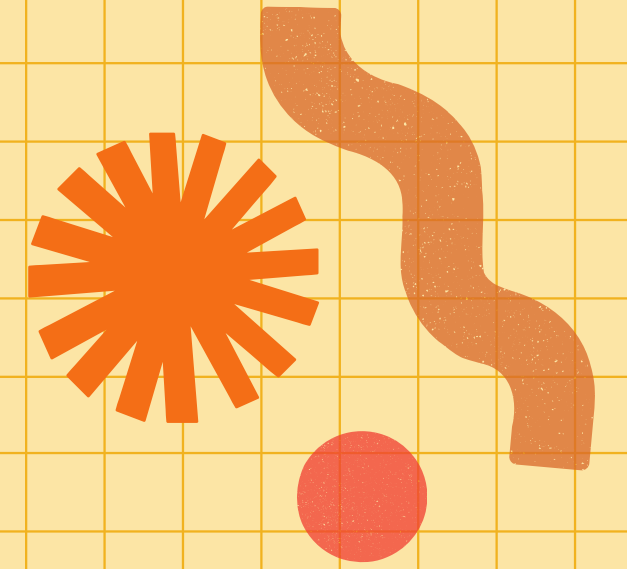
Andrew Millison ✓

1.2M views · 1 month ago





Reading a Visual Image

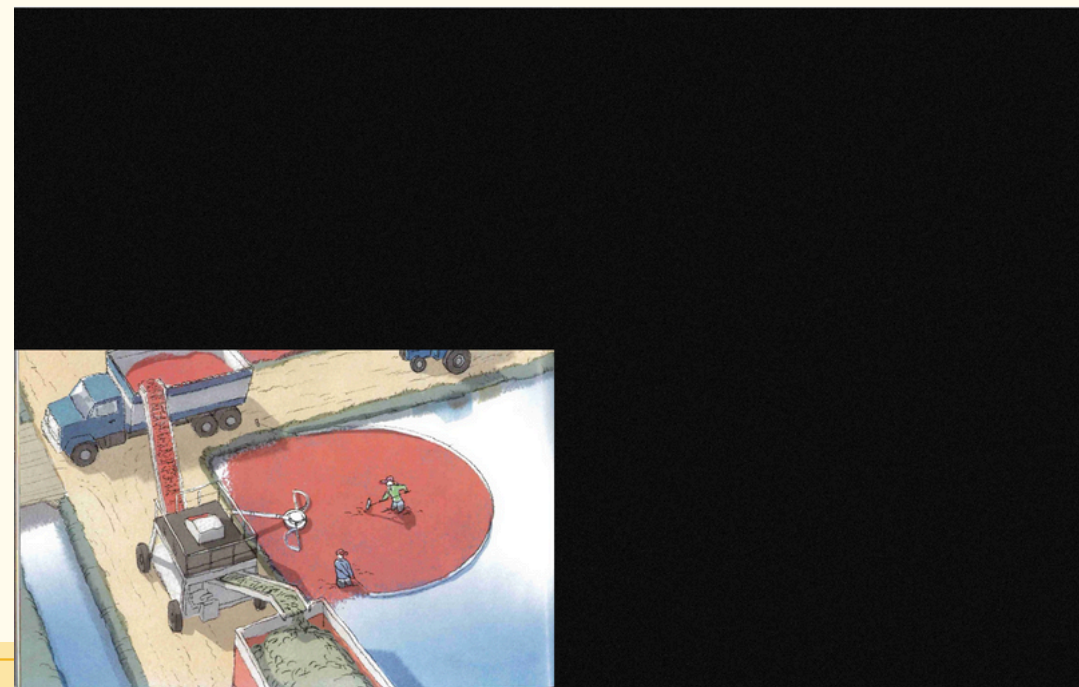


Images & Videos

Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

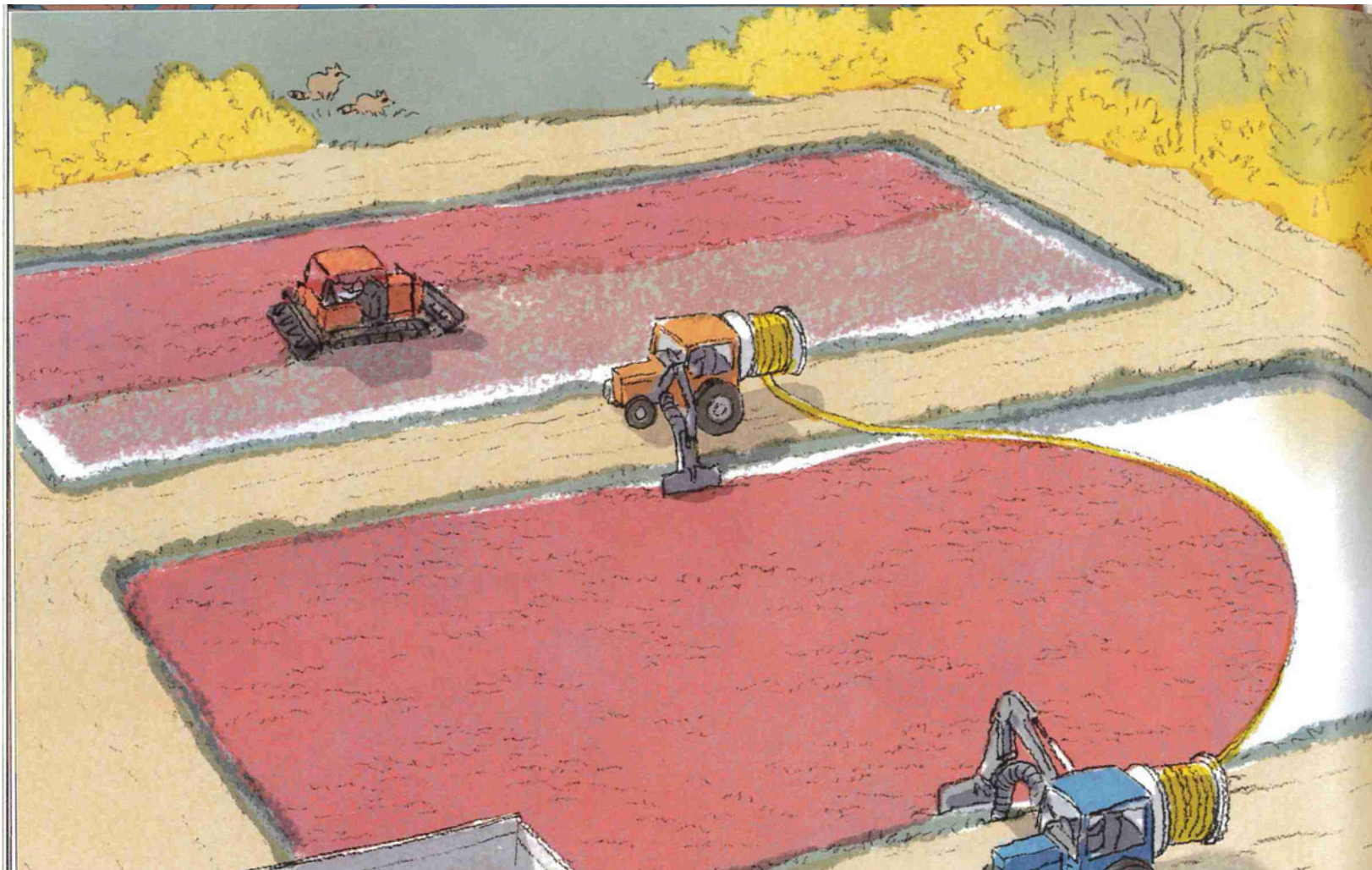
Teachers will "black out" 3/4 of an image at a time and project it while students look closely and take notes. Then, students see the full image and share their comprehension of the "text."

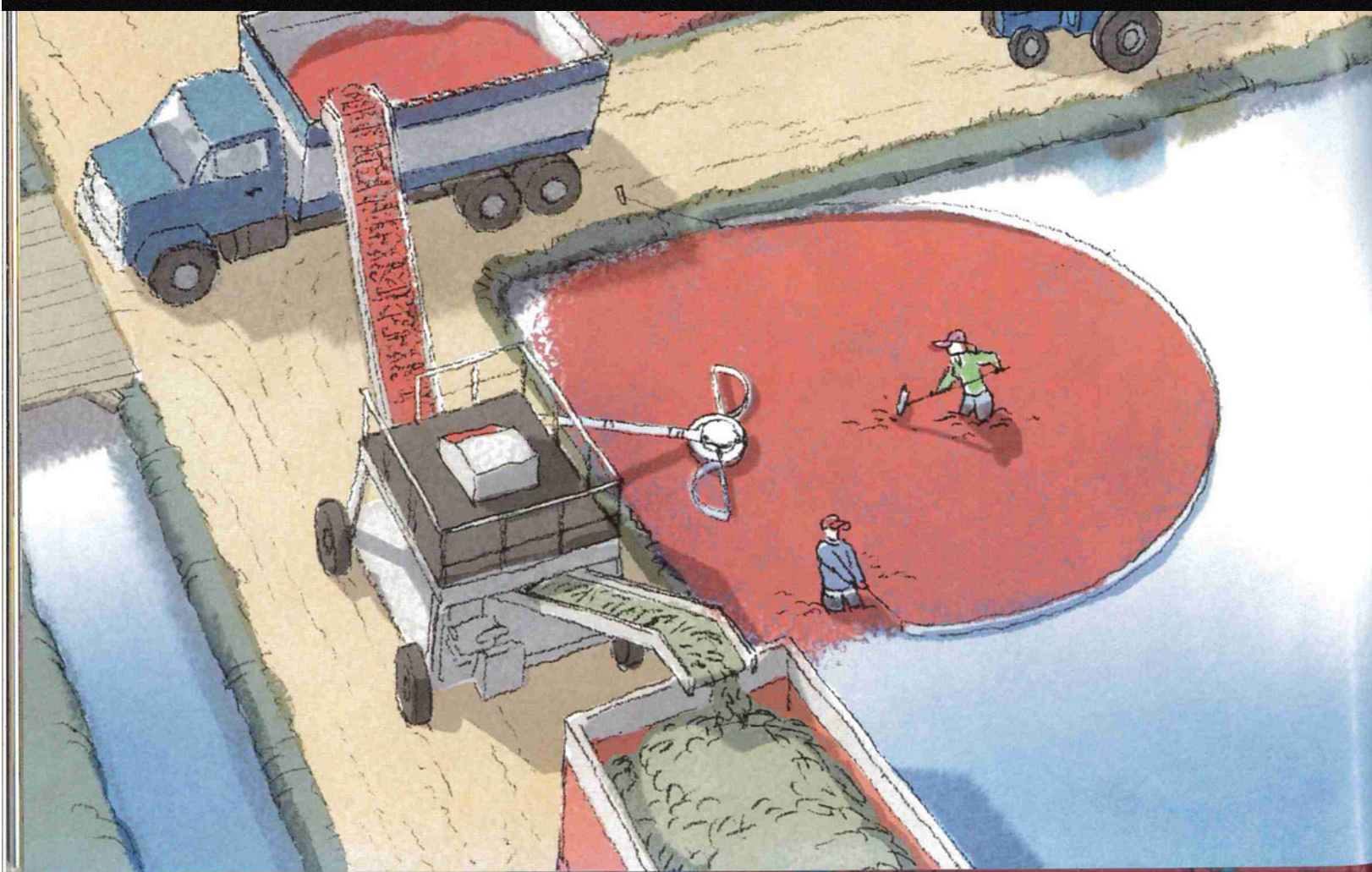


Try it with:

11111111

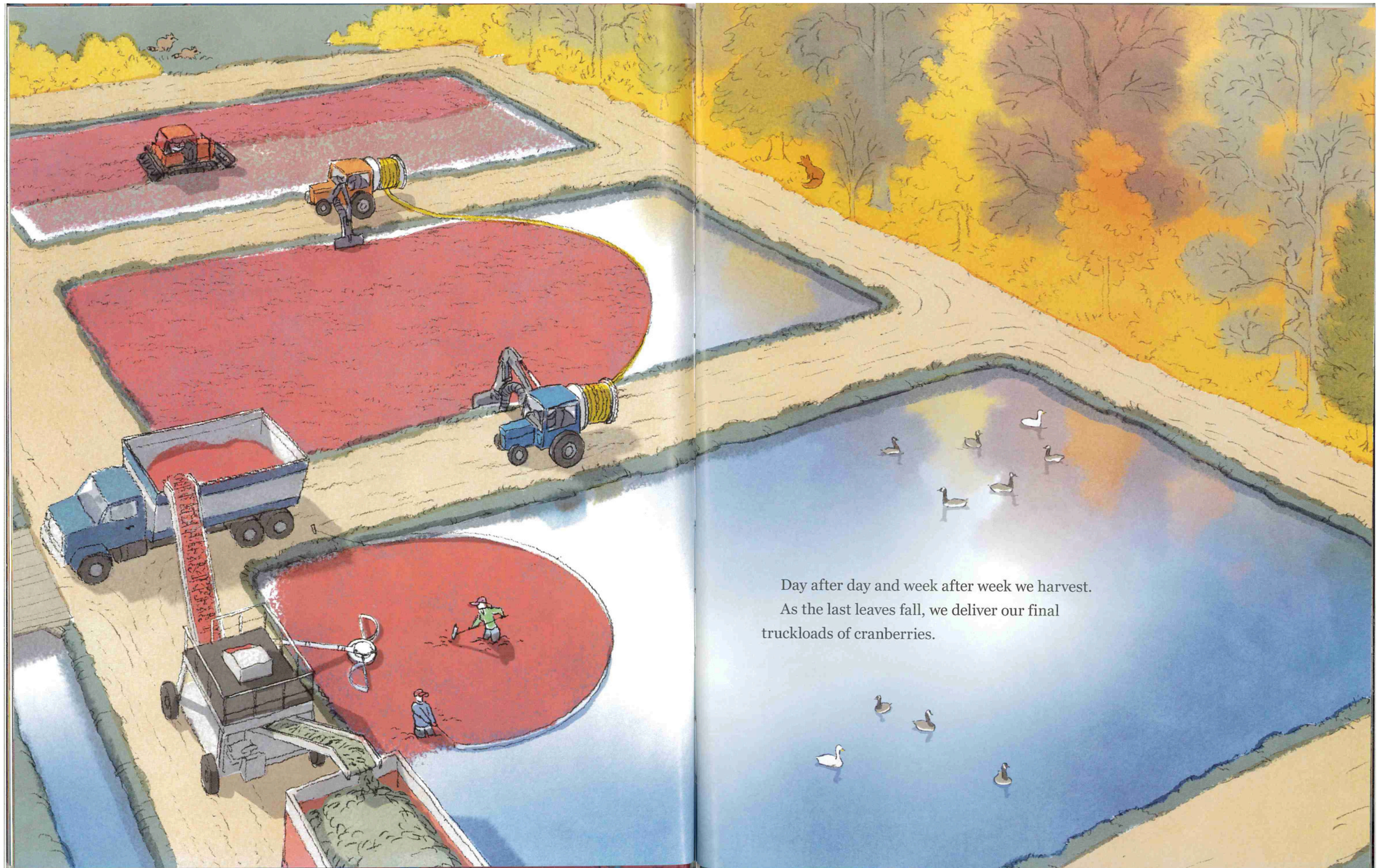








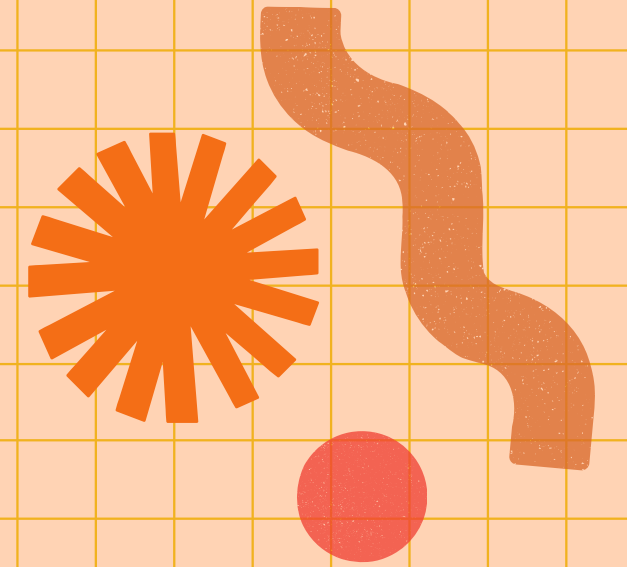




Day after day and week after week we harvest.
As the last leaves fall, we deliver our final
truckloads of cranberries.



Interview an Image



Images & Videos

Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

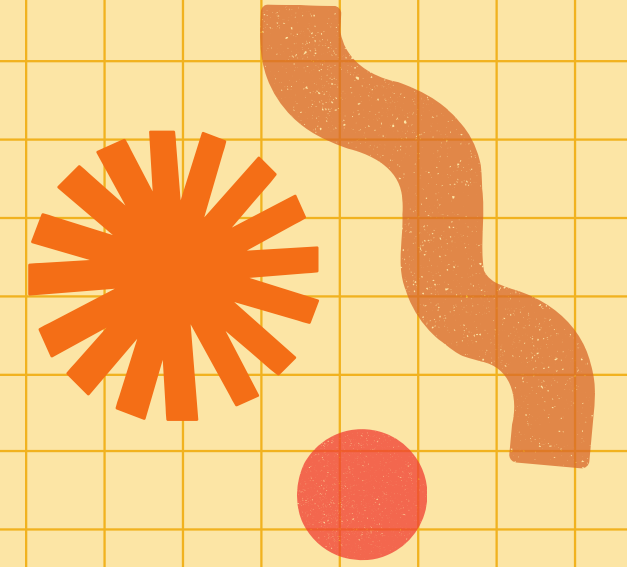
Students will look closely at an image & create questions they would ask to learn more about it.

Try it with:





Two-Column Notes



Images & Videos

Headings can be customized depending on the "text" being used. Most versions include "Information" in the first column and some form of "Reactions" in the second column.

Try it with:



Awesome Agriculture: Dairy

Unlisted



IAITC
335...

Analytics

Edit video


0





Share




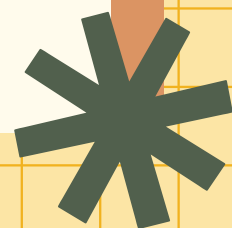
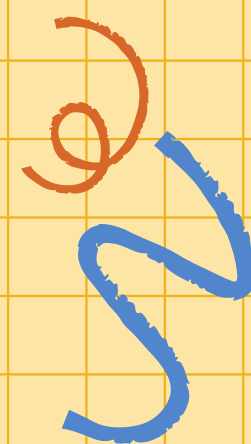
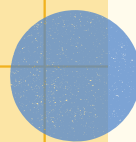
Key Takeaways




Ag literacy & reading literacy can happen simultaneously. With a little work, every teacher can be a reading teacher *and* an ag teacher.



Engaging texts and thought-provoking reading and discussion strategies bring topics to life in ANY classroom.



Kids want to be able to read and think critically in today's world - they just need new ways to learn how to do this well.





THANK YOU!



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