

Ag Literacy Adventure

with an Ag Teacher and an English Teacher

Chris Wyant
Lee Deal

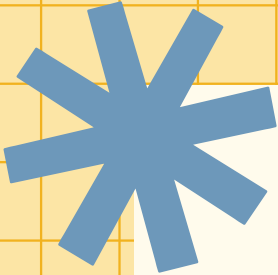
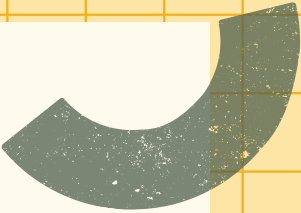
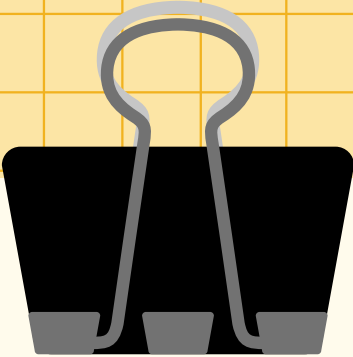


Ag Literacy Adventure

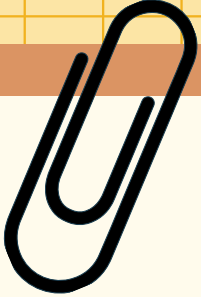
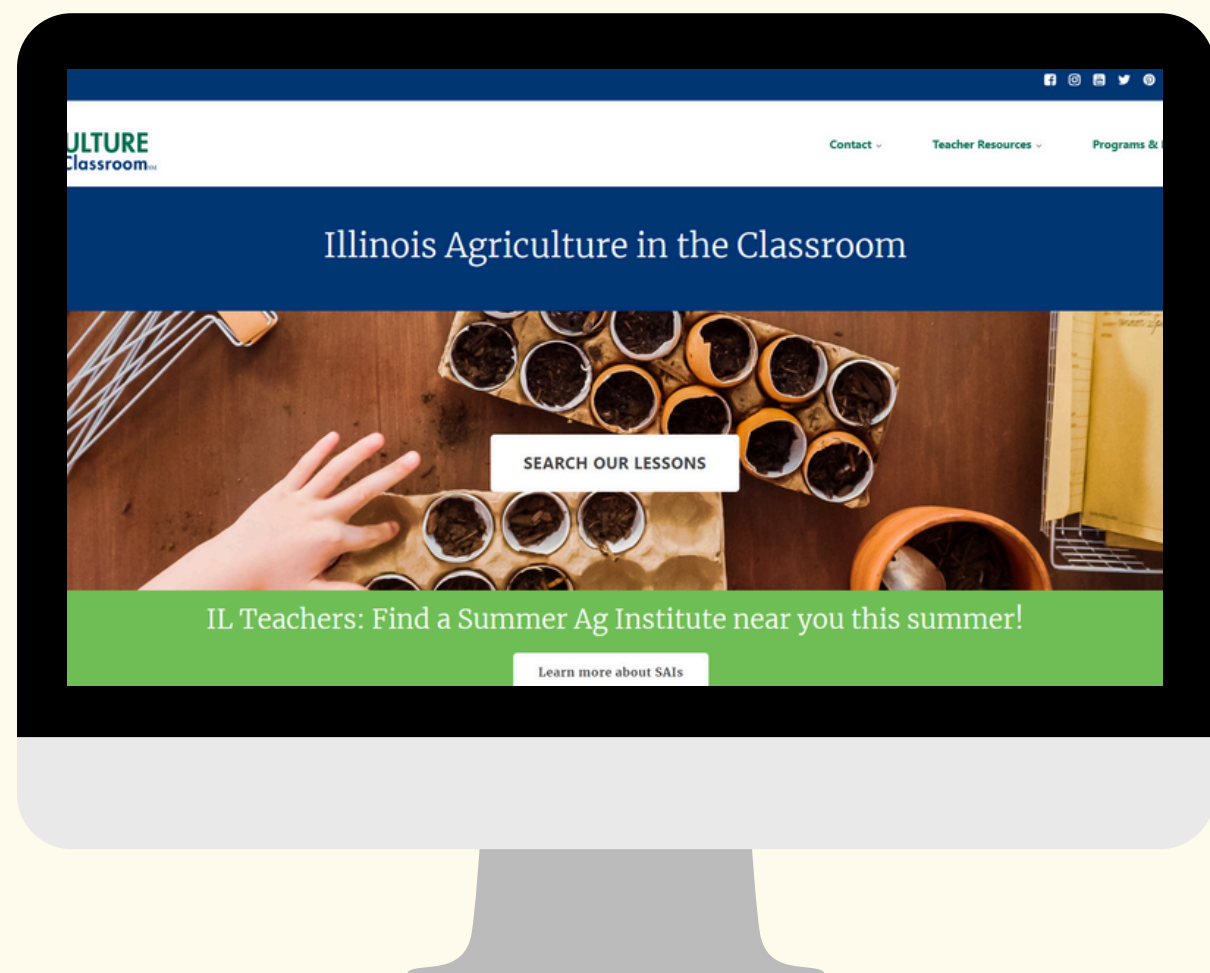
with an Ag Teacher and an English Teacher

As you log in, tell us a story in the chat of
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:

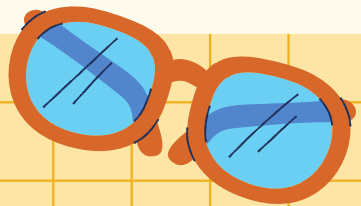
- Increase critical reading & reading comprehension skills.
 - NCES' 2022 Reading Assessment showed that nine-year-olds had the largest decline in reading since 1990.
- Help students better read and understand the information they are consuming - in a world of "information overload"

Ag Teachers

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

English Teachers

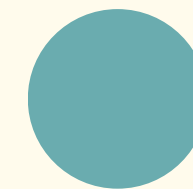
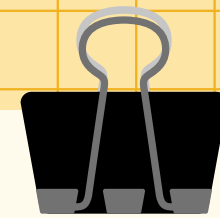
have the learning strategies,
struggle to apply concepts to
real-world applications



Class Preview

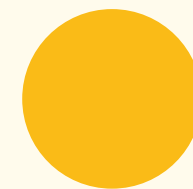
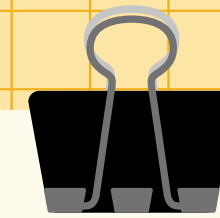


Strategies for:



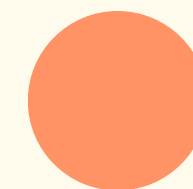
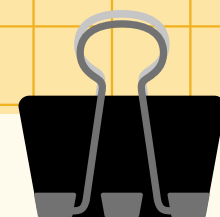
Children's Books: Fiction

Children's story
books



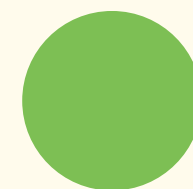
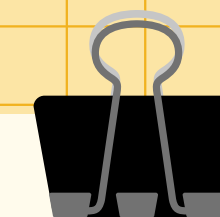
Childrens' Books: Creative Nonfiction

Biographies,
historical references



Traditional Nonfiction Text

Ag Mags, current
events articles, etc.

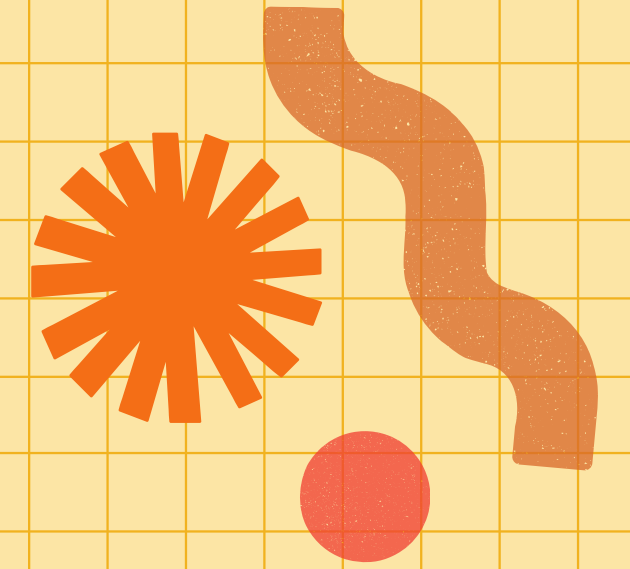


Images & Videos

Real or
illustrated/animated



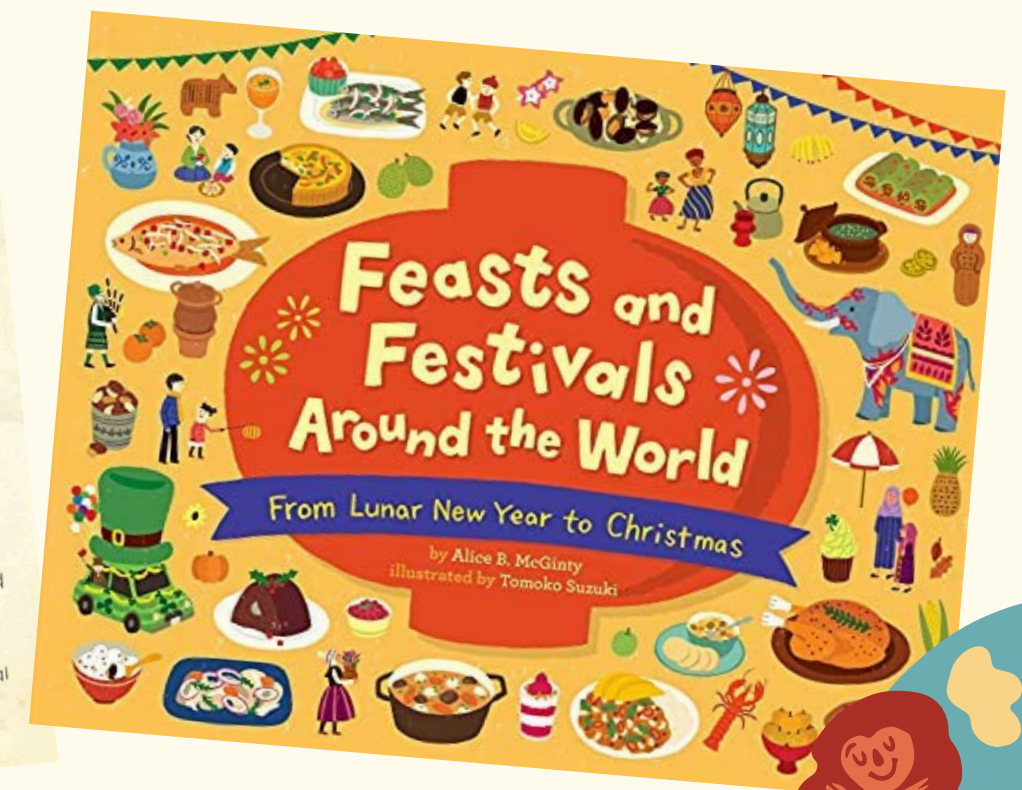
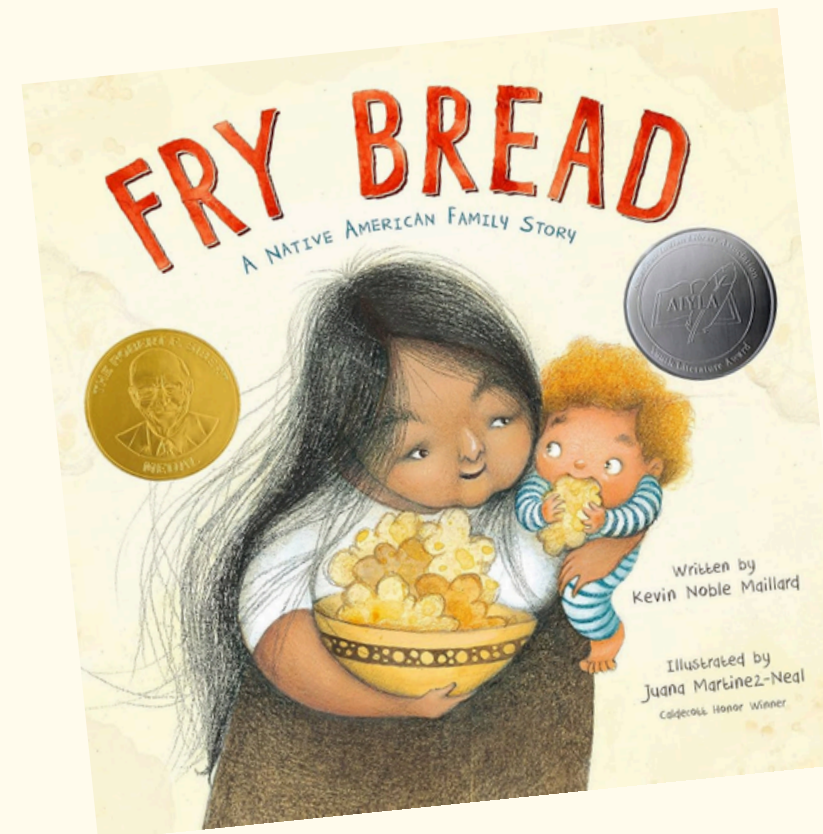
My Childhood Tasted Like...



Children's Books: Fiction

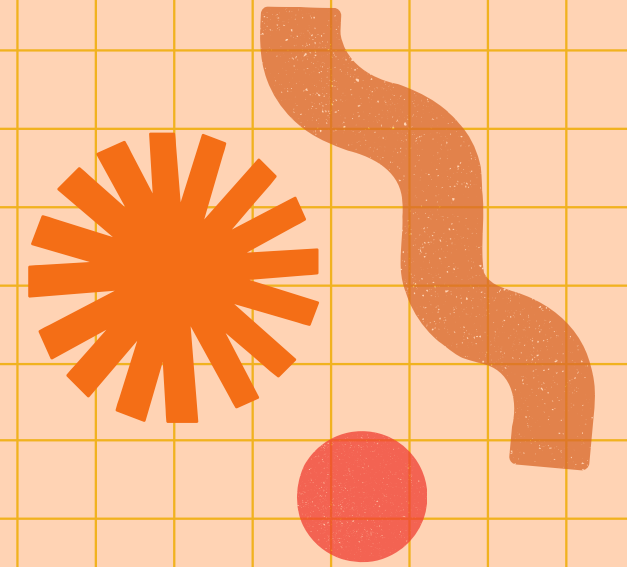
Students brainstorm a list of foods from their childhood, choose one and write about the memories surrounding it before sharing with the class.

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.

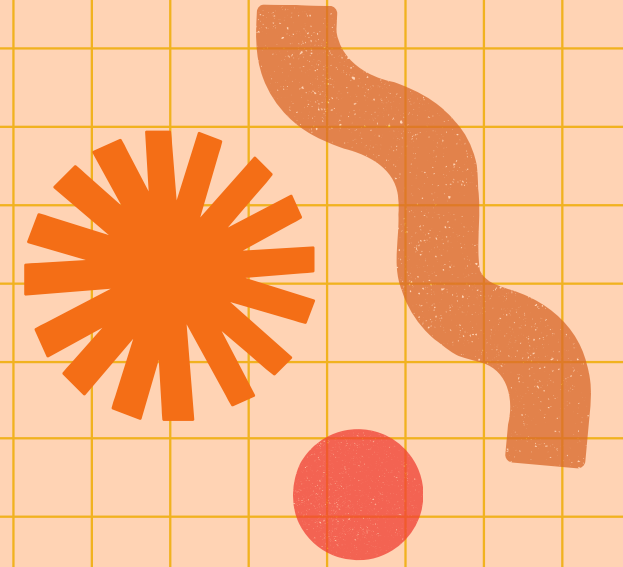
Try it with:





Ode to a Vegetable

Example: Haiku

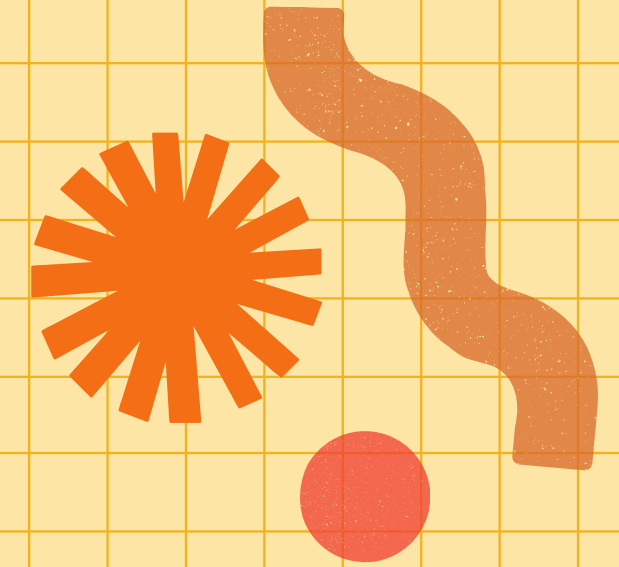


First fruit of the year
Laying on a bed of straw
Seeds on the outside





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



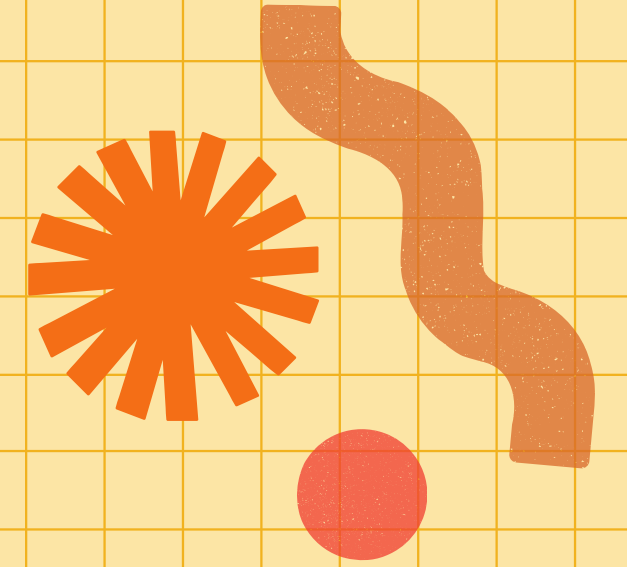
Black soldier fly larvae wriggle in a tray, where they are being raised to make meal and oil for animal feed, at InnovaFeed's new North American insect

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.
 - a. Responses might include: questions, connections, reactions, realizations, etc.
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.

Acknowledges lack of knowledge
 But expresses Enrichment of Subject * knows more agree
 than the think
 Shows some knowledge of what effects flowers
 Joy received
 You can experience things unknown to you and always come away w/ something

June 10
 I don't know much about flowers
 I don't know their names
 or how they like to grow
 in sun or shade
 in morning or night
 I don't know where they began
 or how they traveled
 by boat or bird
 and whether or not the rain makes them shiver or bloom
 but I know how they lean
 and bend toward the light
 wide open as if singing
 their voices (silent but everywhere)
 fill up the daytime
 a song much more than purple
 and beyond every red
 a song that makes me stop and listen
 and forget
 and not care at all
 that I don't know much
 about flowers

Could write another piece as they learn about the life cycle.
 Poetic writing who puns + capitalization
 personification
 Smile
 powerful line
 Voices speaking to author
 figurative language
 The author may not know specifics about the life of a flower but holds significant feelings about the qualities of a flower.

Digging for Sunshine every day
 Beauty in Nature
 Wild flowers
 Springtime
 Zinnias near my chicken coop
 More decoration outside the coop. Like to sit and have coffee with them.
 Happiness
 imagining a beautiful array of flowers
 movement/sound musical
 Digging for Sunshine every day
 Beauty in Nature
 Wild flowers
 Springtime
 Zinnias near my chicken coop
 More decoration outside the coop. Like to sit and have coffee with them.
 Happiness

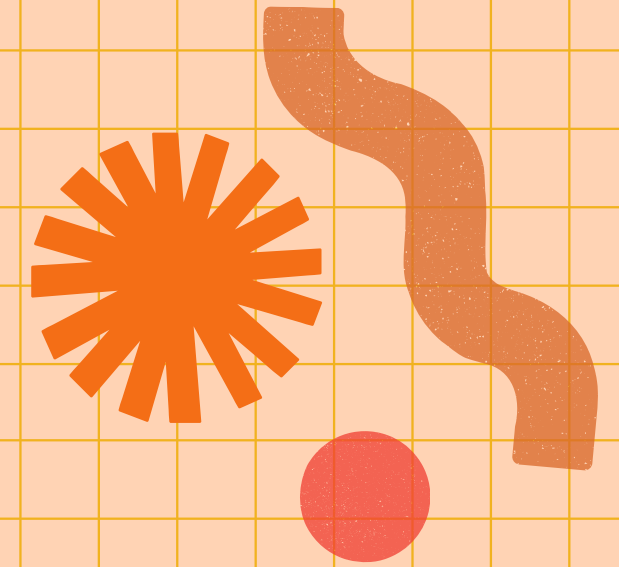
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 and forget
 and not care at all
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 about flowers

I want to grow tomatoes!
 joy of a school garden
 * collaborating
 * learning w/each other
 * exploring
 what makes you think of a school garden?
 Adjectives to describe the plant
 repetition
 elements of poetry
 why this specific date?
 What does "deep down" mean? Metaphorical or literal (growing crops)?
 pp=joy
 red=ready

July 10
 when green becomes tomatoes
 there will be sky
 and sun
 and possibly a cloud or two
 when green becomes tomatoes
 there will be leaves
 and flowers tall and standing straight
 and someone splashing, jumping, diving down
 when green becomes tomatoes
 there will be wings
 and something inching, green and small
 and a sweetly, tweetly chirping song
 when green becomes tomatoes
 there will be round
 and there will be red
 and there will be tomatoes
 (more red than green)
 (more round than seed)
 (more on the vine than deep down)
 when green becomes tomatoes



One Minute Write



Children's Books:
Fiction

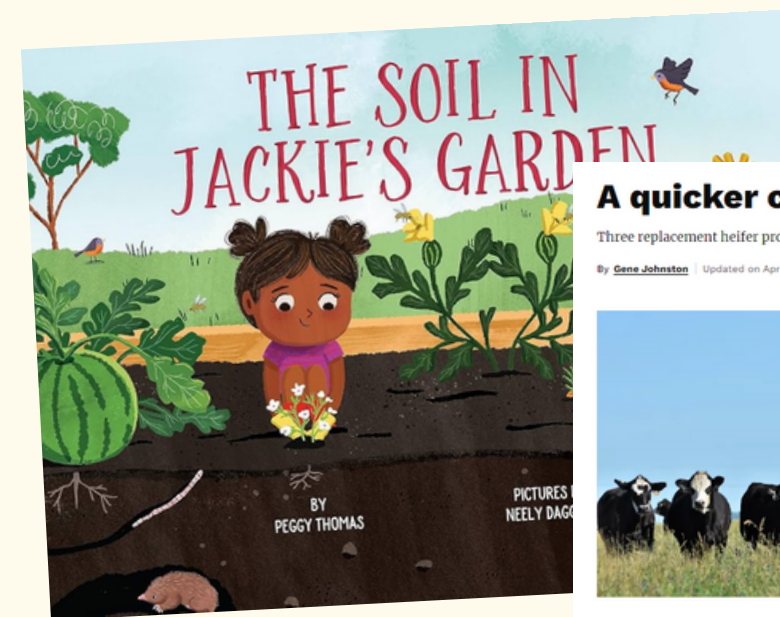
Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

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

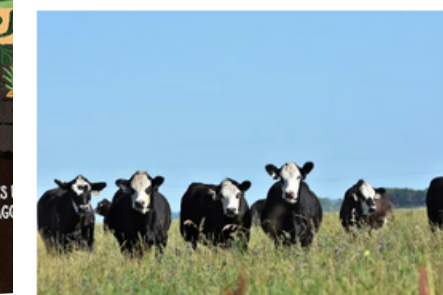
Try it with:



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.

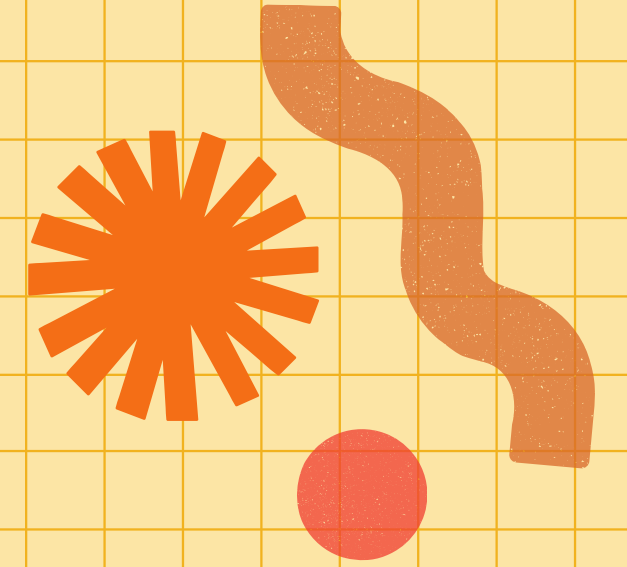
F1 baldy heifers from an elite hereford ranch

[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

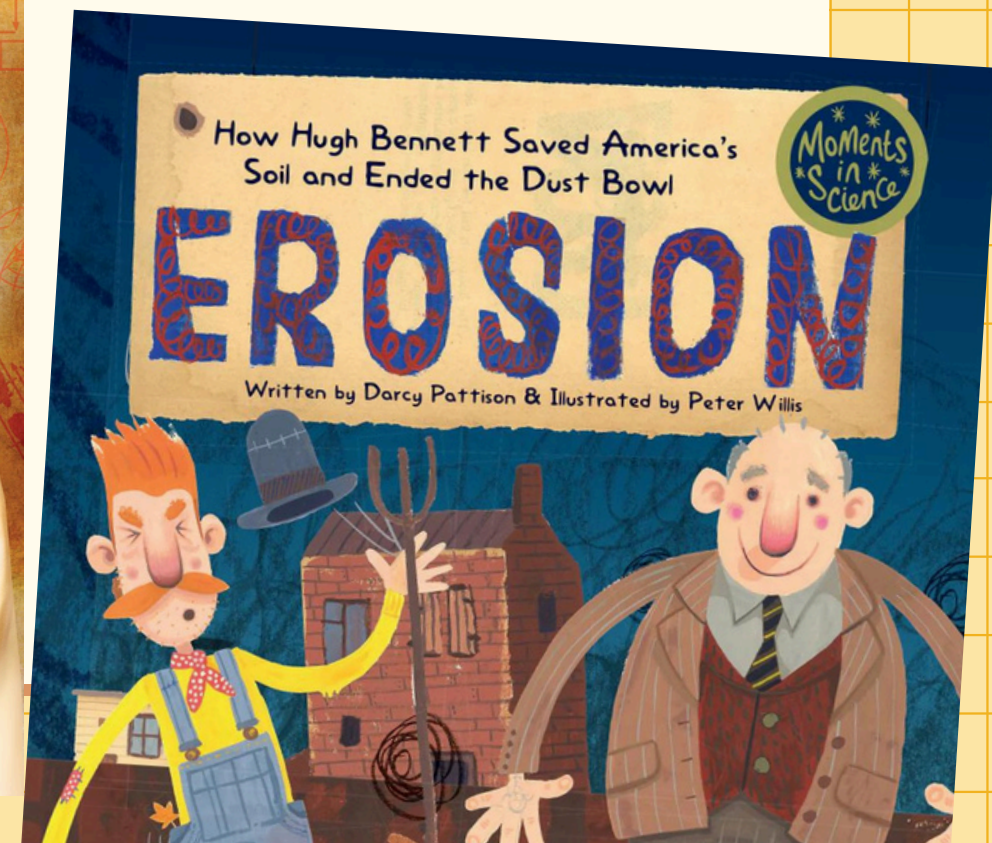
Children's Books:
Fiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

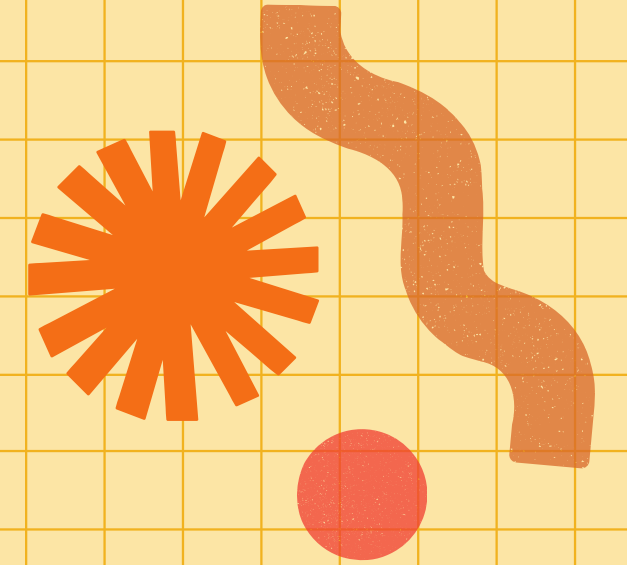
Students summarize the life of a person or character (real or fictional) in just six words.

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.

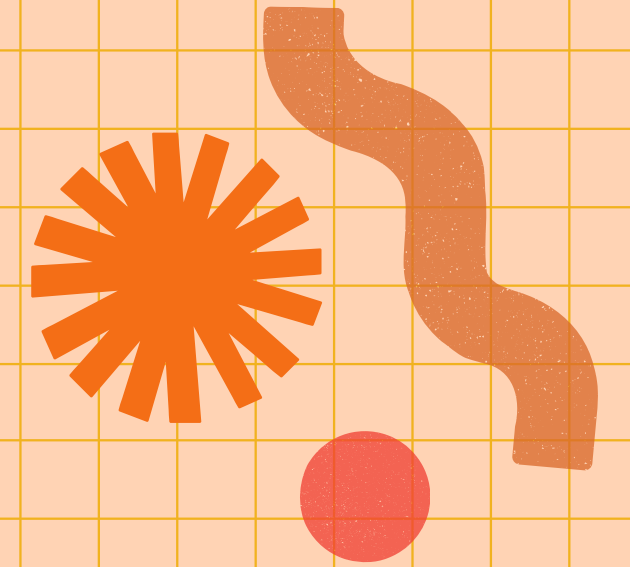
John Deere:
Bent some metal.
Changed the world.

Frida Caplan:
Bought weird fruit.
People ate it.

Norman Borlaug:
My greatest friends
are wheat heads.



Identity Web



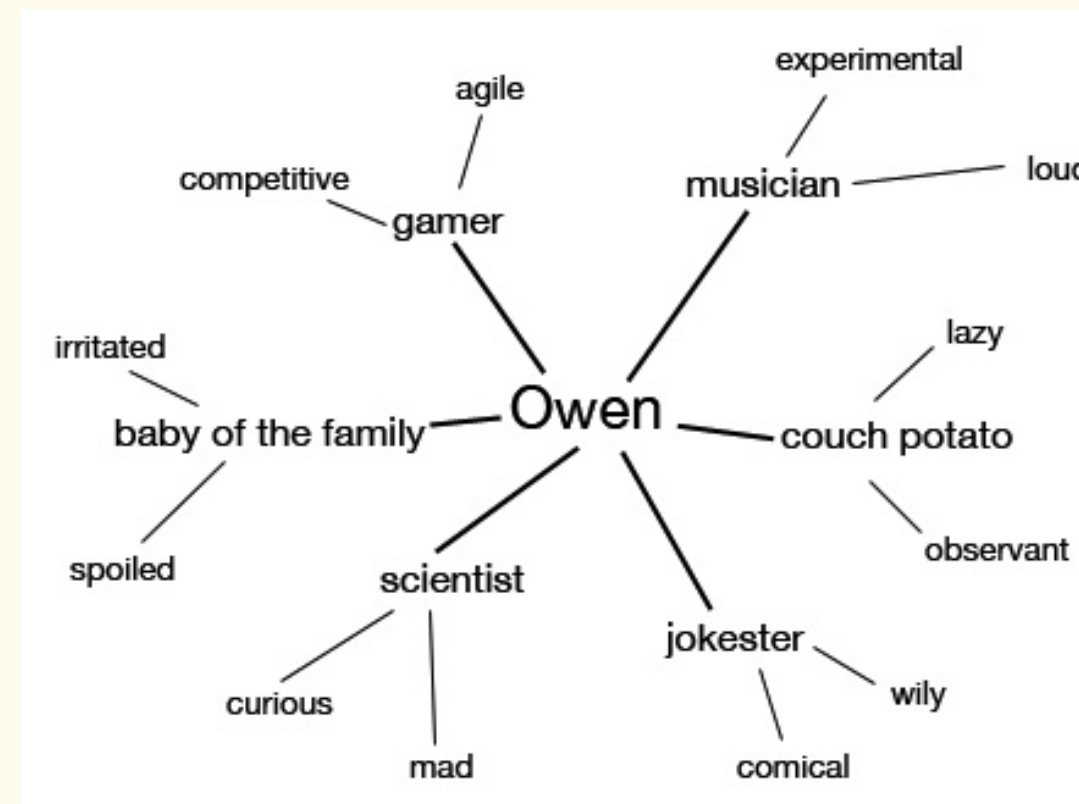
Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

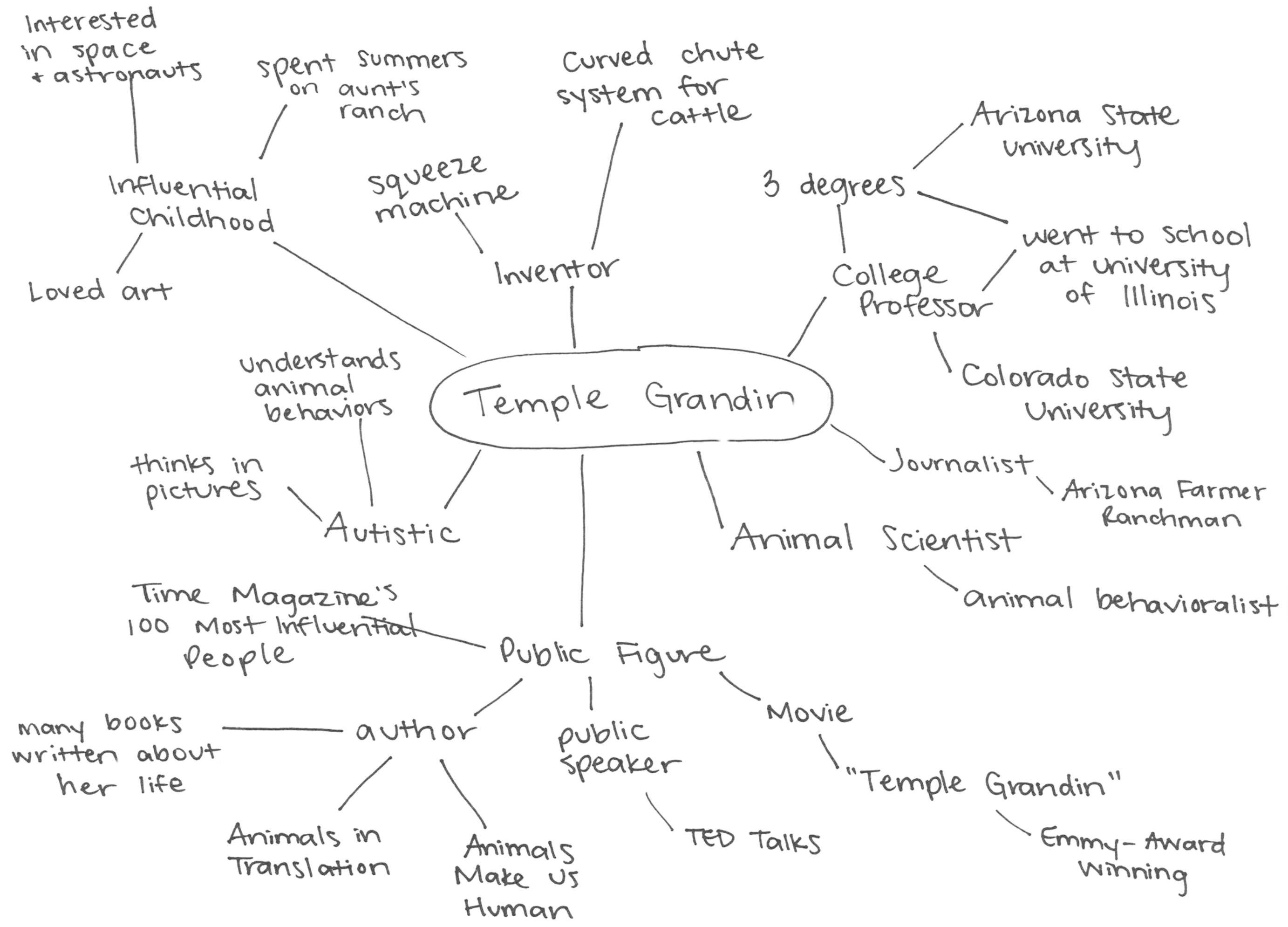
Children's Books:
Fiction

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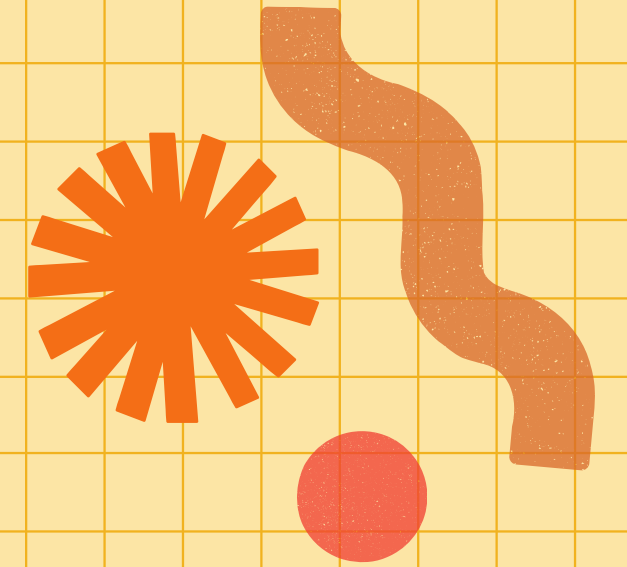
Students describe the life of a person by creating a web with descriptive words about them.







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

4-Minute Listen

+ PLAYLIST



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



Sustainability and the Environment

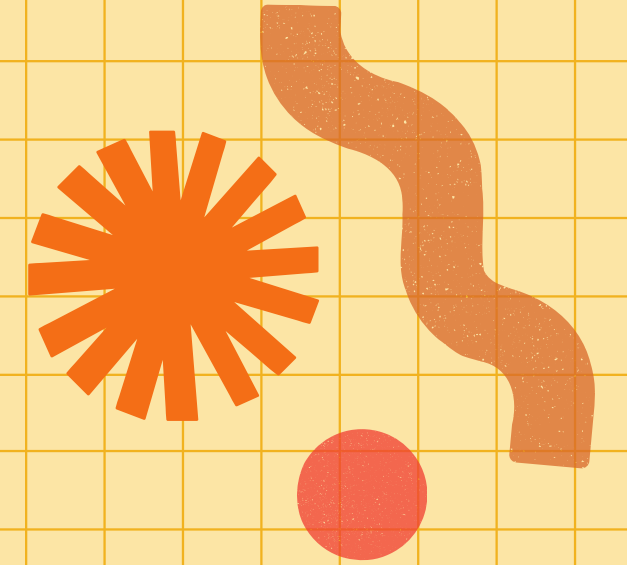
Everything that surrounds you is a part of the environment! This includes living things like plants and animals, and non-living things like weather and climate, rocks, soil, water, nutrients, and even also depend on one another, which is what keeps balance in the environment. This balance is very important 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. We need energy, so we use land to build power plants and to dig for oil and coal.

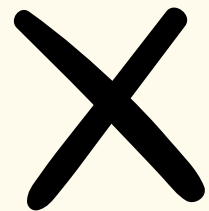




Text Coding



“Yeah I knew that” or “I predicted that” or “I saw that coming”



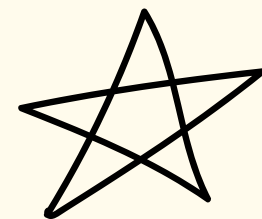
Something that contradicts what you know or expect



When you have a question, need clarification, or are unsure



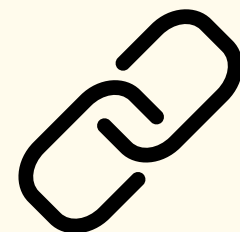
Something new, awesome, surprising, exciting, or fun



Something important, vital, key, memorable, or powerful



When the reading really makes you see or visualize something



When you have a connection between the text and your life or the world



“This is boring, I’m falling asleep”

? Cattle are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. Hawaii seaweed could change that

BY THOMAS HEATON/HONOLULU CIVIL BEAT

Originally published: June 3, 2024

! HONOLULU (AP) — Limu kohu is most traditionally destined for poke bowls, but the distinctive-tasting seaweed is now increasingly in demand for cattle to reduce the amount of methane they burp into the atmosphere.

eye ? Parker Ranch cattle are among the first of Hawaii's livestock to be fed farmed red algae in a trial, which over the past six months reduced the amount of methane the animals belched by an average of 77%, according to Kona-based business Symbrosia.

The algae's ability to mitigate cattle's greenhouse gas emissions has elevated Symbrosia and Blue Ocean Barns, another limu kohu farm based in Kona, in the growing international seaweed farming industry. ?

★ The World Bank predicts the industry could be worth almost \$12 billion by 2030. And that is attracting immense public and private investment interest across the globe, including in Hawaii. !

o The federal government awarded Symbrosia more than \$2.2 million in grant funding this year. That means just over 6,000 cattle could be eating Seagraze, the red algae product, as part of their diet. The cap is currently 250 cattle.

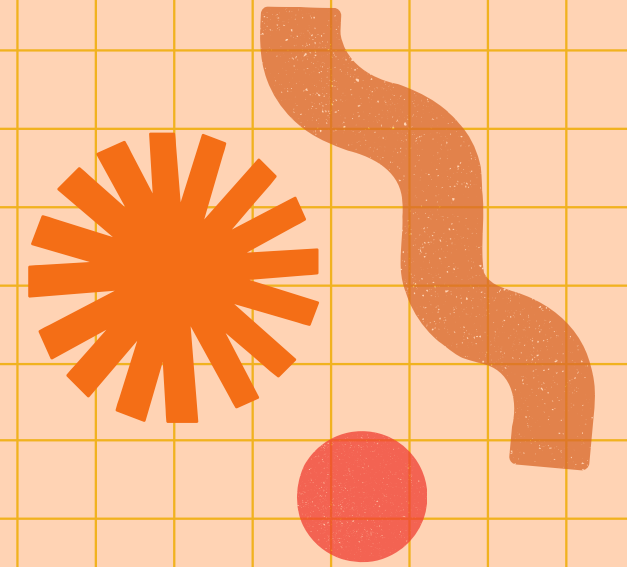
★ With another \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation, it plans to streamline its currently labor-intensive production process, one that involves three stages of finicky cultivation and drying.

★ Blue Ocean Barns signed on with two major mainland dairies, as well as ice-cream producers Ben & Jerry's, raising \$20 million. Symbrosia last year signed on with Organic Valley, the nation's largest farmers cooperative, and Danone, the country's largest yogurt producer.

But the company does not appear to be leaving any time soon, given the growing conditions and Hawaii's unique climate. Symbrosia is expanding its footprint from one-quarter acre to 15 acres and looking to increase its staff by 70 positions, Akbay said. ✓



Blackout Poetry



Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Children's Books:
Fiction

Try it with:

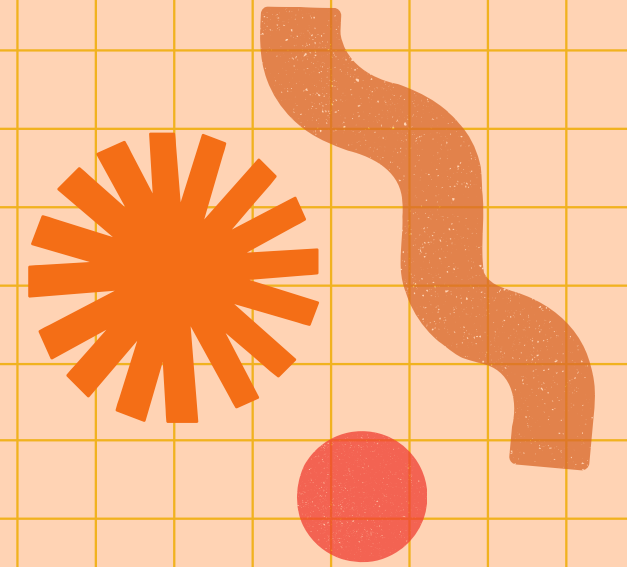
Students create poetry from a short nonfiction text by using a permanent marker to "blackout" all the words they don't want to use. Then they create a poem using the words that remain.





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

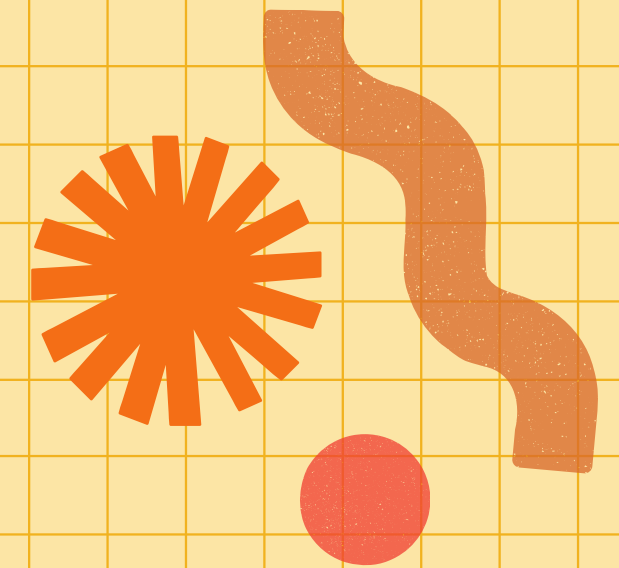
Pollen
Honey for the hive to eat.
We eat every day
because of:

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

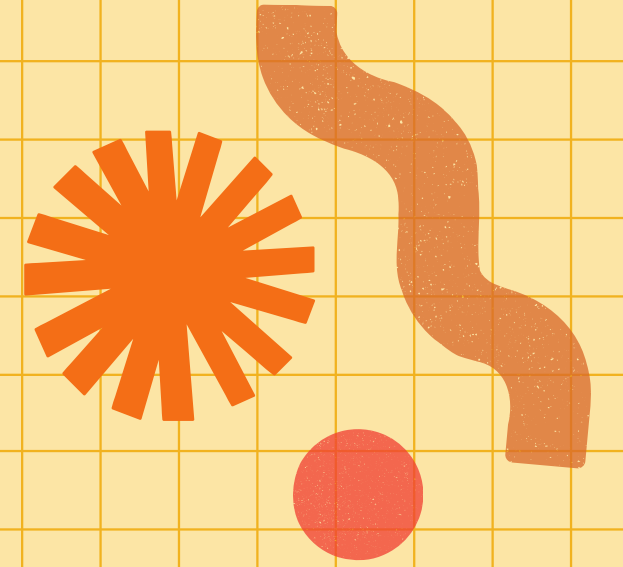
LOWELL
Three people dead in apparent murder-suicide in Lowell

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





Read with a Question in Mind

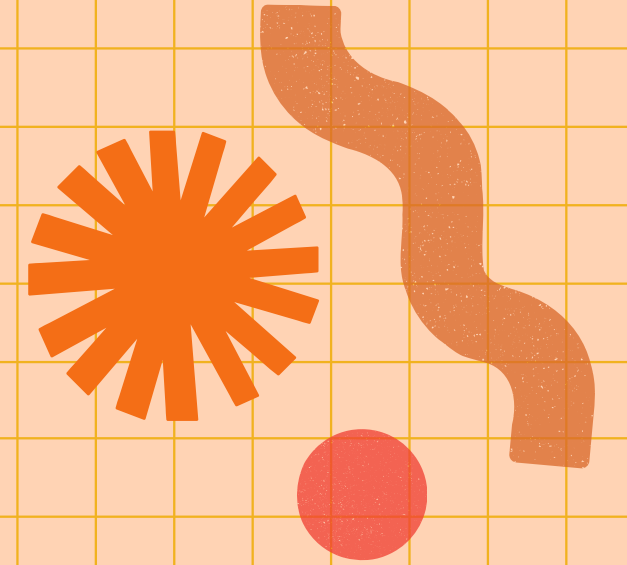


What concerns some soil scientists about
Gunsmoke Farms' organic farming practices?





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

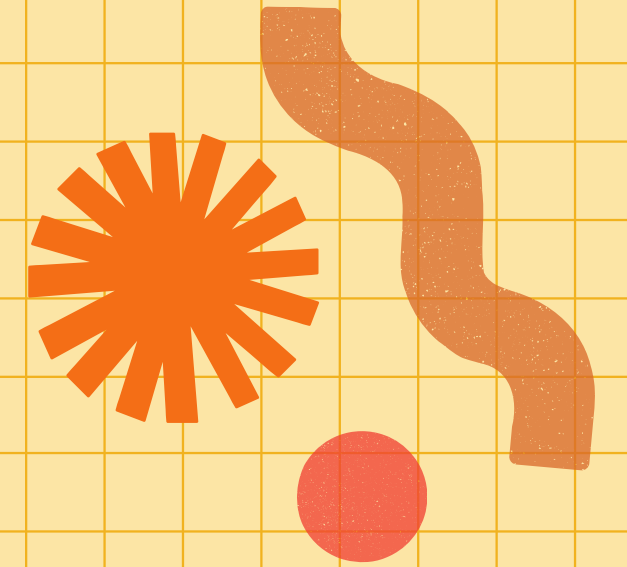
Andrew Millison ✓

1.2M views · 1 month ago





Reading a Visual Image



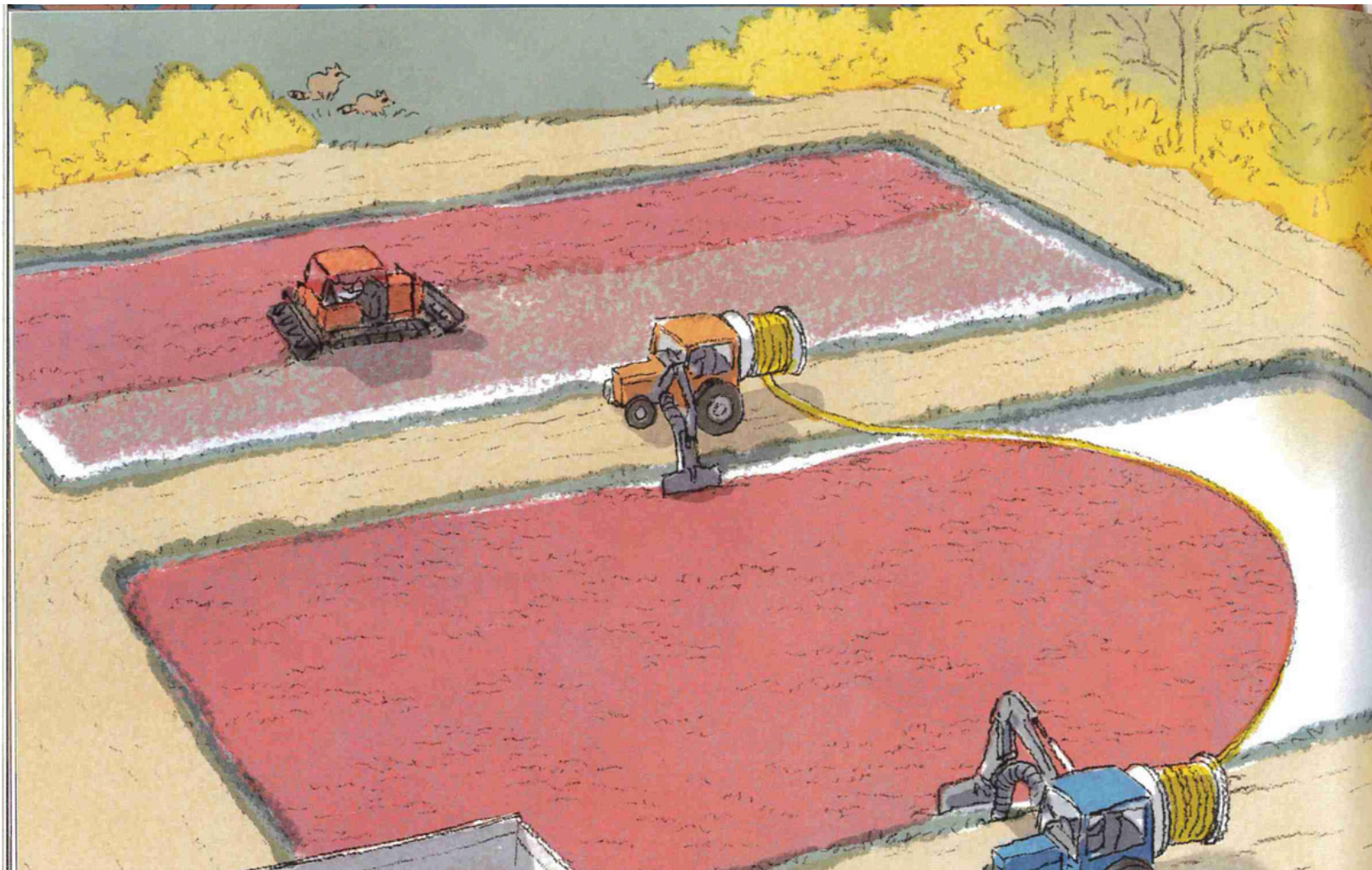
Images & Videos

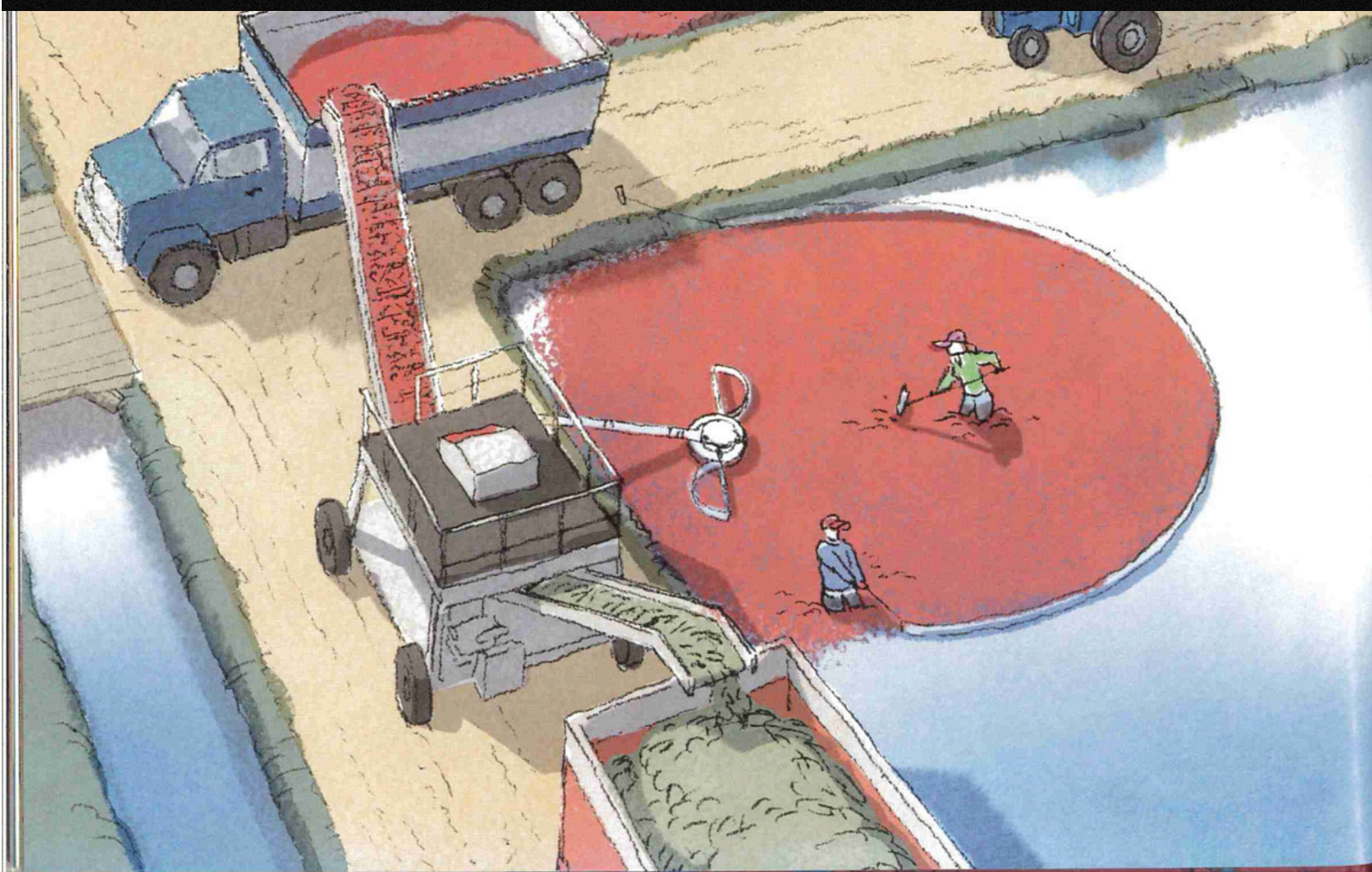
Children's Books:
Fiction

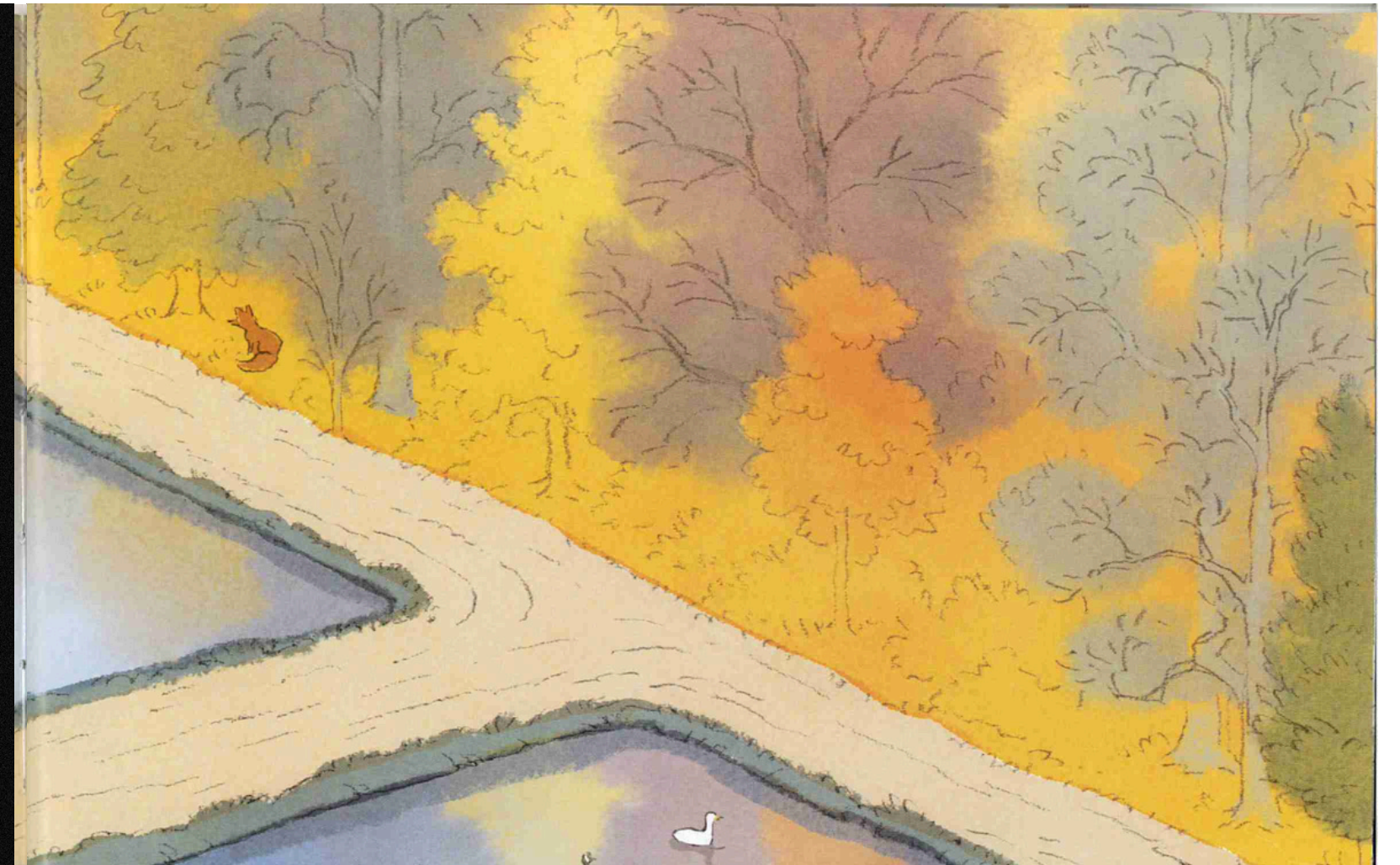
Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

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."

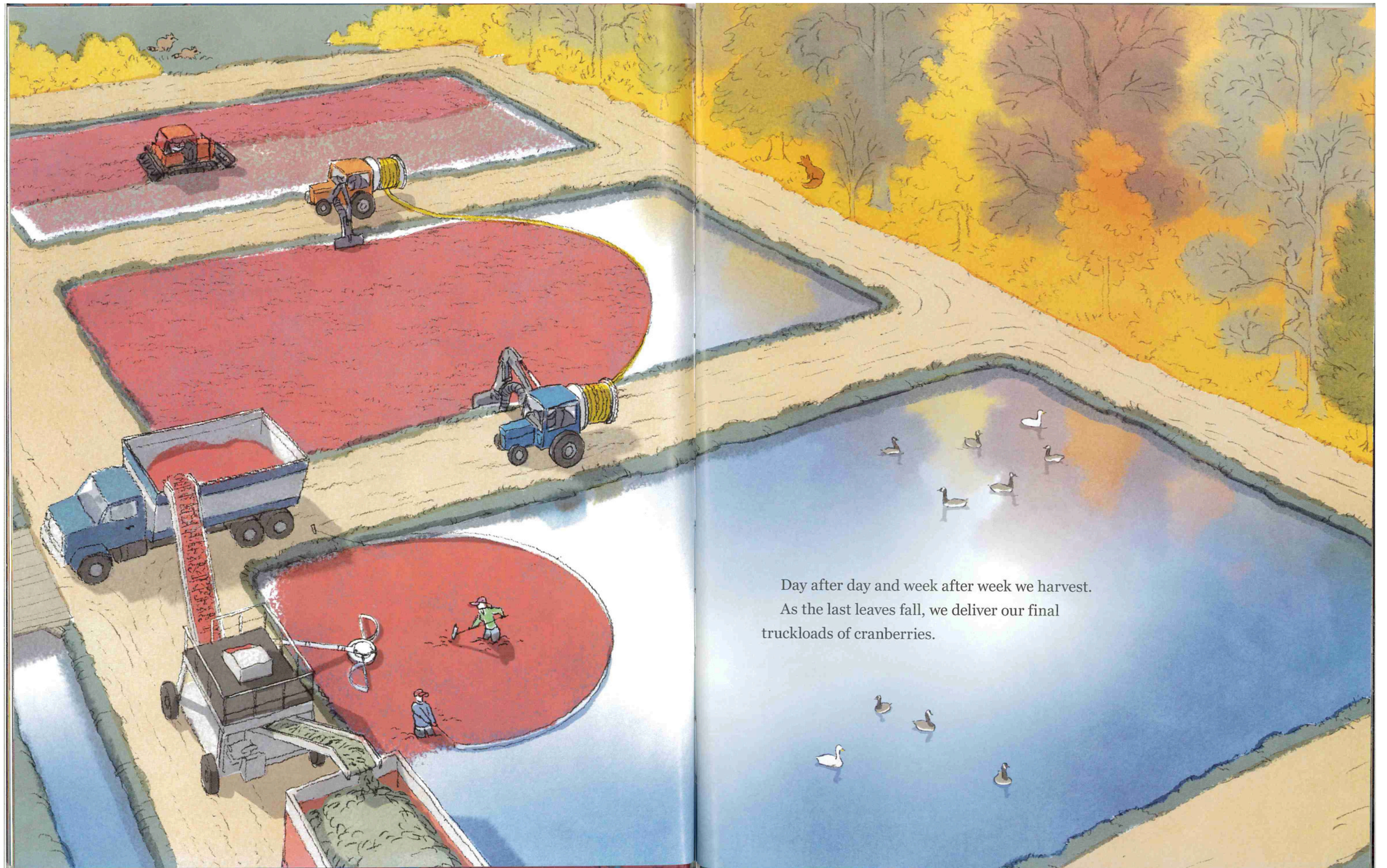








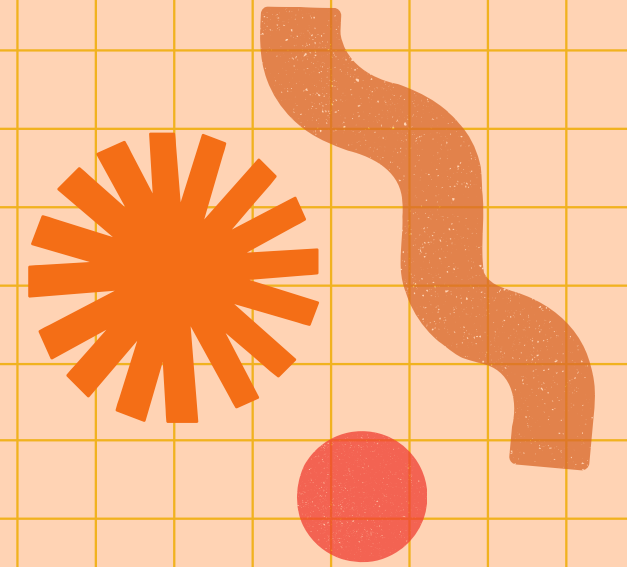




Day after day and week after week we harvest.
As the last leaves fall, we deliver our final
truckloads of cranberries.



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.

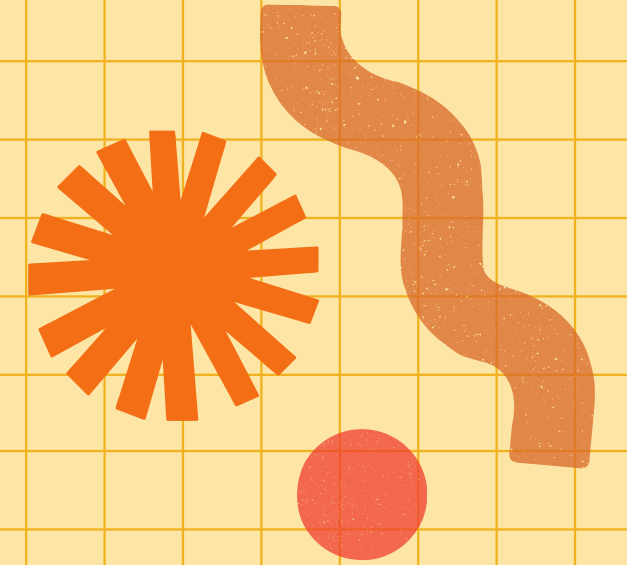
Try it with:







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



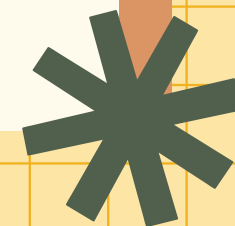
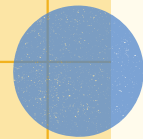
Key Takeaways



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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