Lesson - What Other Natural Products are Connected to Chocolate?

Objectives

Identify other natural ingredients used to make chocolate products.

Explore the regions where cacao and the other natural ingredients used to make chocolate products grow and how they are harvested and processed.

Materials

- A class set of Natural Ingredient Webs (P. 33)
- An overhead transparency or poster-size copy of the Natural Ingredient Web
- Candy bar wrappers
- A class set of the Natural Ingredient Research Guide (P. 37)

Lesson Plans

Background Activities:

1. Ask students to think of their favorite meal.

2. Give each student a copy of the Natural Ingredient Web. Have them break their meal into all of its natural ingredients and place them in the appropriate spot on the web. You might need to do one together as a class first to help students understand how to break foods into their natural ingredients such as: milk, sugar, cinnamon, salt, peanuts, etc.

Instructional Activities:

1. Ask each student to bring in the wrapper of one of their favorite candy bars.

2. Using the label, have students make a list of all of the natural ingredients in their candy bar.

3. As a class, compile a list of all of the natural ingredients used to make chocolate products.

4. Either in groups or individually, ask students to choose one or two of these natural ingredients. Using the Natural Ingredient Research Guide, have students identify what their ingredient looks like in its original form (before processing), where and how it is grown, how people harvest and process it, and its relationship to chocolate (environmentally and economically).

5. Once students have completed their research, have them create a page that conveys all of the information they have learned about their natural ingredient(s). Compile the pages into a class book or bulletin board.
Red de Ingredientes Naturales

Animales

Ingredientes Naturales

Plantas

Minerales
Activity

Name of natural ingredient:

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Type of ingredient (animal, plant, mineral):

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Draw and describe what your ingredient looks like in its natural state before it is processed.

Draw and describe the natural environment of your ingredient.

Draw and describe how your ingredient is gathered/harvested.

When, where, and by whom was your ingredient first combined with chocolate?

Draw and describe how the cacao tree is protected from the elements.

Describe how your ingredient is linked economically to chocolate.
Nombre del ingrediente natural:
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Tipo de ingrediente (animal, planta, mineral):
__________________________________________________________________________________________

Dibuja y describe cómo se ve el ingrediente en su estado natural, antes de que lo procesen.

Dibuja y describe el medio ambiente de tu ingrediente.

Dibuja y describe cómo se cultiva y se cosecha tu ingrediente.

¿Cuando, donde y por quién tu ingrediente fue combinado con chocolate por primera vez?

Dibuja y describe como el cacao es protegido de los elementos.

Describe como tu ingrediente se relaciona economicamente al chocolate.