

Activity 1.1.1 Basic Provisions

Purpose

The most basic needs of human beings include food, clothing, and shelter. Due to innovations and advances made in providing for basic needs, many people today take these items for granted. However, your predecessors could not. Early hunters and gatherers spent nearly all of their time searching for food, clothing, and shelter for themselves and their family.

As agriculture developed, farmers could produce enough food for storage and to sell to others. Advancements in agricultural production and practices have led to the involvement of fewer people in production agriculture and have allowed more people to explore other industries and careers. The development of luxury items, such as cellular phones and cars, has occurred as the industries and careers outside of agriculture grew.

How has the development and advancement of agriculture changed the items you have in your life? As you complete this activity, you will take a walk in the shoes of people throughout time to answer this question.

Materials

Per group of four students:

Provision Note Cards

Per student:

Pencil

Procedure

You will be working in a group of four students. Read the directions for Part One below and begin this activity.

Part One – Hunting and Gathering

When your teacher instructs you to do so, each person in your group will go get one blue note card.

Return to your group.

Place your cards on the table. The cards describe all of the resources available to you after a long day of survival.

Identify the items you have available to you as food, clothing, or shelter in Table 1 of *Activity 1.1.1 Student Worksheet*.

Answer Part One analysis questions on the student worksheet

In your group, discuss how a hunting and gathering lifestyle might affect population, survival rates, and leisure time. Record your thoughts.

Part Two – Early Agriculture

1. When your teacher instructs you to do so, each person in your group will go get two yellow note cards.
2. Return to your group.
3. Place your cards on the table and determine if you have sufficient resources. In this round, each card provides a sufficient quantity of resources to feed, clothe, or shelter all members in your group. For example, if you gather a lumber card, you can build a shelter for your entire group. If you gather a rice card, you have enough carbohydrates for the entire group.

Food – At least one item from each of the following groups

Protein	Carbohydrate	Fruits and Vegetables
Cattle	Wheat	Apples
Sheep	Corn	Oranges
Pigs	Rice	Peas
Chickens	Potato	Beans

Clothing – Fabric or leather

Shelter – Lumber, canvas tarps, or brick

Select up to two items you may want to trade with only one other group.

When instructed by your teacher, exchange items with one other group willing to trade.

Identify the items you have available to you as food, clothing, or shelter in Table 2 on the student worksheet.

Answer the Part Two analysis questions.

Part Three – Life in the 21st Century

1. When your teacher instructs you to do so, each person in your group will go get three green note cards.
2. Return to your group.
3. Place your cards on the table and determine if you have sufficient resources. In this round, each card provides sufficient quantities of the item on the card for the whole group.

Three meals – breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Four items of clothing – shirt, pants or shorts, shoes, jacket

Shelter – house

Select up to four items to trade with other groups, if desired. You may trade with multiple groups in this round.

Exchange items with other groups when instructed by your teacher.

Place your cards on the table and determine if you have what your group wants.

Select up to four items to make another trade with other groups, if desired.

Exchange items with other groups when instructed by your teacher.

Identify the items you have available to you as food, clothing, shelter, or luxury items in Table 3 on the student worksheet.

Answer the Part Three analysis questions.

Conclusion

1. How has agriculture made life and survival easier for humans?

What are three improvements to agriculture that have made life easier for you?

Do you live on a farm? Where do you get agricultural products?

Activity 1.1.1 Student Worksheet

Table 1. *Hunting and Gathering*

Food	Clothing	Shelter

Part One Analysis Questions

Did your group collect sufficient resources for survival, such as food, clothing, and shelter for four people? Why or why not?

we did not collect resources because we did not have enough resources for everyone.

What challenges does your group face based on the resources you collected to provide food, clothing, and shelter?

Table 2. *Early Agriculture*

Food	Clothing	Shelter

Part Two Analysis Questions

Did your group collect sufficient resources for survival? Why or why not?

Yes we did

What challenges does your group face based on the resources you collected to provide food, clothing, and shelter?

How did trading help your group?

In your group, discuss how early agriculture practices affect population, survival rates, and leisure time. Record your thoughts. population and survival rates increased.

Table 3. 21st Century

Food	Clothing	Shelter	Luxury

Part Three Analysis Questions

Did your group collect sufficient resources for survival? Why or why not?

Yes we did

How did trading help your group?

What differences do you see between food items from early agriculture and food today?

The food in the 21 century is more developed.

Why are luxury items desirable even though they are not considered a basic need? It's fun to have them around.