

Our Family's Pecan Farm: ELA

Grade

Pre-K -1st grade, 4-7 years old

Time

- Pre-K and K: One 15-20-minute exercise
- 1st Grade: One 25-30-minute exercise

Purpose

Students will be able to demonstrate foundational language skills, including listening comprehension, vocabulary acquisition, collaborative conversations, and understanding word meanings with real-life connections to Georgia agriculture.

Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) & Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS)

Pre-kindergarten (GELDS)

STANDARD: CLL1 - The child will listen to conversations and comprehend for a variety of purposes.

CLL1.4b - Listens to and follows multi-step directions.

STANDARD: CLL2 - The child will acquire vocabulary introduced in conversations, activities, stories, or books.

CLL2.4a - Demonstrates understanding of more complex vocabulary through everyday conversations.

CLL2.4b - Connects new vocabulary from activities, stories, and/or books with prior experiences and conversations.

STANDARD: CLL5 - The child will acquire meaning from a variety of materials read to him/her.

CLL5.4a - Prior to reading, uses prior knowledge, story title, and pictures to make predictions about story content.

CLL5.4d - Makes real-world connections between stories and real-life experiences.

STANDARD: CLL7 - The child will demonstrate increasing knowledge of the alphabet.

CLL7.4a - With prompting and support, recognizes and names some upper- and lower-case letters of the alphabet.

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Kindergarten (GSE)

ELAGSEKRL4 - Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

- a. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others and taking turns speaking about the topics and texts under discussion).

ELAGSEKSL4 - Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.

ELAGSEKSL5 - Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.

ELAGSEKL5 - With guidance and support, explore word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

- c. Identify real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., note places at school that are colorful).

First Grade (GSE)

ELAGSE1RI4 - Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.

ELAGSE1SL1 - Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

- a. Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g., listening to others with care, speaking one at a time about the topics and texts under discussion).

ELAGSE1SL4 - Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.

ELAGSE1SL5 - Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.

ELAGSE1L5 - With guidance and support from adults, demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

- c. Identify real-life connections between words and their use (e.g., note places at home that are cozy).

Materials

- *Our Family's Pecan Farm* book (hard copies or online)
- Word Wall Vocabulary Sheet (hard copies or online)
- "Life Cycle of a Pecan" Story Sequence (PreK & 1st Grade)

Resources

- Georgia Farm Bureau: <https://www.gfb.org/>
- Georgia Pecan Growers Commission: <https://georgiapecan.org/>
- University of Georgia: <https://pecans.uga.edu/>

Vocabulary

Seed - object produced by a plant that can grow into a new plant.

Germination - the process that a seed begins to sprout and grow into a new plant.

Sprout - when a seed begins to grow forming a young shoot or bud.

Seedling - delicate young plant, recently sprouted.

Juvenile - early developmental stage of a plant; rapid growth, no reproductive structures.

Fruiting - producing mature fruits that contain seeds, needed for reproduction.

Husk - bright green outside that turns brown before dropping pecan to the ground.

Shell - hard covering that protects the inside of the pecan.

Meat - the yummy inside that you can eat.

Acre - unit of measuring land: about the size of a football field.

Career - a job that adults dedicate their life to doing.

Crop - a plant grown for food or human use.

Farmer - someone who grows food or raises livestock.

Harvest - process of gathering crops, removing them from where they have grown.

Machine - a device or tool that helps people do work.

Product - something that can be sold.

Pruned - to cut back parts of the plant to help it grow better.

Background

Understanding the world around us begins with stories that reflect the diverse experiences of individuals and communities. Agriculture and farming are integral parts of our society, providing sustenance and livelihoods for people around the globe.

Our Family's Pecan Farm: ELA

Through literature, such as the storybook about a family farming pecans, students not only learn about the process of farming but also gain insight into the values, traditions, and challenges faced by those who work the land. By listening to stories, sharing personal experiences, and exploring new vocabulary, students develop empathy, broaden their perspectives, and deepen their understanding of the world of agriculture and the importance of farming in our lives.

Procedures

1. Begin by gathering the students together and introducing the topic of agriculture and farming.
2. Explain that today, we will be listening to a story about a family farming pecans and discussing our own experiences with agriculture and farming.
3. Read My Family's Pecan Farm to the students pausing occasionally to ask questions and encourage engagement.
4. After reading the story, facilitate a group discussion:
 - Encourage students to take turns sharing their own experiences with agriculture and farming, such as visiting a farm, gardening at home, or eating fruits and vegetables grown locally.
 - Use open-ended questions to prompt discussion and encourage students to express their thoughts and ideas.
 - What was your favorite part of the story, and why did it stand out to you?
 - Have you ever worked on something with your family?
 - What do you think it would be like to be a farmer? What kinds of things would you need to do every day?
 - If you could grow any plant or food in your garden, what would it be, and why?
 - Relate the story to students' personal experiences and ask how they can connect the events in the story to their own lives.
5. Review each vocabulary word with the class, providing simple definitions and examples to help students understand the meanings.

6. Encourage students to relate each vocabulary word to everyday situations and experiences, asking questions like:
 - How do we use this word in our everyday lives?
 - Can you think of a time when you've seen or heard this word before?
 - What does this word remind you of?
7. Write down students' responses on the whiteboard to create a visual representation of the new vocabulary words and their connections to real-life situations.

Extensions

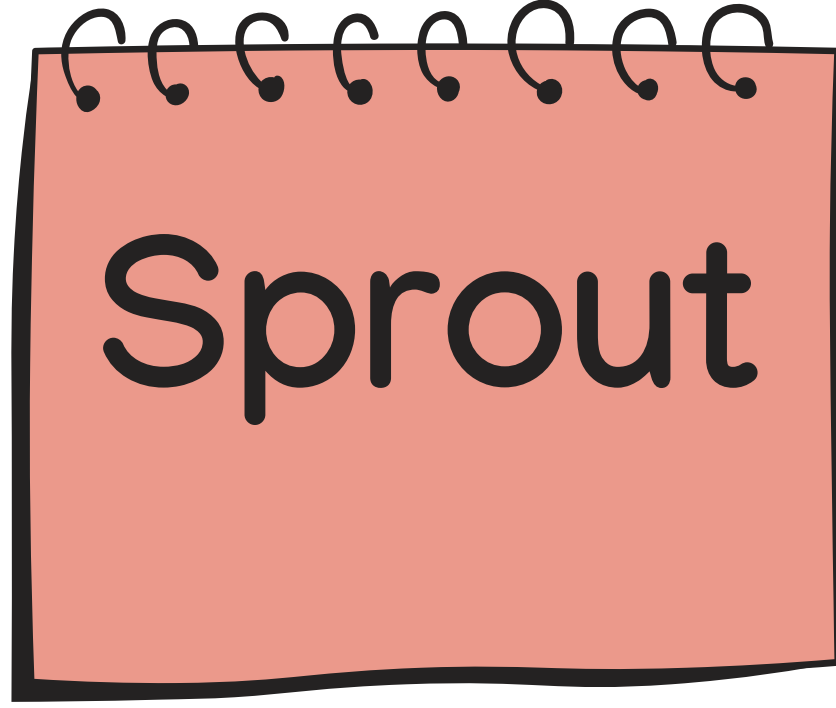
- **Planting Seeds:** Provide students with small pots, soil, and seeds (e.g., sunflower, bean) and guide them through the process of planting and caring for their own plants, fostering a deeper understanding of plant growth and agriculture and the vocabulary needed to communicate effectively.
- **Word Games:** Incorporate the included word games like word searches, crossword puzzles, or vocabulary matching games to reinforce vocabulary retention in a fun way.
- **Story Sequencing:** Provide students with “Life Cycle of a Pecan” Story Sequence Activity from the storybook about the pecan farm. Have them arrange the pictures in chronological order to retell the story, reinforcing comprehension and sequencing skills.

Other Reading Connections

- *Sammy and the Pecan Pie: Habit 4* by Sean Covey
- *Georgia On My Mind* by Paul Davis
- *Right This Very Minute* by Lisl H. Detlefsen

References

The Ellis Bros Family. (November 9, 2022). Personal Interviews



Sprout



Seed



Seedling



Germination

Juvenile

Fruiting

Husk

Shell

Meat

Acre

Career

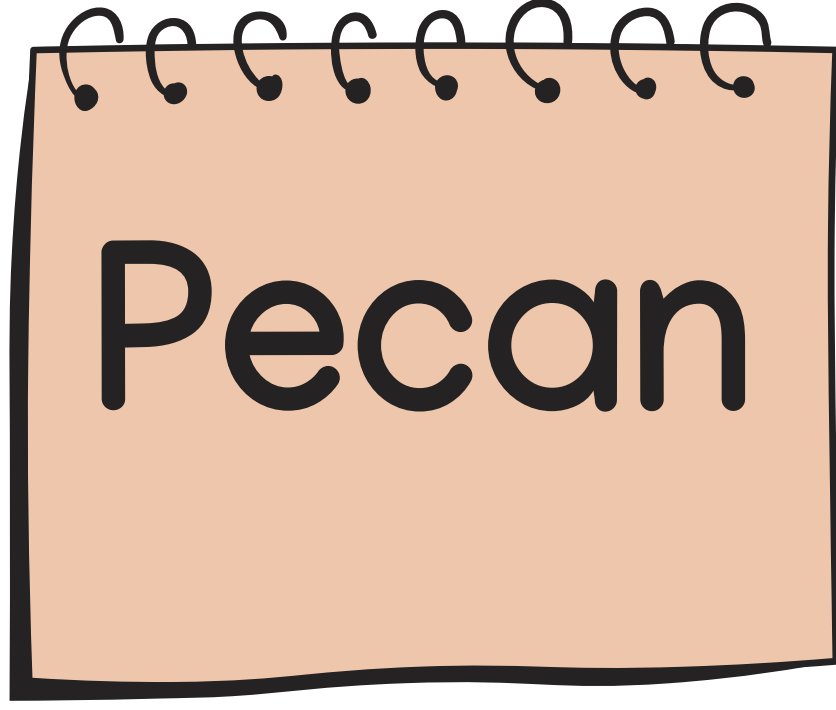
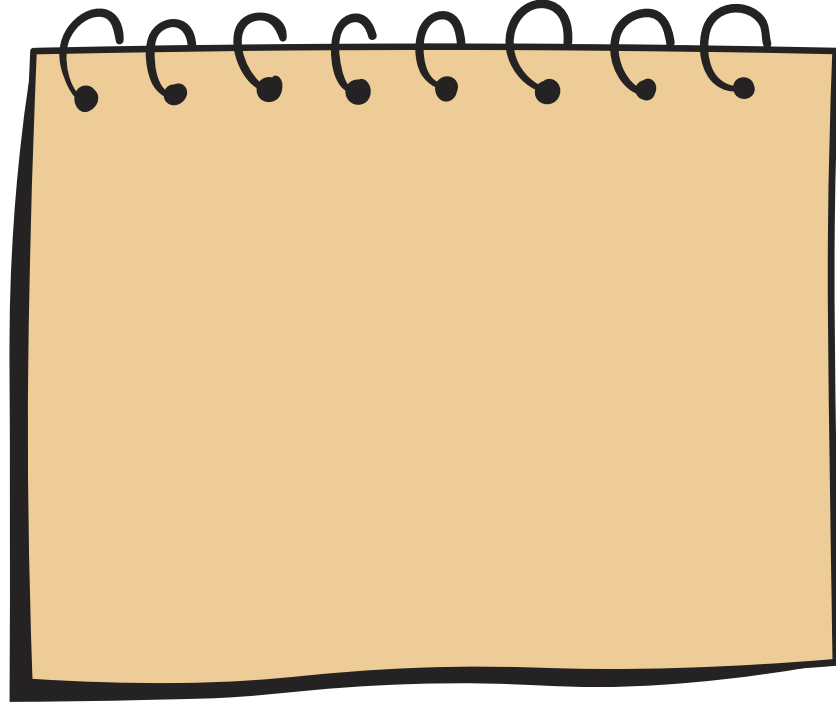
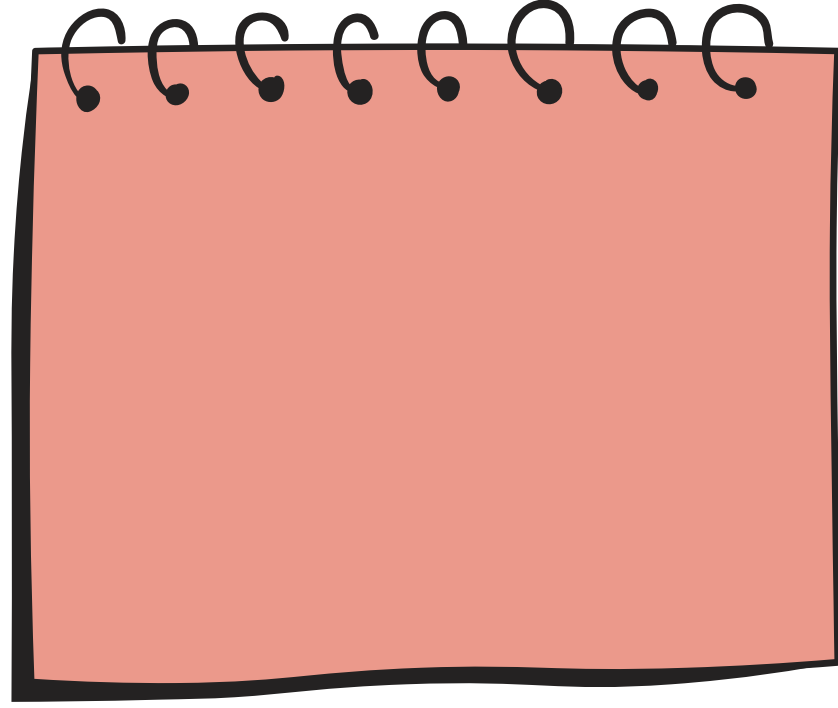
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Farmer

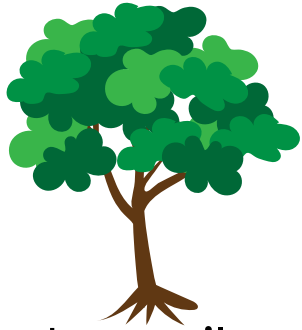
Harvest

Machine

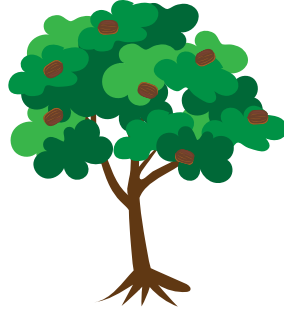
Product



Life Cycle of a Pecan Tree



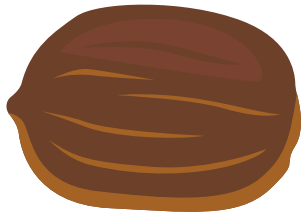
Juvenile



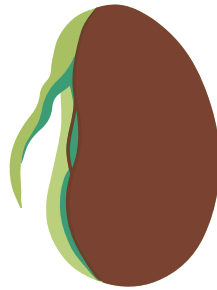
Fruiting



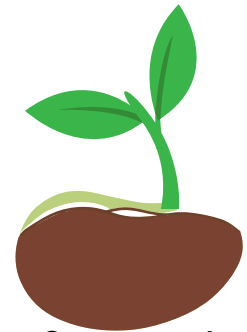
Seedling



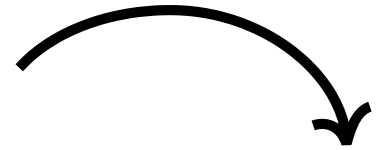
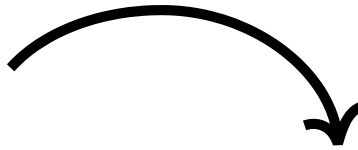
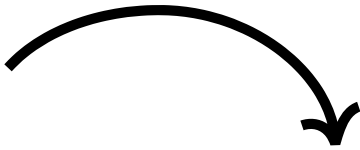
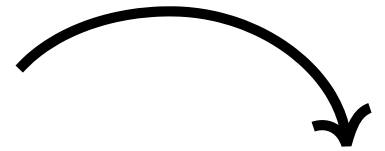
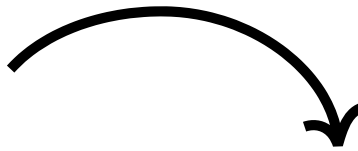
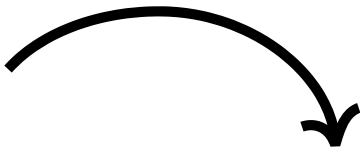
Seed



Germination



Sprout



Life Cycle of a Pecan Tree

