

TREE TO TABLE



Lesson Overview



4TH GRADE



In-person: 80 mins.
Virtual: 45 mins.

In this lesson, students explore tree parts through a selection of herbs and spices that come from trees. Using a set of cards included in the lesson materials, students classify herbs and spices by tree part and function, explaining their reasoning through arguments based on evidence.

Given definitions of “weather” and “climate,” students are then asked to think about how these affect where trees can grow. The lesson ends with an interactive tour of trees on the school campus to discover the culinary offerings of trees that thrive in California.

NGSS This lesson addresses the following 4th grade NGSS Specific Learning Outcome:

4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

| Science and Engineering Practices | Disciplinary Core Ideas | Crosscutting Concepts |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| [SEP-7] Engaging in Argument from Evidence | LS1 A: Structure and Function | [CCC-4] Systems and System Models [CCC-6] Structure and Function |

Post-lesson Activity

Students complete a "Superhero Boot Camp" to discover their ecological footprint, learn about the sustainability practices of Indigenous Peoples in the Bay Area, and practice an environmentally beneficial habit for two weeks. This activity is designed to help students reflect on their impact on the earth and show them how much of a positive impact adjusting their lifestyle habits can have.

Common Core This activity addresses the following 4th grade standards:

ELA-Literacy.L.4.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal precise actions, emotions, or states of being and that are basic to a particular topic.

RI.4.40 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.