

Navigating Illinois



Grade Level: 3-5

Objective: After completing this exercise, students will have a better understanding of reading maps as well as the diversity of specialty crops in Illinois.

Illinois Learning Standards: 11.A.2b; 11.A.2c; 13.B.2f; 15.A.2a; 17.A.2b; 17.C.2b

Assessment Framework: 11.4.04; 13.4.11

Suggested Reading Materials:

Illinois AITC Specialty Crops Ag Mag

Materials:

Access to the Internet

Illinois Maps

Markers or crayons

Activity Instructions:

1. Using dark blue markers or crayons draw the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers on the map. These rivers are used to ship many agricultural products.
2. The Pumpkin Capital of the World is located in Morton, IL. Find the county that Morton is located in and draw a pumpkin inside of it.
3. Agri-tourism is a growing industry in Illinois. The Country Corner Farm Market is located in Alpha, IL in the west-central part of the state. Find the county that Alpha is located in and color it brown.
4. Apple orchards are very popular destinations in the fall because they offer u-pick apples, cider and other homemade treats. Almost Eden Orchard is located in Hancock County. Find Hancock County on the map and color it red.
5. The Horseradish Capital of the World is located in Collinsville, IL. Find the county that Collinsville is located in and color it gray.
6. Many of the peaches grown in Illinois are grown in the southern half of the state. Rendleman Orchards is located in Alto Pass, IL. Find its county and color it orange.
7. Bees are very helpful in the pollination of specialty crops. Sasse's Apiary is located in Chestnut, IL. Find Logan County and color it yellow.
8. Many of Mason County's specialty growers, like Ron Armbrust from Manito, use irrigation to help keep their crops watered. Find Mason County and color it light blue.
9. Many consumers flock to Christmas tree farms to cut their own tree for the holidays. Richardson's Christmas Trees is located in Spring Grove, IL. Find its county and color it green.
10. Olthoff Farms and Dutch Valley Growers, Inc. grow onion sets for stores like Wal-Mart and Farm & Fleet. They are located in Kankakee County. Find it on the map and color it pink.
11. Siemer Milling Company in Teutopolis, IL mills wheat into flour to be used in cookies, cakes, crackers and other goodies. Find the county it is located in and color it purple.

