



Lesson #5: Exploring Solutions

Lesson Focus & Goals

- Students will explore food and agriculture related research, studied by Colorado State University faculty. The focus is to highlight the studies and solutions developed to improve agriculture and food challenges experienced by communities.

Materials Needed

- Computers
- Student Worksheet

Student Learning Objectives

- Identify and select at least one research project from the "Food" category on the CSU Impacto website.
- Summarize the core problem the researcher sought to solve (e.g., Beef Stick For Backpacks addresses food insecurity; Agricultural Sustainability addresses resource management).
- Evaluate the proposed solution and articulate its potential benefits to the community or environment.
- Communicate the key findings of their chosen research project to a small group or the class.

Lesson Components

Intro:

In this lesson students will explore solutions to food insecurity.

- Show students [this video about community solutions to overcome food insecurity](#).
 - Discussion Questions
 - Summarize how this program is reducing food insecurity?
 - Does this program impact the entire local community?

Activity:

- Direct students to the CSU Impact Map. Instruct them to filter the stories by the "Food" theme. Students can use the worksheet to guide them.
- **Description:** Students select one or two research projects under the "Food" theme that interests them. Using the Student Worksheet, students will gather key information by reading the story:
 - What is the problem being addressed?
 - What is the Solution/Innovation created by the researcher?
 - What is the Impact (who benefits, and how)?
- **Discussion:** Think-Pair-Share: Students pair up and share their analyzed projects, teaching their partner about their chosen solution. They should compare the types of problems being solved.
 - Whole Group Discussion: Ask pairs to share the most surprising or impactful solution they discovered.
- **Ask students to write down:** "Based on today's research, what is one thing you now know about food solutions that you didn't know before?" Conclude by emphasizing the importance of university research in creating a sustainable and secure global food system.