

UNIT - Sheep Production

Unit Activity (Instructor)

Cooking Lamb

Objective: Students will identify countries where lamb is a common staple then create a poster displaying information about that country's lamb production. They will also help prepare and then taste the lamb cooked in class.

Materials:

Heavy card stock (one poster per student)
Marking pen (one per student)
Magazines, travel brochures
Internet or other resources (e.g., cookbooks)
Lamb meat (cut and amount depend on recipe)
Recipe
Recipe ingredients
Plates, napkins, and utensils
Globe or world map

Procedure:

1. Use a world map or globe to identify where lamb is predominantly produced and eaten. Discuss with students that lamb has been a source of nutrition since biblical times and it is still a staple of many Middle Eastern and Mediterranean countries. Encourage students to research how ancient civilizations relied on lamb. They should use the Internet or refer to information in their social studies or history books.
2. Have students select a country that consumes lamb. Ask them to create a poster that displays information about lamb production in that country. They may work in small groups of two to three students or alone. First, they should write the country's name on top of the card stock (posters) and then incorporate information they learned in a history class about that country's economic status, living facilities, cultural attractions, and geography.
3. Promote creativity by having students decorate their posters with pictures or photographs of that country. Magazines such as the *National Geographic* and brochures from travel agencies are excellent resources for artwork.

4. Encourage students to include a lamb recipe that is popular in the country they selected. For example, Middle Eastern countries frequently eat shish kabobs made with chunks of lamb and a variety of vegetables. Roast leg of lamb with oregano and lemon is a staple in Greek households.
5. Discuss the information students found while doing their research and creating their posters. Display all of the posters in the classroom.
6. Engage the entire class in preparing a favorite lamb recipe or try something new from a cookbook. The Internet is a good source to find recipes. In addition to accessing diverse search engines available, encourage students to access specific gourmet sites such as <http://www.bonappetit.com>.
7. You may want to prepare the lamb several different ways for the students to taste and try. Involve the students in the preparation. They may find that the lamb is cooked in a different way than they are accustomed to.
8. Have the students taste the lamb and give their opinion on how it tastes. Compare it to beef, pork, or chicken. Do they like it better or not? If possible, locate restaurants in the community that serve lamb and encourage students to visit them.