

Essential Question: Why is soil important to all living things?



Activity 2 - The Dust Bowl – An Ecological Disaster of epic proportions sweeps through America

We city folks often take healthy soil for granted. Our food comes in a supermarket from distant farms and countries. However, during the 1930's farming in large portions of Middle America were largely unable to grow crops reliably. This threatened the food supply and livelihood of many Americans.

Your job is to learn about the Dust Bowl

After watching the "Dust Bowl Memories" video clip have your group split up the links below and research each for about 10 -15 minutes while you taking notes. Then work together to completely answer the questions below.

[Drought Basics](#)

[Gale World History in context – the Dust Bowl.](#)

[The Black Blizzard](#)

[The Dust Bowl](#) History – See tabs

[The Dust Bowl, Encyclopedia.com](#)

1. During what period of time did the Dust Bowl occur?

2. Tell all the states that were affected during this period.

3. List at least three key causes of the Dust Bowl
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

 - d.

April 14, 1935, "[Black Sunday](#)", 20 severe "black blizzards" swept through the entire US & Canadian Great Plains

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4. Tell and thoroughly explain at least three effects on people and on crops across America.

a.

b.

c.

d.

5. List at three things that farmers did to avoid future Dust Bowl events

a.

b.

c.

d.

6. Challenge / HC or Bonus Extra Credit: Research the keywords “Dust Bowl, Dust Bowl Asia, Dust Bowl Africa” Record any evidence we are having dust bowl like events in the last 15 years.

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