

APPLY IT TO AG!

Your Directions to Ag Connections

WHERE ARE THE DAIRY FARMS IN KANSAS?

Materials:

- 1 rectangular graham cracker per student
- 1 small white decorating icing tube per student
- 1 small colored decorating icing tube per student
- Map of Kansas (<http://ontheworldmap.com/usa/state/kansas/map-of-kansas.jpg>)
- Map of Kansas dairies (<https://dairyinkansas.com/kansas-dairy-map/>)

Lesson Introduction:

“Raise your hand if you have ever been to a dairy before. If so, do you remember where that dairy was? Was it close to a city or town? Or was it out in the country? Have you ever wondered where all the dairies are in our state? Today we’re going to figure out where those are!”

Activity:

1. Pass out graham crackers to students along with the small icing packets.
2. Instruct students to take a bite out of the top right corner of their graham cracker so that it looks like the state of Kansas. Tell them that the icing packets will be used in a moment.
3. Ask the students to point on their cracker where major cities are (Wichita, Kansas City, Topeka, and your city). Show students on a map where the precise location of these population centers is. Have students put a dot with the colored icing in these locations to mark these cities. Do not let students eat their product yet.
4. On an overhead projector or document camera, show students a map of Kansas dairies.
5. Have students read the map and determine the locations of the dairies with 1000 cows or more. Place a dot of white icing in these locations.
6. Before they enjoy their treat, ask students if the dairies are located near the major cities in Kansas. When students realize that they are not, ask them why this is the case. Explain that dairies are in places where they have lots of access to food for the cows, they can dispose of the manure from the dairy, and also that the smell of a dairy won’t bother people living nearby.
7. Allow students to enjoy their treat.

Application:

1. Have students color maps of the United States, coloring in states that have large dairy populations.
2. Help students determine the distance dairies in southwest Kansas have to Kansas City, Wichita, or other population centers.