

Name of Activity: Potato Palooza

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Purpose: Create a stronger understanding about the germination process of the potato and understand the versatility of potatoes.

Background: This lesson is designed for students from mid-low socio-economic groups in an urban setting with little understanding of the food system.

Grade Levels: 9-12

Independent Practice:

1. Day One: Mise en place and Russet preparation for frying
2. Day Two: germination, fries and Duchess potatoes
3. Day Three: Red Potato Soup and Wrap-up

Learning Objectives:

Students will....

- Understand how to germinate potatoes
- Learn about different varieties of potatoes
- Demonstrate an understanding through hands-on potato cooking labs
- Challenge themselves to care for and grow their own potatoes
- Reflect on how their potato knowledge has expanded over the course of these lessons

Materials and Equipment:

Equipment to show videos

Small white boards and markers at student tables

Variety of potatoes (Russet, Yukon Gold, and Red)

Deli containers for germination

Grocery Items and kitchen equipment for the following recipes:

Red Potato Soup: <https://therecipecritic.com/creamy-red-potato-soup/#wprm-recipe-container-64190>

Russet French Fries: <https://www.dinneratthezoo.com/homemade-french-fries/>

Yukon Gold Duchess: <https://preppykitchen.com/duchess-potatoes/#recipe>

Helpful Downloads from <https://idahopotato.com/helpful-downloads?category=Consumer>

I chose the downloads: PREP STYLES, SIZE GUIDE, 5 TIPS, STORAGE & ROTATION, AND POTATO HARVEST, but you can choose the ones that you believe are most beneficial to your students.

Paper and writing utensils

Teacher Preparation:

- Grocery shopping
- Hanging up HELPFUL DOWNLOAD posters around classroom
- Making a space to begin germination
- Print off recipes
- K-W-L charts for each student
- WORD WEBS
- Paper to record paragraph summary
- Top Ten List Template

Day One

Activities & Procedures:

Anticipatory Set:

1. Ask student to use the white boards and markers at their tables to list a variety of potato dishes in one minute.
2. Have the students share their lists with their tablemates or the class.
3. Hand out K-W-L sheet. Under the 'K' have the students list all the facts they already KNOW about potatoes.
4. Show the students a variety of potatoes. Pass them around for students to touch, feel and smell.
5. Now have students fill out the 'W' column. What do they wonder about potatoes?

Input:

1. Give each student a Potato Word Web and a writing utensil. Distribute students around the room in front of the 5 Helpful Download Potato posters.
2. Set a timer for 3 minutes. In that time, students read the poster and record facts onto their web. When the timer sounds, they move clockwise to the next poster.
3. Return to seats and have a one-minute debrief at their tables. Each student should share two facts they learned from the potato walk.
4. Watch this short video on potato germination.
<https://youtu.be/Fua2Cw5FeKY?si=KFNjLAtd-7nb0-VO>
5. Go over the attached recipes and conduct Mise en Place.
6. Prep Russets for frying and chill overnight.

Day Two

Checking for understanding and Guided Practice:

1. Together list 20 words on the board from yesterday's lesson.

2. Each group (or individual) writes a summary using ALL 20 words. Share either at tables or with the class.
3. Address any items that need clarification.
4. Inform students that today they will be selecting potatoes to begin the germination process
5. Lab today will consist of: French Fries and Duchess potatoes

Day Three

Lab: Prepare and eat soup.

Wrap-Up (Review, Assess, Challenge):

1. Complete the 'L' on the K-W-L chart. What did you learn?
2. Have each student create a potato Top Ten list to demonstrate an improved understanding of potatoes
3. Send the germinating potatoes home and challenge students to follow through and grow their own potatoes. Here is a short video about container potato gardening.
<https://youtu.be/3Fg7nhSMllk?si=JDq8150VihqzycDJ>

References and Resources:

Education:

<https://idahopotato.com/>

<https://cipotato.org/potato/potato-facts-and-figures/>

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/pspp/funspudfacts.html>

Videos:

Container potato gardening: <https://youtu.be/3Fg7nhSMllk?si=JDq8150VihqzycDJ>

How to germinate: https://youtu.be/Fua2Cw5FeKY?si=h1olhgZ_sUmbJew9

Idaho potato site videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC63tJANRDNwb8iLQSQ8HGyQ>

Recipes:

Duchess Potatoes: <https://preppykitchen.com/duchess-potatoes/#recipe>

French Fries: <https://www.dinneratthezoo.com/homemade-french-fries/>

Red Potato Soup: <https://therecipecritic.com/creamy-red-potato-soup/#wprm-recipe-container-64190>

Handouts:

Helpful Downloads: <https://idahopotato.com/helpful-downloads?category=Consumer>

KWL Chart Example <https://practices.learningaccelerator.org/strategies/know-wonder-learn-kwl-chart>

Word Web Example:

https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=1b3eff12a321d9fe&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS1095US1095&q=word

[+web+example&uds=ADvngMiE-
y6KKPtjryayf_rxdmrA8VYITq2fNVbRfEqY7_d6l8k2O_pi3iu5fBLELIZ0yBRTNXkm5GfjatBdvyj4iNwXpgrgP0xi
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d=ivsnbmtz&sa=X&sqi=2&pj=1&ved=2ahUKEwjM8KLt_PaFAxU34skDHacPBOEQtKgLegQIERAB&biw=153
6&bih=703&dpr=1.25&safe=active&ssui=on#vhid=bCf7AnCzO_vdbM&vssid=mosaic](#)

Top ten Template: <https://imgflip.com/memetemplate/285673754/My-top-10>