

DIVERSIFY PLANT VARIETIES

Materials Needed:

- Food boxes with nutrition labels and ingredients list

Teacher Script:

It is important to grow a variety of plants around the world to ensure food security. Because of climate change, there is a need to breed new crop varieties that can withstand heat, drought and extreme weather conditions. Some common crops are the reason that forests are being destroyed and that ecosystems are losing their ability to produce food. There are more productive ways of growing that use less land. Crop diversity also helps farmers and plant breeders to focus on a wider variety of more productive crops.

Using the nutrition labels on food boxes, you are going to read the ingredients and identify the four major crops that lack diversity (wheat, rice, potato, and sugar). When you find each ingredient on a label, write the name of that food product in the chart on your handout.

Bring in boxes of food that you commonly eat. Read the ingredients and see if you can identify the four major crops that lack diversity.





<p>WHEAT</p>	<p>RICE</p>
<p>POTATO</p>	<p>SUGAR</p>