Cattle Farms

Objective: For students to explore the current environmental issues in Ontario, Canada and around the world.

Materials Needed:

- **Student activity sheets (provided below)**

- **Computers, phones, tablets, etc.**

- **Teacher resource (provided)**

Time Needed:

- **Approximately 1 class period**

Prep:

- **Complete one of the following lessons:**

  - ○ **Geography: A. Physical Patterns in a Changing World**

  - ○ **Geography: B. Natural Resources around the World: Use and Sustainability**

  - ○ **Science: A. Understanding Structures and Mechanisms**

  - ○ **Science: B. Understanding Matter and Energy**

- **Book computer lab, computer carts, etc.**

- **Print off student activity sheets (1 per person)**

Guiding Questions:

- **Why do different people have different responses to the environment and the opportunities and challenges it presents?**

- **Why do we need to consider various perspectives when determining the impact of human activities?**

- **Why would people continue to use methods that contribute to destroying our environment when there are more environmentally safer ways?**

- **Why is it important for companies to find out what consumers want now and what they might want and/or need in the future?**

- **What would be the impact on depleted fisheries in a developing nation versus Canada?**

Execution:

- **Organize students into groups of 3 to 4**

- **Hand out student activity sheets**

- **Have students use the provided websites to access the information**

- **Once students are complete teh activity sheet, discuss as a class, or have them hand in (answers are provided for you in the teacher resource, please**

note, students do not have to answer word for word, as long as they have the general idea)

Integrated Expectations across subject matters:

Language: Reading

- **Read and demonstrate an understanding of informational texts using a range of strategies to construct meaning.**

Language: Media Literacy

- **Use overt and implied messages to draw inferences and construct meaning in media texts;**

- **Identify whose point of view is presented or reflected in a media text, citing supporting evidence from the text, and suggest how the text might change if a different point of view were used.**

Science

- **Analyze the effects of human activities on habitats and communities.**

Resources used:

Videos

Voxdotcom. (2020, May 13). Why beef is the worst food for the climate. Retrieved January 11, 2021, from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lrJYTsKdUM

Kurzgesagt. (2018, September 30). Why Meat is the Best Worst Thing in the World 🍔. Retrieved January 11, 2021, from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NxvQPzrg2Wg

Newspaper Articles

McLeod, M. (2021, January 6). 'A crisis of capacity': Ontario faces slaughterhouse scarcity during COVID-19. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from https://www.tvo.org/article/a-crisis-of-capacity-ontario-faces-slaughterhouse-scarcity-during-covid-19

Segal, M. (2020, August 16). With better soil, farmers can fight climate change, make agriculture more sustainable | CBC Radio. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from https://www.cbc.ca/radio/whatonearth/with-better-soil-farmers-can-fight-climate-change-make-agriculture-more-sustainable-1.5686494

Vomiero, J. (2019, August 23). Cattle farming in the Amazon has likely caused mass deforestation: Experts. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from https://globalnews.ca/news/5803929/amazon-rainforest-cattle-farming-fires/

Boisvert, N. (2020, February 11). How Canadian farmers can go from climate change polluters to a key part of the solution | CBC News. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/farmers-for-climate-solutions-launch-1.5458676

Team, R. (2020, December 22). Farm groups blast $170-per-tonne carbon tax plan. Retrieved January 11, 2021, from

https://www.realagriculture.com/2020/12/farm-groups-blast-170-per-tonne-carbon-tax-plan/

Government Sources

W. (n.d.). Unsustainable cattle ranching. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from https://wwf.panda.org/discover/knowledge_hub/where_we_work/amazon/amazon_threats/unsustainable_cattle_ranching/

Websites:

James, P. (2019, August 30). As the Amazon burns, cattle ranchers are blamed. But it's complicated. Retrieved January 08, 2021, from https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/2019/08/amazon-burns-cattle-ranchers-blamed-complicated-relationship/