

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE WITH DR APRIL ULERY

TALKING POINTS

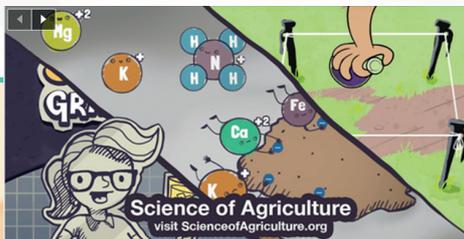
1. Where does the US rank in the OECD nations, in terms of its poverty gap? Why do you think this is?
2. Can you define what an underrepresented student is?
3. Why does April think the agricultural sciences are similar to cooking?
4. What are agronomists and how does April describe them?
5. Can you name some of the subjects involved in agricultural science?
6. Why are the agricultural sciences so important?
7. Why would underrepresented students benefit from studying the agricultural sciences, do you think? What about all students?

ACTIVITIES YOU CAN DO AT HOME OR IN THE CLASSROOM

THE SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE PROJECT

Ten years' ago, April and one of her colleagues, Dr Barbara Chamberlin, began to develop innovative media to assist teachers in filling the gaps in undergraduates' understanding of key concepts in the agricultural science classroom. Their efforts resulted in the Science of Agriculture website, which is designed to teach mathematics and science concepts that are crucial to the study of agriculture.

If you don't have access to a computer, you can always use your smartphone!



ANIMATIONS

There are a range of animations on the site, including one about Sorption in Everyday Life. Watch the animation a couple of times. The first time, simply sit back and enjoy, but the second time, take notes regarding the most salient points.

What is adsorption?

How does adsorption keep water away from your crispy snacks?

What applications does adsorption have in everyday life?

Why do scientists refer to it as 'sorption'?

INTERACTIVES

The interactives on the site are genuinely interesting and designed to engage with the audience. The Nutritious Nitrogen interactive is broken into two sections: fertilising chile and cattle feeding.

After completing the interactives, there are some questions for you to answer. The chile questionnaire can be found here:

<https://scienceofagriculture.com/nutritious-nitrogen/fertilizer-questions.html>

and the cattle feeding one here:

<https://scienceofagriculture.com/nutritious-nitrogen/fertilizer-questions.html>

VIDEOS

The team has also put together some videos that you can watch. There are a range of subjects, including one entitled Overcoming Academic Struggles (which features April herself!).

EVEN MORE RESOURCES

If you're looking for even more soil-related resources, look no further than Soils 4 teachers: www.soils4teachers.org

There are plenty of activities here, including an introduction to soil science, lesson plans and short videos.

You should also take a look at the New Mexico State University's Innovative Media page, which is jam-packed with animations, games, interactive modules and apps <https://innovativemedia.nmsu.edu>