



Lesson Plan 4: The Role of Supply Management in Canada

Time: 25 minutes (core lesson) / 60 minutes (with recipe preparation)

Overview: This lesson delves into the intricacies of Supply Management in Canada, exploring its historical context, purpose, and impact on the agricultural industry. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of how this system works, its benefits, and its potential drawbacks.

Objectives:

- Understand the historical context of Supply Management in Canada.
- Define key terms associated with Supply Management, such as allocation and quota.
- Explain the role of Supply Management in stabilizing prices and ensuring a reliable food supply.
- Evaluate the impact of Supply Management on consumers, producers, and the broader economy.
- Analyze the potential strengths and weaknesses of the Supply Management system.
- Discuss the relationship between Supply Management and animal welfare.

Procedure:

Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Has a family member ever asked you to pick up milk at your local grocery store? Do you ever see milk on sale? Why not?
2. Historical Context: Briefly outline the historical factors that led to the creation of Supply Management.
3. Define Key Terms: Introduce key terms like "quota," "allocation," and "supply management board."

Core Lesson (10 -15 minutes)

1. How Supply Management Works:

- Explain the concept of supply and demand. (video)
- Discuss how Supply Management controls the supply of specific agricultural products to stabilize prices.
- Explain the role of supply management boards in setting quotas and allocating production rights.

2. Benefits of Supply Management:

- Price Stability: Discuss how Supply Management helps to maintain stable prices for consumers.
- Income Stability for Farmers: Explain how Supply Management provides a more predictable income for farmers.
- Food Security: Explore how Supply Management contributes to a reliable food supply for Canadians.

3. Criticisms of Supply Management:

- Higher Prices: Discuss the argument that Supply Management can lead to higher prices for consumers.
- Limited Consumer Choice: Explain how Supply Management can restrict consumer choice.
- Inefficiency: Discuss potential inefficiencies in the system, such as overproduction or underproduction.

4. Supply Management and Animal Welfare: (5 minutes)

- Explore the relationship between Supply Management and animal welfare standards.
- Discuss how Supply Management can incentivize farmers to prioritize animal welfare.

5. Cooking Session/Clean up 30 minutes

Conclusion

By incorporating engaging activities, real-world examples, and opportunities for critical thinking, this lesson will empower students to become informed consumers and thoughtful participants in the food system.

