

Lesson Plan 1
The Meatrix: Do You Want the Truth?
Factory Farm vs. Family Farm

Name: Melissa Bannister **Grade:** Middle School
Subjects: Reading, Writing, Social Studies, **Time:** 2 sessions @ 50 minutes
Technology, Math, Art

PURPOSE: The purpose of this lesson is to inform students of the differences between factory farming and sustainable farms while incorporating math computation techniques and the use of graphs and tables.

OBJECTIVES:

1. As a group, students will research online, in the library and use other sources to collect ten facts and/or opinions and at least 3 statistics (including percentages) regarding family farms and factory farms.
2. As a group, students will separate facts and opinions from the researched information and make a small poster (11 x 17) depicting each and include at least one major statistic.

PRE-ASSESSMENT: Students have worked with resources and computers and are aware of how to search the web, library and other resources in order to gain substantial information on a subject. Students are familiar in the making of posters for display.

SET INDUCTION: Explain to the students that this lesson is the introduction to the Meatrix Unit. Tell the students that in this lesson they will be viewing a video of "The Meatrix" as well as exploring the history of family farms. They will gather research on both topics with an emphasis on statistics and percentages.

PROCEDURE:

1. Open the lesson with the question, "What did you have for dinner last night?" Allow responses. Ask the students a series of questions such as: Where did the food come from? Where did the store get the food?, etc.
2. Give an introduction to the mini movie "The Meatrix". Explain the correlation between the Meatrix and The Matrix. Have students tell what they remember about the movie "The Matrix", its characters, and general theme. Intro some of the characters in "The Meatrix" and parallel the likenesses.
3. View "The Meatrix".