

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

Cocoa Contents

Lesson Plan for *Cocoa Beans*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students use the table of contents to guess where information will be in a text.

Things Needed

- *Cocoa Beans* book

Activity

Open the *Cocoa Beans* book to the table of contents on page 3. Explain to students that many books are split into chapters. Each chapter has a title and a main idea, and often each chapter discusses a new topic. The table of contents lists the chapter titles in order and gives the page numbers where those chapters start. People can look at the table of contents to guess at the kind of information included in a book.

The following statements are from the book, but they are out of order. Read them out loud. Have students explain which chapter each statement probably appears in and why. Some statements could possibly fit in multiple chapters. It's okay if students suggest other chapters, as long as they can explain why the statement would fit.

- Cocoa beans grow in pods. (Chapter 1: What Are Cocoa Beans?)
- The pods ripen after five to six months. (Chapter 3: Harvesting the Beans)
- The beans are ground into a paste. (Chapter 4: Preparing the Beans)
- Cocoa beans grow in countries near the equator. (Chapter 2: Growing Cocoa Beans)
- Workers harvest ripe pods in the fall and spring. (Chapter 3: Harvesting the Beans)
- Cocoa beans need warm, wet weather. (Chapter 2: Growing Cocoa Beans)
- Each pod has 20 to 60 seeds. (Chapter 1: What Are Cocoa Beans?)
- Workers take the beans out of the pods. (Chapter 3: Harvesting the Beans)
- Cocoa beans are seeds. (Chapter 1: What Are Cocoa Beans?)
- Machines roast the cocoa beans. (Chapter 4: Preparing the Beans)
- Workers cut the pods off the trees. (Chapter 3: Harvesting the Beans)



- The trees grow their first pods when they are approximately five years old.
(Chapter 2: Growing Cocoa Beans)
- The beans stay in the pods for approximately one week after they are picked.
(Chapter 3: Harvesting Cocoa Beans)
- Workers cover cocoa beans with banana leaves. (Chapter 4: Preparing the Beans)

After going through the statements, read the *Cocoa Beans* book out loud from start to finish.

Evaluation

Could students use the chapter titles to determine what information would be included in each chapter? Could students offer reasonable explanations for why statements would be included in one chapter over another?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.5).

