

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS SCAVENGER HUNT

Overview

Exports and imports are a major factor in our economy. In the year 2000, U.S. businesses exported more than \$776 billion worth of goods and services to people in 197 nations around the world. At the same time, we purchased, or imported \$1.2 trillion worth of goods and services from other nations. Our largest export customers were Canada, Mexico, Japan and Germany.

Through this lesson's activity, students will discover the economic relationships between their families and people in other nations of the world. After a brief introduction, the activity continues at students' homes, where they will undertake a scavenger hunt to find goods around their homes that have been imported as well as goods made in the U.S. that can be exported to people in other nations. Students will share what they found with the rest of the class. As an assessment activity, students will use an interdependence web to illustrate the economic relationships between people in the U.S. and other countries of the world.

Objectives

- Define imports as goods or services purchased in this country from sellers in other countries.
- Define exports as goods or services produced in this country and sold to buyers in other countries.
- Identify goods produced in the U.S. that can be exported to people in other countries.
- Identify goods produced in other countries that can be purchased by people in the U.S.
- Explain how people in the U.S. and other countries of the world are interdependent.
- Demonstrate how different currencies are exchanged between importers and exporters.

This lesson addresses aspects of the following Content Statements from Economics America, Grades 5-8:

- Exchange, money and interdependence
- International aspects of growth & stability

Student Learning Statements

- Exports are goods or services produced in this country and sold to buyers in other countries.
- Imports are goods or services purchased in this country from sellers in other countries.
- When people in different countries import and export goods and services, they become interdependent.



International Trade
Module I



Vocabulary

- **Exports:** Goods or services produced in this country and sold to buyers in other countries.
- **Imports:** Goods or services purchased in this country from sellers in other countries.
- **Interdependence:** When people, firms or regions depend on each other for production or satisfaction of wants because of specialization or division of labor.

Materials

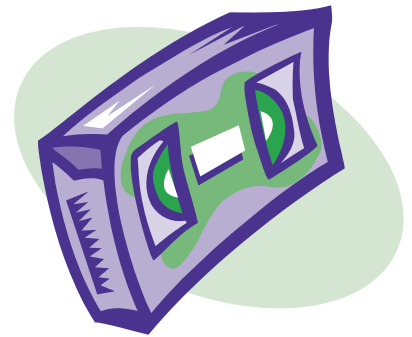
- Several products that were produced in other countries (foods, small appliances, toys, shirts, shoes, sports team memorabilia, etc.)
- Several products that were produced by businesses in the U.S. (similar items)
- A large, world map
- World almanacs, classroom atlases and other similar resources
- Small, Post-it® type notes (two different colors)
- *Student Page: Imports and Exports Scavenger Hunt* (transparency)
- *Student Page: Imports and Exports Interdependence Web* (transparency)
- *Teacher Page: Top Exports, Year 2000* (transparency)

Video Connections

- *International Trade* (Xtek)

Internet Resources

- <http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook>
- <http://www.brazilcouncil.org/>
- <http://www.amosweb.com/gls/>
- <http://www.unzco.com/basicguide/index.html>
- <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/>
- <http://www.xe.net/ucc/>
- <http://www.timezonesforpcs.com/>
- <http://money.cnn.com/markets/currencies>



Prepare

- Duplicate *Student Page: Imports and Exports Scavenger Hunt* (one per student).
- Duplicate *Student Page: Imports and Exports Interdependence Web* (one per work group).
- Prepare a note to send home with students to inform parents that the students will be looking throughout their homes for goods produced in the U.S. and in other countries.

Imports and Exports Scavenger Hunt

Name _____

Step 1: Imports. Look in and around your home to find goods that were produced in other countries or goods that are made in the United States from resources imported from other countries. For example, orange juice produced in the United States may be made from oranges grown in South America.

- **Note:** If a product is imported, by U.S. law its country of origin will be identified on the product's label.
- List the imported products you find in each “What to Find?” category under “U.S. Imports.” Then identify the “Country of Origin” for each product in the second column.

Step 2: Exports. Look throughout your home to find goods that were produced in the U.S. List these under “U.S. Products.” These are products that are or could be exported by the U.S. to other countries.

What to Find?	U.S. Imports	Country of Origin	U.S. Products
Food product			
Machine			
Tool			
Clothing			
Toy or game			
School supplies			
Decoration			
Other?			

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