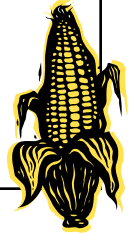


School Field Trips Green Spring Gardens

Peanuts, Popcorn, and Pipe Tobacco Plants That Shaped Virginia's History



Peanuts, Popcorn, and Pipe Tobacco: Plants That Shaped Virginia's History is a 2 hour program that integrates Virginia Standards of Learning (Science SOL 4.4, 4.8 and Virginia Studies VS.2c, 3a, 4a) for fourth grade. Students can see these important colonial cash crops — peanuts, tobacco, corn, and cotton — and learn their history, economic impact, botany, cultivation, and uses. Students rotate through the following three stations.

Corn: A Native American Discovery

Students learn how the cultivation of this simple grass changed the culture of native people and created a great ancient civilization. Using hands-on examples of corn plants and corn products, students explore its economic importance and uses, both past and present.

Tobacco: The Virginia Colony's Cash Crop

At the Historic House (1784), students see tobacco and learn how it changed the course of American history: from its ceremonial use by native tribes to saving the Jamestown colony from economic failure. Students learn how river commerce and slavery developed to support this important export.

Peanuts: A Multi-Purpose Plant

Students examine the peanut plant and learn how it produces edible seed pods underground. Students follow the peanut's travels from South America, to Africa, and finally to North America—through the Virginia Colony's slave trade—when George Washington Carver suggested that farmers plant peanuts as a rotation crop to save the cotton industry.



Green Spring Gardens

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before event.

