

Specialty Crop Art and Craft

LEARNING RECAP

- Specialty crops in West Virginia help family farms grow, provide healthy foods, and connect farmers with their communities.
- Specialty crops inspire creativity because their colors, shapes, and textures make them perfect for art and crafts.
- Farming specialty crops is important in West Virginia because it supports local farmers, strengthens communities, and helps people appreciate where their food comes from.

AT HOME ACTIVITIES

Fruit & Veggie Collage

- Cut out pictures of fruits and vegetables from magazines or printouts and make a colorful collage. Try arranging them like a farmers market vendor would!

Crop Observation Drawing

- Pick your favorite fruit or vegetable at home, then draw or paint it. Pay attention to its colors, shapes, and textures, just like we did in class.

Farmers Market Adventure

- Visit a local farmers market with a parent or guardian. Look for specialty crops like pawpaws, berries, or colorful vegetables, and sketch or take notes on the ones that inspire you.

FUN FACTS

- Long ago, people painted pictures of fruits and vegetables, now scientists can use these paintings to see how crops like watermelons and wheat have changed over time!
- Purple carrots and beets are being used to make natural red food coloring instead of fake dyes like Red 40.
- Bright colors in fruits and veggies, like red berries or green kale, mean they are healthy and full of vitamins.
- The pawpaw is the largest native edible fruit in the United States and grows wild in many parts of West Virginia. It has a smooth, creamy inside that tastes a little like banana and mango.