

FOODPRINT MELBOURNE

INQUIRY 1

What are the characteristics of Melbourne's foodbowl?

WORKSHEET 1 Know your foodbowl

PAGE 1 of 2

INTRODUCTION

Melbourne's foodbowl comprises many small, highly productive regions scattered around the fringe of the city. It produces a wide variety of fresh foods, particularly fresh fruit and vegetables, but also eggs and chicken meat, and some beef, lamb, pork and dairy. Melbourne's foodbowl produces around 47% of the vegetables grown in Victoria and around 8% of the fruit.

ACTIVITIES

Use Data Sheet 1 to complete the following tasks.

- Write a definition of the term "foodbowl".
- Suggest why this particular term is used to describe the region.
- A family shopping basket contains the following foods: lamb chops, milk, eggs, potatoes, onions, lettuce, spinach, mushrooms, apples and strawberries.
 - Create a table showing the foods that are most likely to come from the inner foodbowl and the outer foodbowl.
 - Discuss your completed table with a classmate. Be prepared to justify why you chose to place each food in a particular column.
- Some of the foods mentioned in figures 2a-d come from regional Victoria. Why do you think wheat, which is used in bakery products and breakfast foods, comes from regional Victoria, rather than from Melbourne's foodbowl?
- Suggest reasons why Melbourne obtains foods from interstate. Figure 2b provides some examples of foods coming from interstate.
- Study this table about when strawberries are produced.

STATE	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	% OF TOTAL PRODUCTION
VIC													32%
QLD													33%
WA													22%
SA													10%
TAS													2%
NSW													1%

Source: Strawberries Australia Inc 'Facts & figures & other information'

- In which months of the year do Victorian farmers produce strawberries?
- Which states have the shortest growing season for strawberries?
- Where would NSW source its strawberries from in autumn and winter?
- Which season is the most prolific for strawberry growing across Australia?
- Calculate which Australian states provide over 70% of strawberries grown in Australia.
- Explain how it is that Victorians are likely to see reasonably priced strawberries at the greengrocers in July.
- In which months is it likely that Victoria sends strawberries interstate to support the Brisbane, Perth, Hobart and Sydney food markets? Explain your answer.

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PAGE 2 of 2

7. Dates are an imported food. Research to find the conditions required to grow dates and explain why Australia imports this food.
8. Foods from overseas contribute to the resilience of our food supply. Explain what is meant by this statement.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

1. During the next week when you are at the shopping centre, visit your local supermarket or greengrocer and investigate where the fruit and vegetables come from. New laws require labelling of some imported fresh foods. Make a list of foods that are from interstate (if they are labelled) or from global sources (which should have labels). Discuss your list with the class.
2. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in place for 2015–2030 have as Goal 2 Zero Hunger to reduce world hunger. Watch this animation <https://insight.wfp.org/healthy-not-hungry-a7f961a36276>. Research one country that has issues with feeding its people. Choose from this list – South Sudan, Nigeria, Somalia or Yemen. Outline the hunger situation the country finds itself in and outline the reasons for the hunger.
3. Access Chapter 5 of The National Food Plan White Paper at <https://goo.gl/Cf72LR> and consider the situation for the 4% of Australians who are unable to afford to buy sufficient food. Outline at least one strategy used by the Australian government to assist these people.