Soybean Ads by the Truckload
[Language Arts & Fine Arts]

Objectives:

1. Students will develop an understanding of what soybeans are and what they are used for.
2. Students will design and create a colorful drawing to represent an advertisement for soybeans on the side of a semi-truck trailer.

Illinois Learning Standard:

26.B. 2d Visual Arts: Demonstrate knowledge and skills to create works of visual art using problem solving, observing, designing, sketching, and constructing.

Common Core Standards:

RI.4.1 Refer to details and examples in the text when explaining it says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
RI.4.2 Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

Materials Needed:

- pencils
- various nonfiction picture books about soybeans
- lined paper to record notes
- chart paper
- 12 x 18” pieces of white paper
- rulers
- coloring items (such as markers, crayons, and/or colored pencils)
Background:

This lesson, *Soybean Ads by the Truckload*, will work best after implementation of the related vocabulary lesson, *How to Store a Billion Beans*. After implementing the vocabulary lesson, students should be shown the video “Trucking” (Episode V) found at [www.podtoplate.org/videos](http://www.podtoplate.org/videos). Once students are familiar with the vocabulary and content of the video, this art lesson will build more effectively on students’ understanding.

Procedure:

1. Students should be placed with a partner to read and share a variety of nonfiction soybean picture books. Titles intended for a lower grade reading level are acceptable for the purposes of this lesson. The intention of the reading is for students to glean an understanding of what a soybean is, learn about the life cycle of the soybean plant, and discover what types of food- and non-food products include soybeans or soy by-products.

2. After students have read and discussed a variety of books, have each pair record 15 things they learned about soybeans and their uses. They should record their notes on lined paper.

3. Bring the class together to share what they have learned about soybeans. Invite each student to share two ideas from his/her partner list of 15. Once a fact has been shared by a student, subsequent students should not share the same fact but instead choose a new idea from his or her partner list. Meanwhile, the teacher should record the student-shared facts on chart paper for all to see.

4. Finally, give students the opportunity to make verbal connections with the information listed on the chart paper. This would be a good time for students to ask questions for clarification or to share additional information that relates to details already charted.
Evaluation:

- Each student should be given a large white sheet of paper (12” x 18” suggested) to use in designing the side profile of a semi-truck and trailer. The illustration can be two, or three-dimensional, but it must be drawn on the page as to maximize the use of space and the rectangle shape on the side of the trailer. Students will then design an advertisement slogan on the side of the trailer promoting soybeans and/or their use. The posters can be put on display to help promote knowledge about soybeans and their use on our planet.

Poster Criteria:

- good use of space
- colorful
- correct spelling
- neatness
- creativity/originality
- message/slogan